UNIVERSITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON

Course Specification

Published Date:	21-Jul-2026
Produced By:	Multi Type Usr Record For All Personnel
Status:	Validated

Core Information

Awarding Body / Institution:	University of Wolverhampton		
School / Institute:	School of Education and Psychology		
Course Code(s):	PS048H01UM PS048H31UM	Full-time Part-time	3 Years 6 Years
UCAS Code:	C813		
Course Title:	BSc (Hons) Psychology and Counselling		
Hierarchy of Awards:	Bachelor of Science with Honours Psychology and Counselling Bachelor of Science Psychology and Counselling Diploma of Higher Education Psychology and Counselling Certificate of Higher Education Psychology and Counselling		
Language of Study:	English		
Date of first cohort:	14/Sep/2026		
Specification valid from:	2025/6		

Academic Staff

Course Leader:	Dr Chelsea Slater
Head of Department:	

Course Information

Location of Delivery:	University of Wolverhampton
Category of Partnership:	Standard Provision (Not delivered in partnership)
Teaching Institution:	University of Wolverhampton
Open / Closed Course:	This course is open to all suitably qualified candidates.

Entry Requirements:

Entry requirements are subject to regular review. The entry requirements applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website (and externally as appropriate e.g. UCAS

GCSE English grade C / 4+ or equivalent.

- English language certificate: IELTS of minimum 6.0 component for international students

Plus Either

- 112 UCAS points
- A Levels grades BBC / CCA
- BTEC L3 Extended Diploma or OCR Cambridge L3 Technical Extended Diploma- grades DMM
- BTEC Level 3 Diploma - grades D*D*
- Access to HE Diploma requires candidates to accumulate 60 credits, at least 45 of which are at Level 3. To study psychology at the University of Wolverhampton, students must further achieve at least a 'merit' or 'distinction' in at least 24 of their Level 3 credits. You are also required to have achieved 12 credits at Level 2 or 3 in English and 12 credits at Level 2 or 3 in Mathematics within the Access or have evidence of GCSE English at grade C+/4 equivalence.

Other Requirements

Students must usually have studied for a minimum of two years post GCSE level. However, we will consider applications from mature students who do not have two years of post-16 study, where they have relevant work experience. Please see http://wlv.ac.uk/mature for further information.

Distinctive Features of the Course:

Choosing to study Psychology with Counselling with us means joining a course designed to help you understand people, society, and behaviour in ways that genuinely matter in today's world. Our programme stands out because it blends scientific and theoretical foundations with a strong applied focus, ensuring you learn how psychology works not just in textbooks, but in real communities, workplaces, and global contexts. From the moment you arrive, you will be supported to grow into a confident, independent learner who can think critically, solve problems creatively, and adapt to the demands of modern professional environments.

What makes our course distinctive is the way we combine innovative teaching with inclusive, research informed practice. You will learn through a variety of face-to-face and online digital and interactive methods, all designed to help you learn about topics that matter to you, while developing the skills that employers value most. Our mission is to nurture future leaders, innovators, and practitioners who can make meaningful and fulfilling contributions wherever their careers take them.

As part of your experience, you can expect:

- A curriculum that explores both the history of psychology and the latest advances shaping the discipline today.
- Teaching that connects psychological theory and practice to real-world issues affecting individuals and communities.
- Assessments that are scaffolded, diverse, and applied, helping you build confidence and competence step by step., with planned "assessment unpacking" sessions to ensure you feel supported and prepared throughout your studies.
- Digital booking system to access one-to-ones with your personal tutor, project supervisor, and lecturers - with face-to-face and online options to fit your schedule.
- Opportunities to develop digital literacy, psychological research skills, and transferable abilities for any postgraduate pathway.
- Optional final-year modules that allow you to tailor your learning to your interests and future career goals.
- A final year research project supervised by experienced academics, giving you the chance to explore a topic you care about, with a research method of your choice and access to contemporary digital and physical resources to run a professional quality study.
- A second-year placement where you will design an intervention for a real organisation, strengthening your professional readiness.

