

# *MSc Applied Psychology*

## Programme Specification



<b>1. Programme title</b>	MSc in Applied Psychology
<b>2. Awarding institution</b>	Middlesex University
<b>3. Teaching institution</b>	Middlesex University
<b>4. Details of accreditation by professional/statutory/regulatory body</b>	NA
<b>5. Final qualification</b>	MSc / PGDip
<b>6. Academic year</b>	
<b>7. Language of study</b>	English
<b>8. Mode of study</b>	FT/PT

### **9. Criteria for admission to the programme**

Criteria for admission to the MSc in Applied Psychology are based on previous qualifications such that candidates will normally possess a good honours degree (2:2 or better) in any discipline. Exceptionally, consideration will be given to those with commensurate professional qualifications, where there is evidence of ability to carry out research and other relevant academic assignments at postgraduate level.

Students whose first language is not English will need a qualification that demonstrates competence in English, e.g. IELTS 6.5 with 6.0 minimum in all components or TOEFL no less than 573 (TWE minimum of 4.5) or Internet based 90 with no less than 19 in each component.

### **10. Aims of the programme**

The programme aims to provide an intellectual setting within which students can both develop a fuller appreciation of substantive areas of applied psychology and improve their practical and analytical skills. This programme is ideally suited to those who may intend to practise outside the UK or who may extend their research interests to doctoral level or work in local and central government agencies across Europe. After completion of the masters programme, students may work in health services, public health organisations, and academia.

<b>11. Programme outcomes</b>	
<p><b>A. Knowledge and understanding</b></p> <p>On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Analyse and evaluate key areas of Applied Psychology</li> <li>2) Develop core practical/research skills broadly relevant across a number of areas within Applied Psychology</li> <li>3) Gain knowledge and critical understanding of the various research techniques and statistical methods that may be viewed as appropriate to postgraduate level training in psychology</li> <li>4) Gain experience developing practical research, analytical and reporting skills working either as a member of a team or individually</li> <li>5) Make an appropriate contribution to research within the area of Applied Psychology (applies to those completing the MSc)</li> <li>6) Develop an appreciation of the issues and limitations in applied psychology</li> </ol>	<p><b>Teaching/learning methods</b></p> <p>Students gain knowledge and understanding through:</p> <p>Acquisition of specialist knowledge and understanding through small group lectures, seminars, workshops, labs and through participation in individual and group based research projects.</p> <p><b>Assessment Method</b></p> <p>Students' knowledge and understanding is assessed by:</p> <p>Coursework which includes essays, extended essays, visit/workshop reports, project report and research dissertation (MSc. students only). Formative assessment will also be employed throughout the programme.</p>
<p><b>B. Skills</b></p> <p>On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Demonstrate critical evaluation of written and orally presented information</li> <li>2) Formulate &amp; present (oral and written) structured arguments</li> <li>3) Critically appraise presented information</li> <li>4) Utilise debating skills</li> <li>5) Demonstrate knowledge of qualitative research skills</li> <li>6) Demonstrate knowledge of quantitative research skills</li> <li>7) Demonstrate interpersonal skills</li> <li>8) Have advanced knowledge of specialist numeracy</li> </ol>	<p><b>Teaching/learning methods</b></p> <p>Students learn skills through:</p> <p>critical appraisal of published material and critical appraisal of particular research methodologies used in Applied Psychology. Skills are also developed within the MSc. dissertation module.</p> <p><b>Assessment Method</b></p>

	<p>Students' skills are assessed by:</p> <p>the completion of extended essays, mini projects, lab reports, presentations, visit/workshop reports, and a research dissertation.</p>
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## **12. Programme structure (levels, modules, credits and progression requirements)**

### **12. 1 Overall structure of the programme**

The MSc. programme is studied over one year full-time or two years part-time. It includes a range of taught modules together with a dissertation, (normally based on empirical research), carried out by the student. There will be three 30 credit modules: Research Methods in Applied Psychology, Counselling and Psychotherapy in Applied Psychology, and Research and Issues in Applied Psychology. The Research Methods module provides the opportunity to develop research and practical skills relevant across all areas of Applied Psychology. These include: qualitative methods, questionnaire and survey methods, methods for the statistical analysis of quantitative data. In addition, practical elements such as developing and costing proposals and identifying ethical and professional considerations are also covered. Two 15 credit modules widen the appeal of the programme by offering popular areas of study within psychology, namely Applied Neuropsychology in Education, and Applied Psychometrics. The Thesis or Dissertation module (60 credits) encourages students to develop expertise in a particular area of Applied Psychology. Each 30 credit module represents approximately 240 hours of study commitment with typically 2-3 hours per week contact time. The MSc. is awarded for successful completion of 180 credits, including the dissertation, while the PGDip.in Applied Psychology is awarded for successful completion of 120 credits. A generic Postgraduate Certificate can be awarded for the successful completion of 60 credits.

