

# Postgraduate Admissions Statement for



## PhD Psychology

This Admissions Statement applies to applications submitted for entry to the programme between 1 October 2020 and 30 September 2021.

It should be read in association with the [University Admissions Principles and Procedures](#) for Postgraduate programmes, the relevant [prospectus entry](#) and general [application guidance](#).

### Admissions criteria

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Academic and English language requirements</b> | The academic and English language requirements for this programme are displayed on the <a href="#">Postgraduate Prospectus</a><br><br>For information on international equivalent qualifications, please refer to our <a href="#">International Office website</a> .  |
| <b>Non-standard applications</b>                  | We welcome applications from those with non-standard qualifications who can demonstrate knowledge, experience and skills developed in the workplace, or elsewhere, relevant to the programme of study. Please use your personal statement to provide further details.<br><br>Non-standard applications will be considered by the Admissions Tutor(s) for the programme on a case by case basis. |

### Application process

#### Online application form

Applicants should complete the online application form, uploading all required documents directly. Further information is available on our [guidance for online applications page](#)

Applications will not be considered until **all** required documents have been uploaded.

#### Required and optional documents

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| ✓ | <b>References</b>                                     | We require two academic references. References should comply with our standard requirements outlined on <a href="#">our guidance pages</a> .   |
| ✓ | <b>Degree certificate(s) and academic transcripts</b> | From first and subsequent degrees. Degree certificates and transcripts should comply with our standard requirements outlined on <a href="#">our guidance pages</a> .   |
| ✓ | <b>Personal statement</b>                             | Personal statements should not exceed one A4 page, highlight the motivation for applying for the course, and any relevant experience and/or skills. If appropriate, please also include any extenuating circumstances/leave of absence that may have impacted on your studies. |
| ✓ | <b>English language certificates/other evidence</b>   | Evidence of meeting the English language profile as stated on the <a href="#">Postgraduate Prospectus</a> and specified by the <a href="#">University English Language Requirements Policy</a>   |
| ✓ | <b>Curriculum Vitae (CV)</b>                          | CVs might include details of other relevant work experience and qualifications to support an application.  |

|                           |  |  |
|---------------------------|--|--|
| ✓                         | <b>Research Statement:</b>                 | <p>You should use the research statement to define and situate your research within an academic/disciplinary context. With due regard for the primary audience/readership for postgraduate research (that is, the academic community), you should identify the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Proposed research topic (including potential supervisors if known)</li> <li>2. The research questions or problems that you intend to address</li> <li>3. The research context for your project/programme of work</li> <li>4. The methods you intend to use to pursue the key questions</li> </ol> <p>You should also demonstrate how any previous research experience will benefit you in your chosen field.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For the distance learning option only, the research statement should provide information about the external setting (facility/laboratory/environment) to undertake the proposed PhD [250 word limit].</li> </ul> |
| ✓                         | <b>Distance Learning supporting letter</b> | <p>For the distance learning option only, applicants are also required to submit a supporting letter from any institution/organisation that they will depend upon for the purposes of completing their research.</p>   |
| <b>Optional Documents</b> |  |  |
|                           | <b>Research Training Statement</b>         | <p>If necessary, you should provide details of any training requirements to support your postgraduate studies.</p>   |

## Selection process

### Assessment of applications

All applicants are considered in line with the University's [Admissions Principles and Procedures Policy](#). Once a complete application has been submitted with all required supporting documents, it is considered by at least two members of staff using the following criteria:

- Academic achievement
- English language proficiency (where applicable)
- Academic references
- personal statement

### Interviews

Candidates may be invited to attend an interview. There is no set format for interviews, but they typically cover one or more of the following areas: the applicant's academic background, including training and experience that is of particular relevance to the programme or project; the applicant's motivation for applying, including specific research interests within the discipline and career aspirations; and potential research projects. Candidates will also have the opportunity to ask questions. Interviews are used to assess whether the applicant has the necessary skills and capabilities to pursue their chosen programme, and whether the programme is appropriate to their interests and aspirations. Interviewees based overseas are normally interviewed by telephone or Skype. Interviews are conducted by a minimum of two members of staff, at least one of whom is trained in fair and effective recruitment techniques. All interviews are undertaken in accordance with the University's Equality and Diversity Policy.

## Decisions

Applicants will be notified by email when a decision has been made and decision letters will be available to view and print by logging into the application. If there is a deadline by which applicants must accept an offer of admission or pay a deposit, this will be stated in the offer letter.

## Offers

Offers will typically be made in line with the academic requirements set out above.

Offers made may be conditional or unconditional. An unconditional offer will be made to applicants who have already met the conditions and provided evidence that conditions have been met. Where academic or language requirements have not yet been fulfilled, applicants will receive a conditional offer outlining the requirements that must be met.

If an applicant is not selected to receive an offer for the course to which they have originally applied, we may offer the opportunity to be considered for an alternative programme in a related subject area. In such cases applicants will receive an email notification providing any alternative course options and asking whether they wish to be considered for these. It may be necessary for applicants to submit additional documentation in order for the application to be fully considered for an alternative programme. Details of the documentation required can be found in the admissions statement for the relevant programme.

## Deferrals

This programme does not normally allow deferrals unless there are exceptional circumstances. Please contact [psychology-pg-admissions@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:psychology-pg-admissions@bristol.ac.uk) if you would like to discuss the possibility of deferring your start date

## Additional information

### Extenuating circumstances

If your education has been significantly disrupted through health or personal problems, disability or specific difficulties within your studies, you can submit an [extenuating circumstances](#) form as part of your application.

The information provided will be treated confidentially and will help us to assess your academic performance fairly considering your circumstances.

### Academic Technology Approval Scheme (ATAS)

An ATAS certificate is not required for this programme.

### Visa

International students coming to the UK to study full-time may need to apply for a student visa. [Tier 4 student visa guidance notes](#) are available on the University website.

## Fees and Deposits

### Fees

Annual tuition fee are available on the relevant [prospectus entry](#) for this programme.

### Deposits

Deposits are not required for this programme.

### Sponsored Students

Sponsored students will need to upload a copy of their sponsorship letter using the 'Post Submission Uploads' section of the online application.