Alongside this, you will benefit from enrichment opportunities such as volunteering networks, peer mentoring, and the chance to work as a research assistant through our Research Opportunities Network. You will be taught by a diverse team with expertise across multiple psychological perspectives, ensuring you gain a broad and inclusive understanding of the discipline.

Our course is fully aligned with the British Psychological Society (BPS) and provides Graduate Basis for Chartership (GBC) upon achieving a 2:2 or above—an essential foundation for progressing toward professional chartership in psychology.

Educational Aims of the Course:

Intakes:

September

Major Source of Funding:

Office for Students (OFS)

Tuition Fees:

Tuition fees are reviewed on an annual basis. The fees applicable to a particular academic year will be published on the University website.

Year	Status	Mode	Amount
2025/6	H	Full Time / Sandwich	£9535.00
2025/6	Overseas	Full Time / Sandwich	£15995.00
2025/6	H	Part Time	£4768.00
2026/7	H	Full Time / Sandwich	£9790.00
2026/7	Overseas	Full Time / Sandwich	£17600.00
2026/7	H	Part Time	£4895.00

PSRB:

PS048H01UM (Full-time)

Professional Accreditation Body:
British Psychological Society (BPS)

Accrediting Body:
British Psychological Society (BPS)

Accreditation Statement:
Accredited against the requirements for the Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership (GBC) of the British Psychological Society (BPS).

Additional Notes:
"Graduates who complete an accredited undergraduate degree or postgraduate conversion programme having passed the empirical psychology project and gained a minimum of a 2:2 overall (or its equivalent) are eligible to apply for the Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership (GBC) of the British Psychological Society. GBC is set as a pre-requisite for entry to accredited postgraduate programmes by the majority of training providers. In order to practise as a psychologist offering services to the public, graduates will need to complete further training that is approved by the Health and Care Professions Council."

Approved	Start	Expected End	Renewal
07/Dec/2021	02/Sep/2024	31/Aug/2027	31/Aug/2027

PS048H31UM (Part-time)

Professional Accreditation Body:
British Psychological Society (BPS)

Accrediting Body:
British Psychological Society (BPS)

Accreditation Statement:
Accredited against the requirements for the Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership (GBC) of the British Psychological Society (BPS).

Additional Notes:
"Graduates who complete an accredited undergraduate degree or postgraduate conversion programme having passed the empirical psychology project and gained a minimum of a 2:2 overall (or its equivalent) are eligible to apply for the Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership (GBC) of the British Psychological Society. GBC is set as a pre-requisite for entry to accredited postgraduate programmes by the majority of training providers. In order to practise as a psychologist offering services to the public, graduates will need to complete further training that is approved by the Health and Care Professions Council."

Approved	Start	Expected End	Renewal
07/Dec/2021	02/Sep/2024	31/Aug/2027	31/Aug/2027

Course Structure:

September (Full-time)

Full time and Sandwich Undergraduate Honours students normally study 120 credits per academic year; 60 credits semester 1 and 60 credits semester 2.

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 90 credits in each academic calendar year.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
4PS018	Succeeding at University in Psychology	30	SEM1	Core
4PS014	Bad Science	30	SEM1	Core
4PS015	Understanding Counselling Psychology	30	SEM2	Core
4PS016	Research Methodology and Analysis in Psychology	30	SEM2	Core

September (Full-time)

Full time and Sandwich Undergraduate Honours students normally study 120 credits per academic year; 60 credits semester 1 and 60 credits semester 2.

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 90 credits in each academic calendar year.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
5PS021	Psychology in Context	30	SEM1	Core
5PS020	Psychology in Action	30	SEM2	Core
5PS018	Professional Development in Counselling Psychology	30	YEAR	Core
5PS022	Advanced Research Methodology and Analysis in Psychology	30	YEAR	Core

September (Full-time)

Full time and Sandwich Undergraduate Honours students normally study 120 credits per academic year; 60 credits semester 1 and 60 credits semester 2.

Part time students study alongside full time students. However, they do not study more than 90 credits in each academic calendar year.

