

UNIVERSITY OF YORK

POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMME REGULATIONS (for PGT programmes that will run under the new modular scheme)

This document applies to students who commence the programme(s) in:		September 2017			
Awarding institution		Teaching institution			
University of York		University of York			
Department(s)					
Psychology					
Award(s) and programme title(s)			Level of qualification		
MSc in Applied Forensic Psychology			Level 7 (Masters)		
Award(s) available <i>only</i> as interim awards					
Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Forensic Psychology					
Postgraduate Certificate in Applied Forensic Psychology					
Admissions criteria					
<p>Applicants should have a degree (normally a 2.1 or above) or an equivalent qualification from an overseas institution, normally in Psychology. Applicants for the MSc in Applied Forensic Psychology are usually expected to have Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership (GBC) with the British Psychological Society (BPS). The MSc in Applied Forensic Psychology is recognised by the BPS as satisfying Stage 1 of the requirements towards chartered membership of the society.</p> <p>Applicants with a degree that does not confer GBC, but has a good match of course content (including the empirical research project and written dissertation) will also be considered for entry on the MSc in Applied Forensic Psychology on an individual basis. However, these applicants should note that they may need to complete additional training in order to secure GBC and will not be recognised by the BPS as having Stage 1 training on completion of the course.</p> <p>Applicants without GBC may alternatively apply for the equivalent non-BPS accredited MSc in Forensic Psychology Studies, but should similarly demonstrate knowledge and understanding of psychological principles and research design and analysis.</p> <p>Students whose first language is not English will need to provide evidence of competence in the English Language. We normally look for a score in the British Council's IELTS test of 6.5 or above, with no individual element below 6.5 (or equivalent Pearson PTE 65-72/English CPE: B).</p>					
Length and status of the programme(s) and mode(s) of study					
Programme	Length (years) and status (full-time/part-time)	Start dates/months (if applicable – for programmes that have multiple intakes or start dates that differ from the usual academic year)	Mode		
			Face-to-face, campus-based	Distance learning	Other

MSc/Dip/Cert in Forensic Psychology	1 year full-time	N/A	Yes	No	N/A
Language of study	English				
Programme accreditation by Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Bodies (if applicable)					
The MSc in Applied Forensic Psychology is accredited by the British Psychological Society.					

Educational aims of the programme(s)

For the Masters, Diploma and Certificate:

The principal aim of the course is to equip students with the necessary practitioner skills, knowledge and understanding to work effectively within a forensic setting. The programme aims to provide the opportunity for students to develop intellectual skills such as critical analysis and evaluation, synthesis of theory and practice, and problem-solving. There will be particular emphasis on some of the most challenging aspects of forensic work, such as working with violent, dangerous and/or personality-disordered offenders. Students will encounter male and female, adult and juvenile cases. The programme should be attractive to applicants who wish to undertake Masters' level training with a view to (a) a career working with offenders, within a prison, high secure hospital or probation setting, and, (b) those seeking to pursue further research or practice in forensic psychology. In line with Section 8A of the *Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education Code of Practice for the Assurance of Academic Quality and Standards in Higher Education: Postgraduate Research Programmes*, the programme will:

- Expose students to a range of practical, theoretical, conceptual and methodological approaches to and debates within forensic psychology and criminal behaviour, with a particular emphasis on working with offenders within prison, special hospital and probation settings.
- Enable students to develop an understanding of the criminal justice framework and processes.
- Equip students with a psychological understanding of others who work in, or are affected by, the criminal justice framework.
- Provide practical expertise, analytical, interviewing, assessment, case formulation, intervention, report writing, consultancy and research skills, including knowledge and understanding of project design and research methodologies, as applied in a forensic setting.
- Enable students to benefit from the research environment provided by an active 5A* Psychology department.
- Provide the opportunity for participation in university, departmental and external discussion forums, with the presentation of research outcomes where relevant.