## 12. 1 Overall structure of the programme (diagrammatic form)

### MSc Applied Psychology: 1 year full-time

October – December	January – May	June – September
PSY4012 Research Methods in Applied Psych (30 credits)		
PSY4115 Counselling & Psychotherapy in Applied Psych (30 credits)		
PSY4045 Research & Issues in Applied Psychology (30 credits)		
PSY4019 Applied Neuropsychology in Education (15 credits)	PSY4046 Applied Psychometrics (15 credits)	
PSY4035 Research: Practice and Reporting (60 credits)		

### MSc Applied Psychology: 2 years part-time

Year 1	Year 2
PSY4012 Research Methods in Applied Psychology (30 credits)	PSY4115 Counselling & Psychotherapy in Applied Psychology (30 credits)
PSY4045 Research & Issues in Applied Psychology (30 credits)	PSY4019 Applied Neuropsychology in Education (15 credits)
	PSY4046 Applied Psychometrics (15 credits)
PSY4035 Research: Practice & Reporting (60 credits)	PSY4035 Research: Practice & Reporting (60 credits)

### Level 7 (4)

**Level 7**  
 PG Cert  
 60 credits  
  
 PG Diploma  
 120 credits  
  
 MSc  
 120 taught credits  
 plus  
 60 credit dissertation

## 12.3 Non-compensatable modules (note statement in 12.2 regarding FHEQ levels)

Module level	Module code
7	PSY4012 Research Methods in Applied Psychology and PSY4035 Research: Practice and Reporting are non-compensatable.

### 13. Curriculum map

See Appendix 2.

### 14. Information about assessment regulations

The University and School Assessment Policies apply to this programme. Programme specific requirements are: The pass mark for all modules is 16.

There is the right to re-sit a failed component of a module. A student may only re-sit a failed component once and the highest mark attainable for that component on re-sit will be the basic pass mark of 16 (40%).

The full set of University regulations can be viewed at <https://www.mdx.ac.uk/about-us/policies/university-regulations>

### 15. Placement opportunities, requirements and support (if applicable)

There is no formal placement programme incorporated in the MSc Applied Psychology. However, students interested in doing a voluntary placement should contact the Programme Leader for details.

### 16. Future careers (if applicable)

This programme enables students to develop their research skills in preparation for either doctoral research, specific work in industry or a future research post. The several areas of applied psychology covered provide an in-depth understanding of how psychology is applied in everyday life settings thus furnishing students with invaluable tools required for a successful career.

### 17. Particular support for learning (if applicable)

In the first week of teaching all students will be attending study skills lectures and workshops in which issues such as essay writing, referencing, plagiarism and IT will be covered. In addition, the following support is available to all students throughout the academic year:

- UniHelp Desk
- Library services and IT workshops.
- Learning Enhancement Team (LET) services
- UniHub

Wellbeing Services

**18. JACS code (or other relevant coding system)**

**19. Relevant QAA subject benchmark group(s)**

Psychology

**20. Reference points**

(2013/2014) (2013/2014) (2013/2014) (2014)International Benchmarking Review of UK Psychology (2011)

**21. Other information**

Please note programme specifications provide a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the student programme handbook and the University Regulations.

The University Regulations for taught programmes are available at:

<http://www.mdx.ac.uk/aboutus/Strategy/regulations/index.aspx>

The University's academic quality/regulatory processes for taught programmes are available at: <http://www.mdx.ac.uk/aboutus/Strategy/quality-standards/handbook/>

Please note programme specifications provide a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the rest of your programme handbook and the university regulations.

## Appendix 2: Curriculum Map

### Curriculum map for *MSc Applied Psychology*

This section shows the highest level at which programme outcomes are to be achieved by all graduates, and maps programme learning outcomes against the modules in which they are assessed.

#### Programme learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding		Skills	
A1	Key areas of Applied Psychology	B1	Demonstrate critical evaluation of written and orally presented information
A2	Develop core practical/research skills broadly relevant across a number of areas within Applied Psychology	B2	Formulate & present (oral and written) structured arguments
A3	Gain knowledge and critical understanding of the various research techniques and statistical methods that may be viewed as appropriate to postgraduate level training in psychology	B3	Critically appraise presented information
A4	Gain experience developing practical research, analytical and reporting skills working either as a member of a team or individually	B4	Utilise debating skills
A5	Make an appropriate contribution to research within the area of Applied Psychology (applies to those completing the MSc)	B5	Demonstrate knowledge of qualitative research skills



A6	Develop an appreciation of the issues and limitations in applied psychology	B6	Demonstrate knowledge of quantitative research skills
		B7	Demonstrate interpersonal skills
		B8	Have advanced knowledge of specialist numeracy