Module	Title	Credits	Period	Type
6PS037	Individual Research Project	60	YEAR	Core
6PS031	Applied Counselling Psychology	30	SEM1	Core

Option Group 03 | Min Value: 30 | Max Value: 30

6PS039	Applications of Health Psychology	30	SEM2	Core/Option	Niall Galbraith
6PS036	Developmental & Educational Psychology	30	SEM2	Core/Option	Deborah Allen
6PS034	Clinical Psychology	30	SEM2	Core/Option	David Boyda

Please note: Optional modules might not run every year, the course team will decide on an annual basis which options will be running, based on student demand and academic factors, to create the best learning experience.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Regulations Exemption:

Reference Points:

UK Quality Code for Higher Education

Qualifications and Credit Frameworks

Subject Benchmark Statements

University Policies and Regulations

Equality Act 2010: guidance - GOV.UK

Apprenticeship Standard

Overview of Assessment:

Learning Outcomes	Modules
CERTHE01 Demonstrate knowledge of the underlying concepts, theories and principles associated with your area(s) of study. (Knowing)	4PS014 Bad Science 4PS015 Understanding Counselling Psychology 4PS016 Research Methodology and Analysis in Psychology 4PS018 Succeeding at University in Psychology
CERTHE02 Evaluate, interpret and apply data, to develop ideas and discussion in your subject(s) of study. (Knowing)	4PS015 Understanding Counselling Psychology
CERTHE03 Use different approaches to solving problems related to your area(s) of study (Doing)	4PS015 Understanding Counselling Psychology 4PS018 Succeeding at University in Psychology
CERTHE04 Communicate the results of your study/work accurately and reliably, and with structured and coherent arguments (Doing)	4PS014 Bad Science 4PS016 Research Methodology and Analysis in Psychology 4PS018 Succeeding at University in Psychology
CERTHE05 Identify and undertake further training and develop new skills to support your learning (Being)	
CERTHE06 Identify personal qualities and transferable skills necessary for further study and/or employment (Being)	4PS014 Bad Science 4PS015 Understanding Counselling Psychology 4PS016 Research Methodology and Analysis in Psychology

Learning Outcomes	Modules
DIPHE01 Demonstrate knowledge and application of the concepts and principles of your area(s) of study. (Knowing)	5PS020 Psychology in Action 5PS021 Psychology in Context 5PS022 Advanced Research Methodology and Analysis in Psychology
DIPHE02 Demonstrate the application of those principles in an employability and/or professional practice context. (Knowing)	5PS020 Psychology in Action 5PS021 Psychology in Context
DIPHE03 Identify and use methods of enquiry in the subject(s) and evaluate the appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems in study. (Doing)	5PS018 Professional Development in Counselling Psychology 5PS020 Psychology in Action 5PS021 Psychology in Context
DIPHE04 Use a range of new and established techniques to explore and critique data and sources of information, to solve problems within your subject (Doing)	5PS018 Professional Development in Counselling Psychology 5PS020 Psychology in Action 5PS021 Psychology in Context
DIPHE05 Effectively communicate information, arguments and analysis in a variety of forms to specialist and non-specialist audiences. (Being)	5PS020 Psychology in Action 5PS021 Psychology in Context 5PS022 Advanced Research Methodology and Analysis in Psychology
DIPHE06 Show personal responsibility and decision-making to developing existing skills and acquire new competences that will enable you to reach your employability goals. (Being)	5PS020 Psychology in Action 5PS021 Psychology in Context 5PS022 Advanced Research Methodology and Analysis in Psychology
BHONS01 Demonstrate conceptual knowledge of key, themes, theories and constructs within all the psychology core domains, psychological perspectives and research methodology. (Knowing)	6PS031 Applied Counselling Psychology 6PS037 Individual Research Project
BHONS02 Understand and coherently communicate about historical development, current debates and future directions of psychology recognising relationships with allied subjects. (Knowing)	6PS031 Applied Counselling Psychology
BHONS03 Recognise variability and diversity within society and individuals, reflecting our personal and professional journey while working compassionately and respectfully with others. (Being)	6PS031 Applied Counselling Psychology 6PS037 Individual Research Project
BHONS04 Ethically applying psychological knowledge to society, the workplace and complex issues including the use of AI, highlighting personal creative, reflexive and critical problem solving. (Being)	6PS031 Applied Counselling Psychology 6PS037 Individual Research Project
BHONS05 Competently and ethically apply theory, models, and principles to real world personal, social and organisational issues within different contexts. (Doing)	6PS031 Applied Counselling Psychology 6PS037 Individual Research Project
BHONS06 Competently apply relevant knowledge, psychological literacy skills and ethical understanding to the critical evaluation of research, designing, conducting, analysing and reporting of counselling psychological research that adds to psychological and/ or counselling theory and/or practice. (Doing)	