Additionally for the Diploma (if applicable):

- To provide students with the opportunity to carry out an in-depth literature review of their particular research area of choice.

Additionally for the Masters:

To provide students with the opportunity to carry out an in-depth empirical project.

Intended learning outcomes for the programme – and how the programme enables students to achieve and demonstrate the intended learning outcomes	
<i>This programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding qualities, skills and other attributes in the following areas:</i>	<i>The following teaching, learning and assessment methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the programme learning outcomes:</i>

A: Knowledge and understanding

Knowledge and understanding of:

For the Masters, Diploma and Certificate:

1. The essential elements of evaluation of interventions and research design and analysis.
2. The ethical and professional issues relating to effective forensic practice.
3. The context for forensic practice in terms of psychology and offending.
4. Psychological theory and research evidence in relation to offending, criminal and antisocial behaviour.
5. Psychology, the Law and the Courts.
6. Models and methods of intervention, including the range of psychological treatment programmes aimed at the individual.
7. A range of contemporary psychological issues that relate to effective assessment and intervention in forensic practice.
8. The significance of mental health, mental illness and personality disorder in the criminal justice context
9. The potential personal and professional impact of working in a forensic setting
10. The dynamics of multidisciplinary working
11. The provision of expert testimony
12. Models of consultancy
13. Working with victims
14. Quantitative and qualitative data techniques and software packages
15. The statistical treatment of data
16. The skills and knowledge associated with forensic intervention.
17. Psychometric and diagnostic assessment, the differences between them, and the need for holistic approaches.
18. Research design and statistics relevant to a forensic setting commensurate with a Master's level of education (both exploratory and hypothesis testing), providing an ability to critically appraise existing research, and to design - own projects.
19. The synthesis and analysis of contemporary psychological theory in

Learning/teaching methods and strategies (relating to numbered outcomes):

- Lectures 1-30
- Research supervision 1,14-19, 30
- Statistical practicals 1,14,15,17,18, 30
- Tutorials 2,3,6-9,20,21

<p>relation to offenders, victims and witnesses (both adults and children).</p> <p>20. The legal status and implications of reports and an ability to think about them effectively.</p> <p>21. Developmental and functional links in the case formulation process.</p> <p>22. Issues relating to diversity.</p> <p>23. Theory, diagnosis and treatment of mental disorder in a forensic population</p> <p>24. Theory underpinning professional resilience</p> <p>25. The importance of professional supervision</p> <p>26. The role of forensic psychologists in multidisciplinary teams</p> <p>27. Facilitating group work</p> <p>28. Professional boundaries</p> <p>29. The reliability of eyewitness testimony</p> <p><i>Additionally for the Masters:</i></p> <p>30. Undertake an empirical project</p>	<p>Types/methods of assessment (relating to numbered outcomes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MCQs 1,14-18 • Open papers 3,5,6,13,19,23,27 • Statistical practicals 1,14-19 • Closed exams 1-30 • Case studies 2,4,6-9,21,23,24,27 • Briefing Paper, 9-12,20,23,25-27 <p><i>Additionally for the Masters:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empirical project 1,14-18,30 • Poster conference 1,14-18,30
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B: (i) Skills – discipline related

