Psychology in Education
Undergraduate study
Courses

Single Honours
BSc Psychology in Education
three years X301

Why study psychology in education at Bristol?

Our BSc Psychology in Education course is an applied psychology degree that helps you understand how to use psychology in educational contexts. The course enables students to apply psychological theory and research in real-life educational settings involving children, adolescents and adults. As well as increasing your understanding of psychology in education you will develop broader skills and knowledge that will be relevant to a wide variety of future careers. Successful students will have an understanding of psychology in education that is well-rounded, evidence-based, flexible and highly relevant as a basis for professional development. In addition the BPS accreditation will enable you to progress to professional training as psychologist.

You will have the opportunity to develop your psychological research skills over the course of your degree, providing an excellent basis for exploring big questions in psychological and educational contexts. Our interactive and research-based approach to teaching will equip you with a range of transferable skills. You will also have the chance to apply your learning in practice, spending time in a school, community organisation or other setting where education matters.

The school is consistently ranked highly in national and global league tables and our educational research is world leading. We were rated 27th in the QS World University Rankings for education in 2016, putting us in the top five in the UK.

You will be part of a vibrant and diverse community of staff and students in a school that has provided an excellent student experience for over 100 years. You will learn from and with inspiring researchers and wonderful teachers, making use of our excellent IT, teaching and library facilities, which are based at our school in Berkeley Square in the heart of Bristol, close to Clifton Village.

The University of Bristol has one of the best employment records in the UK. We are rated sixth in the UK in the QS Graduate Employability Rankings 2016/17 and are the third most targeted university by top UK employers (High Fliers Research, 2017).
What will you study?

Year one
In your first-year core units you will be introduced to the key concepts and ways of thinking about and researching psychology in education. Optional units can either be selected within the school, or from a wide range of units offered elsewhere in the University under our open units scheme.

Core units
• Introduction to Psychology in Education
• Research Methods and Statistics in Psychology of Education (Part 1 and 2)
• Debates in Psychology of Education
• Education and Social Change

Optional units may include:
• Convincing Stories? Numbers as Evidence in the Social Sciences
• Learning Lives

You will meet your personal tutor in Welcome Week and they will support you over your three years at Bristol, working with you to develop academic study skills and to plan your professional development.

Year two
In your second year, core units will help you understand core areas of psychology in more depth and think about how they can be applied in education. In these units you will further develop your research skills through carrying out small-scale projects. You will also choose two optional units as you start to develop your own interests and expertise. These include Education in Practice,* which involves a placement in a school or other education setting.

Core units
• Social Psychology and Individual Differences
• Developmental and Educational Psychology
• Biological Psychology and Developmental Difference
• Cognitive Psychology and Special Education.

Two optional units from a selection, which may include:
• Education in Practice*
• Language and Literacy: From Local to Global
• Principles of Quantitative Social Science in Education
• Curriculum Design for Learning
• Researching Education in the City
• Education Viewed from the Global South

Year three
In your third year, you will be able to further develop your interests and expertise through a range of optional units taught by leading experts in the field. You will showcase your expertise through an 8-10,000 word dissertation, allowing you to apply the research skills you have developed in your first and second year through an original research project.

Optional units from a selection, which may include:
• The Psychology of Social Differences and Educational Achievement
• Peace and Conflict Psychology
• Educational Evaluation
• Prejudice, Stereotyping and Discrimination
• Building Powerful Knowledge
• International Assessment in Policy and Practice
• Pedagogies for Social Justice
• Children in a Global Context
• Digital Cultures and Participatory Learning.

*Subject to university validation

bristol.ac.uk/ug-study

Teaching methods
You will experience a wide range of teaching approaches designed to support your learning, including lectures, workshops, seminar discussion, guided independent study and tutorials. Seminars and workshop activities are designed to encourage you to collaborate with others, while individual and group presentations will help you develop confidence in conveying your ideas. A diverse range of assessment tasks will explicitly engage you in self-reflection and support your personal and professional development. Additionally, each of your lecturers offers times when they are available for you to discuss aspects of the course.

Assessment and feedback
Throughout the course you will receive supportive formative feedback from your tutors on your assignments and presentations. This will help you develop your skills and deepen your understanding. We use a wide range of assessments, and few unseen exams, setting us apart from other programmes. Assessment formats including essays and research reports, debate participation and summaries, the use of blogs and reflective journals and poster and slide presentations. These are designed to help you build the skills required to successfully plan, carry out and report on a programme of original research. Our research-focused units link to the dissertation which you will undertake in your third year.
The Psychology in Education degree will give you Graduate Basis for Registration for the British Psychological Society (BPS), allowing graduates to apply for professional psychology training in careers including educational psychology, clinical psychology and counselling psychology.

It also offers excellent preparation for careers working with children, young people, schools and families and in settings where learning happens.

Given the global reputation of the school within the field of education, we anticipate that a number of our graduates may wish to remain with us to research educational questions at master’s level. Current areas of research specialism include game-based learning; neuroscience in education; assessment in education; reducing prejudice in education; and widening participation.

Careers and graduate destinations

The course will also equip you with a set of transferable skills that will be relevant to careers in both the private and public sector. For example:

- presentation skills;
- research skills;
- critical thinking and problem solving;
- using evidence to build a compelling argument;
- communication skills for specialist and non-specialist audiences;
- team working.

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Making your application

Typical offer for BSc Psychology in Education*

Visit bristol.ac.uk/ug18-education for Joint Honours and other qualifications.

A-levels ABB (contextual BBC†) including B in an essay-based subject.

IB Diploma 32 overall (contextual 29†) including 16 points at Higher Level (contextual 14†) with 5 at Higher Level in an essay-based subject.

English Language Profile B††

GCSEs English Language and Mathematics at grade B or above.

†For information on contextual offers, visit bristol.ac.uk/ug-apply/#typical-contextual-offers.

††For details of English language profiles, bristol.ac.uk/ug-language-requirements.

Selection UCAS or Common Application.

Deferred entry Considered.

*The typical offer is indicative only and the University accepts a wide range of qualifications. The information is correct at the time of printing (June 2017); however, we recommend you check the University’s website for the most up-to-date information: bristol.ac.uk/ug-study.

We are looking for enthusiastic and committed students who have a genuine interest in applying psychology to educational contexts. We do not normally interview, so please demonstrate your commitment and suitability for the degree when writing your application form. You could show this by the way you talk about your own studies, work experience and other interests – what has interested you and why?

We welcome applications from mature students or candidates with non-standard qualifications. If you have non-standard qualifications you may be invited to interview to better assess your suitability.

Further information

Find out more about Education at the University of Bristol: bristol.ac.uk/education.

‘The academic facilities at Bristol are great; the library is well stocked and journal access is good. The school is very friendly and I’ve formed good academic and personal bonds both here and in other schools.’

Richard (PhD Education)
If you have any questions about courses, applications or any aspect of being a UK or international student at Bristol please contact the Enquiries Team.

**Contact us**

**Enquiries Team**
Tel +44 (0)117 394 1649  
Email choosebristol-ug@bristol.ac.uk

If you have any questions about courses, applications or any aspect of being a UK or international student at Bristol please contact the Enquiries Team.

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**University guide to the city of Bristol**
[bristol.ac.uk/citybristol](https://www.bristol.ac.uk/citybristol)

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**Photography**
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