Teaching, Learning & Assessment Strategy/(Learning and Teaching):

Your learning experience has been designed to be engaging, applied, and grounded in modern psychological practice. The curriculum draws on a range of evidence-based teaching approaches—including problem-based learning, case-based learning, and active blended learning—to ensure that you are not just absorbing information but actively participating in your development as a psychologist. We want you to feel confident, curious, and motivated, and we believe that learning happens most powerfully when you are fully involved in the process.

Throughout your degree, you will be encouraged to think critically, apply theory to real world issues, and develop the skills that will support your future career. We see your learning journey as much broader than the content of each module; the abilities you build—such as communication, teamwork, digital literacy, and professional awareness—are just as important as the psychological knowledge you gain. These skills are embedded throughout the course so that you graduate feeling prepared for the next stage of your academic or professional path.

You can expect a carefully structured and fully scaffolded programme that helps you grow in confidence as you progress. Teaching takes place through a blend of small group seminars, larger lectures, workshops, and online activities, giving you a flexible and inclusive learning experience. This mix allows you to explore psychological theory in depth, to a level commensurate with your year level, while also understanding how it applies in real world contexts.

Digital tools and interactive technologies play an important role in your learning. You will engage with gamified teaching activities, in lecture quizzes, and ethical uses of AI and digital software to enhance your understanding. When you are introduced to specialist tools—such as statistical analysis programs, online survey platforms, or research lab equipment including eye tracking technology and VR headsets—you will receive high levels of support to help you build confidence and competence.

Real world application is woven throughout the course. Problem based learning tasks, your Level 5 placement, and your final year dissertation all give you opportunities to apply psychological theory to meaningful challenges. By the time you graduate, you will have developed a strong foundation of knowledge, practical experience, and transferable skills that will support your ambitions, whatever direction you choose to take.

Assessment Methods/Assessments:

Your assessments have been carefully designed to support your learning, build your confidence, and prepare you for the professional world. Our approach is grounded in evidence-based practice, ensuring that every assessment is inclusive, authentic, and relevant to the skills you will need as a psychology graduate. We believe that assessment should not only measure what you know, but also help you develop the academic, digital, and professional capabilities that will shape your future career. In a range of modules, you can choose the topic or focus of your work, allowing you to explore areas that reflect your interests or lived experiences. Your final year dissertation offers the greatest level of choice, enabling you to design and carry out a research project on a psychological question that matters to you.

Modules begin with an early introduction to the assessment to assist you in planning your workload effectively. A range of further support tools such as assessment unpacking sessions, Q&A opportunities, and one to one appointments help you to understand expectations and prepare with confidence. Every module includes formative feedback, giving you the opportunity to engage with the staff team before you submit your final work. There will also be a range of opportunities to receive feedback through seminars, workshops, online activities, and peer collaboration.

Throughout your degree, you will experience a fully scaffolded assessment journey. This means that tasks become gradually more complex as your knowledge and skills grow, allowing you to build on previous feedback and develop at a steady, supported pace. You will encounter a wide variety of assessment methods, each chosen to help you strengthen transferable skills such as communication, critical thinking, digital fluency, and problem solving. Many assessments are designed to mirror real world tasks, giving you a sense of how psychological knowledge is applied in professional settings.

To help you stay on track, you will have access to “Back on Track” discussions with year leads and module tutors, as well as clear, accessible range of resources on Canvas that can be presented in written, audio or visual formats. Our assessment timetable is intentionally structured to support a balanced workload and ensure meaningful feedforward opportunities.

