

# Programme Specification

<b>Programme Title and Name of Award</b>	MSc Psychology with named pathways: (i) Applied Social Science (ii) Interpersonal Violence & Abuse (iii) Organisational (iv) Research Methods & Statistics (v) Legal & Criminological		
<b>Academic Level</b>	7	<b>Total Credits</b>	180
<b>Professional Body Accreditation / Qualification</b>	N/A		
<b>Date of Professional Body Accreditation</b>	N/A	<b>Accreditation Period</b>	N/A
<b>UCAS Code</b>	N/A		
<b>HECoS Code</b>	(i) 101307 (ii) 100493 (iii) 100497 (iv) 100959 (v) 100493		
<b>Criteria for Admission to the Programme</b>	<p>The University's standard criteria for admissions apply. Please refer to the <a href="#">Applicant Information</a> pages of the University website for more information. For <a href="#">APL</a>, please refer to the University website.</p> <p>For HLLP7066, APL would need to have pathway specific content.</p> <p>Detailed criteria for admission to these programme can be found on the programme webpages:</p> <p><a href="https://www.cumbria.ac.uk/study/courses/postgraduate/applied-social-science/">https://www.cumbria.ac.uk/study/courses/postgraduate/applied-social-science/</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.cumbria.ac.uk/study/courses/postgraduate/interpersonal-violence-and-abuse-studies/">https://www.cumbria.ac.uk/study/courses/postgraduate/interpersonal-violence-and-abuse-studies/</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.cumbria.ac.uk/study/courses/postgraduate/psychology-organisational/">https://www.cumbria.ac.uk/study/courses/postgraduate/psychology-organisational/</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.cumbria.ac.uk/study/courses/postgraduate/psychology-research-methods-and-statistics/">https://www.cumbria.ac.uk/study/courses/postgraduate/psychology-research-methods-and-statistics/</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.cumbria.ac.uk/study/courses/postgraduate/legal-and-criminological-psychology/">https://www.cumbria.ac.uk/study/courses/postgraduate/legal-and-criminological-psychology/</a></p> <p>For the MSc Psychology: Research Methods and Statistics and the MSc Psychology: Organisational, there is an additional requirement to</p>		

	have experience with statistics at Level 5 or Level 6 of your undergraduate degree.
<b>Teaching Institution</b>	University of Cumbria
<b>Owning Department</b>	Health, Psychology and Social Studies
<b>Programme delivered in conjunction with</b>	N/A
<b>Principal Mode of Delivery</b>	Blended Learning
<b>Pattern of Delivery</b>	Full Time, Part Time and Block
<b>Delivery Site(s)</b>	Carlisle Fusehill Street HM Prison Haverigg, Cumbria (HLLP7066 only)
<b>Programme Length</b>	Full Time 1 year (4 years maximum) Part Time 2 years (4 years maximum)
<b>Higher Education Achievement Report (HEAR)</b>	Upon successful completion of this programme, you may receive a Diploma Supplement/Higher Education Achievement Report (HEAR).
<b>Exit Awards</b>	You may be awarded one of the following Exit Awards if you fail to achieve the requirements of the full programme. PGCert Psychology (60 credits) PGDip Psychology (120 credits)
<b>Period of Approval</b>	August 2020 – July 2026
<p>This programme has been approved (validated) by the University of Cumbria as suitable for a range of delivery modes, delivery patterns, and delivery sites. This level of potential flexibility does not reflect a commitment on behalf of the University to offer the programme by all modes/patterns and at all locations in every academic cycle. The details of the programme offered for a particular intake year will be as detailed on the programme webpage.</p>	

### Cumbria Graduate Attributes

Throughout your studies, you will be provided with the skills and knowledge relevant to the global workplace. All successful graduates of the University of Cumbria will be:

- Enquiring and open to change
- Self-reliant, adaptable and flexible
- Confident in your discipline as it develops and changes over time
- Capable of working across disciplines and working well with others
- Confident in your digital capabilities

- Able to manage your own professional and personal development
- A global citizen, socially responsible and aware of the potential contribution of your work to the cultural and economic wellbeing of the community and its impact on the environment
- A leader of people and of places
- Ambitious and proud

## Programme Features

### **MSc Psychology: Applied Social Science**

The MSc Psychology: Applied Social Science is designed to build on existing learning experiences and offers flexible learning opportunities that will enhance the academic and professional knowledge and skills of learners with a view to improving career prospects. This pathway recognises the status of the student as an expert in identifying what they want or need to study and presents an exciting opportunity to exit with a rigorous Masters award bespoke to each individual student's interests and career needs. The range of options from which you may select is both extensive and coherent. The options may be grouped thematically with a strong emphasis on legal and criminological psychology, interpersonal violence and abuse, organisational psychology, and research methods with each theme underpinned by sociological, psychological and criminological theory. You can select from within or between themes dependent upon your personal preferences. All MSc Applied Social Science learners will require you to have undertaken the following core modules: Research Skills and Methods (20 credits), Professional Values and Ethics (20 credits) Negotiated Learning (20 credits), and the Dissertation (60 credits), as well as the compulsory module Theories of Contemporary Society (20 credits). The remaining 40 credits may be selected from the list of optional modules. For certain modules you may be offered the option to study at Haverigg prison. If you take this option, you will be expected to travel to Haverigg to study alongside prisoners. You should make this choice based upon the knowledge that you have to make your own travel arrangements and to cover the costs yourself, and upon the understanding that it may sometimes be possible that sessions are cancelled at the last-minute due to issues beyond our control, such as incidents within the prison etc. However, we do try to organise car sharing with other students. For students who are unable to travel to Haverigg, or do not wish to work alongside prisoners, there would be an option to engage with these modules by carrying out literature reviews around some of the relevant aspects of this project. Supervision would normally be available for issues such as prison education, prison cultures, rehabilitation, desistance, and resettlement of offenders.