<p>Able to:</p> <p><i>For the Masters, Diploma and Certificate:</i></p> <p>1. plan, design, collect data and undertake a piece of research (including data collection, analysis, and write up formulating logical conclusions).</p>	<p>Learning/teaching methods and strategies (relating to numbered outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seminars/Lectures 1-11 • Research supervision 1-12 • Statistical practicals 1
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<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. write concisely using appropriate language (whether for an academic or operational audience) and present written work of publishable and scholarly standards. 3. collect, evaluate, analyse and interpret data from a variety of sources including primary and secondary materials. 4. engage individuals, maintain the relationship, and conduct interviews for the purposes of assessment, treatment and supervision. 5. produce a case-formulation that identifies: (i) hypothesised links between psychological attributes of the individual and offending behaviour and, (ii) targets and methods for further case-specific exploration, (iii) targets, priorities and methods for intervention, and (iv) targets and methods for evaluation and review. 6. administer selected psychometric tests. 7. reflect not merely on the analysis of data collected, but on (i) the rationale that led to the data collection, and (ii) the context and wider implications. 8. formulate case studies and to write reports and be able to disclose and defend the content, to both the offender and other relevant parties (e.g. courts and discretionary lifer panels). 9. manage personal records, keep records up-to-date, and defend the record to the offender and professionals within the criminal justice system. 10. develop practical skills through workshop activities including role-play 11. develop and demonstrate consultancy skills in supportive effective operational functioning. <p><i>Additionally for the Masters:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 12. undertake an empirical project 	<p>Types/methods of assessment (relating to numbered outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MCQs 3 • Open papers 1-11 • Statistical practicals 3 • Closed exams 2, 3, 7 • Case studies 5, 8 <p><i>Additionally for the Masters:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empirical project 1, 7 12 • Poster conference 1-3
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B: (ii) Skills - transferable

Able to:

For the Masters, Diploma and Certificate:

1. reflect on data and to draw implications for theory and practice
2. write for an academic and for a lay audience
3. use PowerPoint and poster formats for the presentation of research findings
4. use a broad range of generic skills effectively (including IT skills and web-based resources).

Additionally for the Masters:

5. undertake an empirical project

Learning/teaching methods and strategies (relating to numbered outcomes):

- Lectures 1,3,4
- Research supervision 1,2
- Statistical practicals 1

Types/methods of assessment (relating to numbered outcomes)

- MCQs 1
- Formative assessment 2
- Open papers 2,4
- Statistical practicals 1
- Closed exams 1,2
- Case studies 1,2

Additionally for the Masters:

- Empirical project 1, 2, 4, 5
- Poster conference 1-5

C: Experience and other attributes

Able to:

For the Masters, Diploma and Certificate:

1. participate in seminar/lecture discussions, presentations of papers, diagnostic tests and clinical cases
2. participate in the visiting speakers' colloquia
3. participate in student-led meetings
4. plan, carry out and evaluate a substantial experimental project, including liaising with participants and possibly outside agencies.
5. effectively time manage and prioritise tasks
6. visit forensic establishments and have contact with personnel
7. Make full use of professional supervision

Additionally for the Masters:

8. undertaking an empirical project

- Learning/teaching methods and strategies (relating to numbered outcomes): Lectures 1, 3, 5, 7
- Colloquia 2
- Research supervision 3,4,5, 7
- Student visits 6
- Pastoral supervision 5, 7

Types/methods of assessment (relating to numbered outcomes):

- Formative assessment 5, 7
- Open papers 5, 7
- Statistical practicals 5, 7
- Closed exams 5
- Case studies 1, 3, 5, 7

Additionally for the Masters:

- Empirical project 4,5,7,8

Relevant Quality Assurance Agency benchmark statement(s) and other relevant external reference points (e.g. National Occupational Standards, or the requirements of Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Bodies)

University award regulations

To be eligible for an award of the University of York a student must undertake an approved programme of study, obtain a specified number of credits (at a specified level(s)), and meet any other requirements of the award as specified in the award requirements and programme regulations, and other University regulations (e.g. payment of fees). Credit will be awarded upon passing a module's assessment(s) but some credit may be awarded where failure has been compensated by achievement in other modules. The University's award and assessment regulations specify the University's marking scheme, and rules governing progression (including rules for compensation), reassessment and award requirements. The award and assessment regulations apply to all programmes: any exceptions that relate to this programme are approved by University Teaching Committee and are recorded at the end of this document.

Departmental policies on assessment and feedback

Detailed information on assessment (including grade descriptors, marking procedures, word counts etc.) is available in the written statement of assessment which applies to this programme and the relevant module descriptions. These are available in the student handbook, the Department's website and the VLE.