By the time you graduate, you will have developed a strong portfolio of academic and applied skills, supported by an assessment experience that is fair, supportive, and aligned with your future ambitions.

Further Information for Student:

Your course has been designed with your progression, confidence, and long-term success at its heart. We recognise that every student arrives with different experiences, strengths, and aspirations, so our approach to transition support is flexible, inclusive, and responsive to your needs. From your first days at university through to graduation, you will be guided by a network of academic, pastoral, and professional support designed to help you thrive.

We place great value on your learning journey and believe that students succeed when they feel supported, encouraged, and empowered. Throughout your course, you will take part in engaging in-class and out of class activities, peer learning, and reflective practice, all of which help you build confidence at a steady and sustainable pace. As you progress, you will be supported to become an increasingly independent learner who can make informed, confident decisions about your studies and professional development. Our teaching is intentionally structured so that skills and expectations develop gradually, allowing you to deepen your knowledge and tackle more complex challenges as you progress. Classrooms, laboratories, and placement settings are designed to be safe and supportive spaces where you can explore ideas, ask questions, and grow both academically and personally.

To help you settle into university life, you will benefit from an extended induction at Level 4 and dedicated welcome weeks at Levels 5 and 6. You will also have access to student success coaches, personal tutors, and Faculty Enabling Tutors who can help you create personalised learning plans, navigate academic expectations, and access any adjustments you may require. Study skills support is available throughout the week, and all learning materials are clearly communicated and accessible through our virtual learning environment.

Assessment support is embedded at every stage. You will take part in assessment unpacking sessions, Q&A opportunities, and one to one appointments to help you prepare with confidence. Formative assessments, regular feedback, and interactive digital tools ensure you always know how you are progressing and where to focus your development.

Your wellbeing is equally important. Our Student Life team provides specialist support for mental health, wellbeing, accessibility, and inclusion, while your personal tutor remains a consistent point of contact as you move through the course.

Most importantly, your voice matters. Through module evaluations, student representatives, and year lead meetings, you will have regular opportunities to shape your learning experience and contribute to positive change for current and future students.

Currency:

Your Psychology degree is designed to remain current, relevant, and responsive to the rapidly evolving nature of the discipline. At the University of Wolverhampton, we are committed to delivering a modern, flexible programme that blends the core requirements of the British Psychological Society with an applied approach that reflects contemporary practice. We believe your learning should acknowledge the complex history of psychology while also preparing you to engage with the latest theories, research developments, and professional innovations shaping the field today.

To ensure your course stays up to date, our teaching and assessment strategies are grounded in evidence-based practice and informed by research conducted both within our academic team and across the wider higher education sector. This means you are learning through methods that have been shown to enhance understanding, engagement, and long-term skill development. Your curriculum is regularly reviewed and updated to reflect student feedback, emerging issues within psychology, and changes in related professions. This ensures that what you study remains meaningful, inclusive, and aligned with the needs of modern society.

Each module is reviewed annually, allowing us to incorporate new research findings, policy developments, and innovations in psychological science. You will explore how psychological theory applies to current individual, organisational, and community challenges, helping you develop the ability to think critically and creatively about real world problems. Our teaching also prepares you for the ethical and professional complexities you may encounter in future roles, encouraging you to make informed and responsible decisions.

Research informed teaching is central to your experience. You will engage with contemporary studies, including work produced by our own academic staff, and you will have opportunities to develop your enquiry skills through evidence-based assignments and practical activities. As part of this, you will receive guidance in the

ethical use of digital tools and software, including newly emerging technologies that support data analysis, numeracy, and decision making.

By studying on a course that is continually refreshed and informed by current research, you can feel confident that your learning reflects the latest developments in psychology and equips you with the knowledge and skills needed for a rapidly changing world.

Personalisation Opportunities:

Your learning experience has been designed to be personal, meaningful, and reflective of who you are. We recognise that every student brings unique ambitions, interests, and lived experiences to their studies, and we want your course to feel relevant, empowering, and genuinely connected to your goals. Throughout your degree, you will have opportunities to shape what you study, how you learn, and the direction your academic journey takes.

From the outset, you will be encouraged to explore psychological topics that resonate with your identity, background, and aspirations. Our curriculum is intentionally inclusive, integrating diverse perspectives and encouraging you to learn not only from staff but also from the experiences of your peers. This approach helps you build a richer understanding of psychology while developing confidence in your own voice and ideas.

As you progress through the course, you will have increasing freedom to tailor your learning. Many modules allow you to choose the focus of your assessments, giving you the chance to investigate themes that matter to you within the broader subject area. At Level 5, you will complete a micro placement, supported by our placement officer. By Level 6, you will be able to choose from a range of optional modules, enabling you to specialise in areas that support your professional ambitions.

Your final year research project offers one of the most significant opportunities for personalisation. Under the guidance of an experienced academic, you will design and carry out your own study on a topic of your choice, following ethical guidelines set by the University and the British Psychological Society. This is your chance to explore a question you are passionate about and contribute to psychological knowledge in a meaningful way.

To support your individual development, you will complete an individual learning plan at Level 4 and a strength and needs analysis at Level 6. You will also have access to a wide range of learning materials presented in different formats, alongside additional support and reasonable adjustments where required.

Beyond the curriculum, you can further personalise your experience by engaging in value-added opportunities such as digital badges, volunteering, peer mentoring, and working with staff through the Research Opportunities Network. These activities allow you to build your CV, expand your skills, and shape a university experience that truly reflects who you are and who you want to become.

Employability in the Curriculum/Employability and Professional Development:

BSc Psychology with Counselling is accredited by the British Psychological Society and is designed to help you progress in your career, whether you are seeking to work in an affiliated area or continue with doctoral training to become a Chartered Psychologist. Psychology with Counselling is an excellent foundation of study for a wide variety of careers with many of our students working in health and wellbeing, research, education, business, public services and beyond. You will be supported to explore and prepare for these different career pathways through course content, which is grounded in real-world application, including the practical aspects of working in health, forensic, educational and counselling settings. This supports your understanding of professional roles, work-planning, and applied practice within these fields.

Professional standards and high expectations around safeguarding, inclusion, and ethical practice, are embedded throughout your modules, placement experiences and assessments. This ensures you understand what is required in the workplace and can demonstrate competence and confidence in order to demonstrate you meet standards by the end of the course.

BSc Psychology with Counselling at the University of Wolverhampton has been specifically designed to develop core employability and professional development with fully embedded transferable and soft skills training. Through research projects, case studies, live briefs, and applied learning activities, you will gain experience expected in research, clinical, or industry roles. Option modules allow you to tailor your BSc to your career interests, while research methods and the independent research project provide you with critical and problem-solving skills and prepare you for Doctoral study (PhD or Professional Doctorate) or research-focused careers.

Authentic assessments will help you build a portfolio of evidence for employers, including journal-style writing, reflective pieces, presentations, posters, grant proposals, data analysis, and discussion of clinical laboratory results. These activities are aligned with professional standards and employer expectations set out in the Graduate Attributes Framework, supporting the development of critical thinking, problem solving, communication, teamwork, social responsibility, cultural awareness and global citizenship, research and analytical skills, and discipline-specific knowledge.

You will be encouraged to reflect on your strengths, receive feedback, develop employability skills and a career action plan, supported by the University’s careers service, workshops, and success coaches. Guidance is available on career planning, CVs, SWOT analysis, interviews, and networking, helping you make informed choices about your future and progress with confidence

The teaching team brings extensive professional experience across health, counselling, forensic, and cyber psychology settings, alongside strong industry and practitioner links. This ensures that teaching is informed by current practice, professional standards, and emerging sector needs. These connections support curriculum relevance, guest input, and applied learning opportunities.

The programme is further strengthened by a dedicated placement module, which provides students with structured, supervised opportunities to apply psychological theories and evidence-based frameworks within real-world contexts. Through placement learning, students are supported to translate theoretical knowledge into practice, develop professional competencies, and critically reflect on ethical, organisational, and client-based challenges. This integration of theory and practice enhances employability and prepares graduates for progression into professional psychological roles or further training.