Information on formative and summative feedback to students on their work is available in the written statement on feedback to students which applies to this programmes and the relevant module descriptions. These are available in the student handbook, the Department's website and the VLE.

Diagrammatic representation of the programme structure, showing the distribution and credit value of core and option modules

Masters

Autumn term	Spring term	Summer term	Summer vacation
<i>Research Design and Statistics</i> 20 credits	<i>Issues and Methods in Applied Research</i> 20 credits	Empirical Research Project 60 credits	
<i>Forensic Psychology in Practice</i> 20 credits			
<i>Legal and Contextual Issues</i> 20 credits	<i>Forensic Mental Health</i> 20 credits		
<i>Forensic and Generic Skills</i> 20 credits			

Postgraduate Diploma (if applicable)

Autumn term	Spring term	Summer term/Summer vacation
<i>Research Design and Statistics</i> 20 credits	<i>Issues and Methods in Applied Research</i> 20 credits	Literature Review 20 credits
<i>Forensic Psychology in Practice</i> 20 credits		
<i>Legal and Contextual Issues</i> 20 credits	<i>Forensic Mental Health</i> 20 credits	
<i>Forensic and Generic Skills</i> 20 credits		

Postgraduate Certificate (if applicable)

Autumn term	Spring term
<i>Research Design and Statistics</i> 20 credits	<i>Issues and Methods in Applied Research</i> 20 credits
<i>Forensic Psychology in Practice</i> 20 credits	
<i>Legal and Contextual Issues</i> 20 credits	<i>Forensic Mental Health</i> 20 credits
<i>Forensic and Generic Skills</i> 20 credits	

Attainment of 60 credits will lead to a Postgraduate Certificate.

Diagrammatic representation of the timing of module assessments and reassessments, and the timing of departmental examination/progression boards

Autumn term	Assessment/Weights	Key Dates	Summer Term	Date of final award board
<i>Research Design and Statistics</i> 20 credits	(i)) 2 hour multiple choice examination (Weight - 80%) (ii) Practical reports (Weight - 20%)	Closed exam: Week 1, SpT. Practical reports to be completed by Week 10, AuT.	Progression Meeting Week 5. Week 5 – Week 10 Reassessment Period.	September 2018
<i>Forensic and Generic Skills</i> 20 credits	Write a briefing paper on one of a choice of six topics (Weight 100%)	Week 10, AuT,	All reassessments are to be completed by Monday Week 10, SuT.	
<i>Legal and Contextual Issues</i> 20 credits	Open Paper Write a 3000 word essay on one of a choice of five nominated subjects (Weight 100%)	Week 1, SpT		

Spring term	Assessment/Weights	Key Dates	Summer vacation	Date of final award board
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			Progression Meeting Week 5.	September 2018
<i>Issues and Methods in Applied Research</i> 20 credits	1) Research design protocol (60%) 2) Short answer questions (40%)	Week 10, SpT. Week 2, SuT.	Week 5 – Week 10 Reassessment Period.	
<i>Forensic Mental Health</i> 20 credits	3,000 word open paper (Questions set in Wk 1, SpT, Case Study provided Wk 8 SpT)	Week 1, SuT.		
<i>Forensic Psychology in Practice</i> 20 credits in total	An informed closed paper (Short Answer Questions).	Week 1, SuT.		

Summer term/Summer Vacation	Assessment/Weights	Key Dates	Date of final award board
<i>Empirical Project</i> 60 credits	Project word limit – 8000. (Weight - 85%) Student Contribution (Weight – 10%) Poster (Weight - 5%).	TBC TBC	September 2018

For the Diploma route

Summer term/Summer Vacation	Assessment/Weights	Key Dates	Date of final award board
<i>Literature Review</i> 20 credits	Review word limit – 6000. 100%	Week 10, SuT.	September 2018

Overview of modules

Core module table

Module title	Module code	Credit level ¹	Credit value ²	Prerequisites	Assessment rules ³	Timing (term and week) and format of main assessment ⁴	Independent Study Module? ⁵
<i>Research Design and Statistics</i>	PSY000 19M	7	20	N/A	N/A	Closed exam: Week 1, SpT. Practical reports to be completed by Week 10, AuT.	No
<i>Legal and Contextual Issues</i>	PSY000 02M	7	20	N/A	N/A	Open Essay, Week 1, SpT	No
<i>Forensic Psychology in Practice</i>	PSY000 09M	7	20	N/A	N/A	Closed exam, Week 1, SuT.	No

¹ The **credit level** is an indication of the module's relative intellectual demand, complexity and depth of learning and of learner autonomy. Most modules in postgraduate programmes will be at Level 7/Masters. Some modules are permitted to be at Level 6/Honours but must be marked on a pass/fail basis. See University Teaching Committee guidance for the limits on Level 6/Honours credit.

² The **credit value** gives the notional workload for the module, where 1 credit corresponds to a notional workload of 10 hours (including contact hours, private study and assessment)

³ **Special assessment rules** (requiring University Teaching Committee approval)

P/F – the module is marked on a pass/fail basis (NB pass/fail modules cannot be compensated)

NC – the module cannot be compensated

NR – there is no reassessment opportunity for this module. It must be passed at the first attempt

⁴ AuT – Autumn Term, SpT – Spring Term, SuT – Summer Term, SuVac – Summer vacation

⁵ **Independent Study Modules** (ISMs) are assessed by a dissertation or substantial project report. They cannot be compensated (NC) and are subject to reassessment rules which differ from 'taught modules'. Masters programmes should include an ISM(s) of between 60 and 100 credits. This is usually one module but may be more.

<i>Forensic and Generic Skills</i>	PSY000 44M	7	20	N/A	N/A	Briefing paper, Week 10, AuT.	No
<i>Forensic Mental Health</i>	PSY000 08M	7	20	N/A	N/A	Open paper, Week 1, SuT.	No
<i>Issues and Methods in Applied Research</i>	PSY000 03M	7	20	N/A	N/A	1) Research design protocol (60%), Week 10, SpT 2) Short answer questions (40%), Week 2, SuT	No
<i>Empirical Project</i>	PSY000 01M	7	60	N/A	NC	Hand in date: TBC Poster: TBC	Yes

Transfers out of or into the programme	
Exceptions to University Award Regulations approved by University Teaching Committee	
Exception	Date approved
Quality and Standards	
<p>The University has a framework in place to ensure that the standards of its programmes are maintained, and the quality of the learning experience is enhanced.</p> <p>Quality assurance and enhancement processes include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The academic oversight of programmes within departments by a Board of Studies, which includes student representation • The oversight of programmes by external examiners, who ensure that standards at the University of York are comparable with those elsewhere in the sector • Annual monitoring and periodic review of programmes • The acquisition of feedback from students by departments. <p>More information can be obtained from the Academic Support Office: http://www.york.ac.uk/admin/aso/</p> <p>Departmental Statements on Audit and Review Procedures are available at: http://www.york.ac.uk/admin/aso/teach/deptstatements/index.htm</p>	
Date on which this programme information was updated:	1 September 2017
Departmental web page:	http://www.york.ac.uk/depts/psych/
Please note	
<p>The information above provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and learning outcomes that a typical students might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the leaning opportunities that are provided.</p> <p>Detailed information on learning outcomes, content, delivery and assessment of modules can be found in module descriptions.</p> <p>The University reserves the right to modify this overview in unforeseen circumstances, or where processes of academic development, based on feedback from staff, students, external examiners or professional bodies, requires a change to be made. Students will be notified of any substantive changes at the first available opportunity.</p>	