### **MSc Psychology: Interpersonal Violence and Abuse**

MSc Psychology: Interpersonal Violence and Abuse is a pathway that represents the strength of expertise and subject knowledge within the team around interpersonal violence research. As a pathway it offers opportunities to enhance your career development but also to provide strong CPD opportunities for those working in the sector. Domestic violence and abuse is a key priority for the UK Government and its recent launch of a Domestic Abuse Bill demonstrates that this is an issue they are committed to tackling. It is likely that this will create new job opportunities as well as give services a desire to enhance their skills and knowledge on the subject matter. This pathway provides a set of modules that will enhance specialist subject knowledge, key skills for working in research and practice, and will be delivered by subject specialists. The MSc Psychology: Interpersonal Violence and Abuse is designed to build on existing learning experiences and offers flexible learning opportunities that will enhance the academic and professional knowledge and skills of learners with a view to improving career prospects. It recognises the status of the student as an expert in identifying what they want or need to study. All MSc Psychology: Interpersonal Violence and Abuse learners will be required to have undertaken the following core modules: Research Skills

and Methods (20 credits), Professional Values and Ethics (20 credits) Negotiated Learning (20 credits), and a Dissertation (60 credits). You will also be required to complete three compulsory modules: Interpersonal Violence and Abuse Studies (20 credits), Psychology of Violent Behaviour (20 credits) and Critical Perspectives in Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults (20 credits).

### **MSc Psychology: Organisational**

The MSc Psychology: Organisational is designed to build on existing learning experiences and offers flexible learning opportunities that will enhance the academic and professional knowledge and skills of learners with a view to improving career prospects. It recognises the status of the student as an expert in identifying what they want or need to study. All MSc Psychology: Organisational learners will be required to have undertaken the following core modules: Research Skills and Methods (20 credits), Professional Values and Ethics (20 credits) Negotiated Learning (20 credits), and a Dissertation (60 credits). You will also be required to complete three compulsory modules: Organisational Psychology (20 credits), Organisations and the Environment (20 credits) and Advanced Statistics (20 credits).

### **MSc Psychology: Research Methods and Statistics**

The MSc Psychology: Research Methods and Statistics is designed to build on existing learning experiences and offers flexible learning opportunities that will enhance the academic and professional knowledge and skills of learners with a view to improving career prospects. This pathway enhances and develops skills that can be transferred across a range of career pathways; moreover, it will provide a robust foundation for prospective PhD students. This pathway aims to provide a stimulating and challenging academic and scholarly environment for learners who wish to advance their academic and professional development beyond undergraduate level, through developing specialised knowledge and a critical awareness of issues at the forefront of psychological research methodology debates. It has been designed to cover the traditional and non-traditional research methods, such that prospective academics and practitioners alike feel equipped for future challenges. The main aim of the pathway is to provide you with the opportunity to develop a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of a broad range of topics and techniques in psychological research methods. Theoretical and practical issues pertinent to those working in research contexts will be examined critically. In addition, this programme of study seeks to equip students with the skills and knowledge required to undertake and report research to a publishable standard. All MSc Psychology: Research Methods and Statistics will be required to have undertaken the following core modules: Research Skills and Methods (20 credits), Professional Values and Ethics (20 credits) Negotiated Learning (20 credits), and a Dissertation (60 credits). You will also be required to complete three compulsory modules: Advanced Statistics (20 credits), Qualitative Research Methodologies and Techniques (20 credits), and Implementing Psychological Research Techniques (20 credits).

### **MSc Psychology: Legal and Criminological**

The MSc Psychology: Legal and Criminological has been designed to build on existing learning experiences and offers flexible learning opportunities that will enhance the academic and professional knowledge and skills of learners with a view to improving career prospects. The pathway aims to provide a stimulating and challenging academic and scholarly environment for learners who wish to advance their academic and professional development beyond undergraduate level, through developing specialised knowledge and a critical awareness of issues at the forefront of Legal and Criminological Psychology. The course has been designed to cover the application of psychology to forensic and legal issues. The main aim of the course is to provide students with the opportunity to develop a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of a broad range of topics in criminological and legal psychology. Theoretical and practical issues pertinent to those working in legal settings will be examined critically. All MSc Psychology: Legal and Criminological learners will be required to have undertaken the following core modules: Research Skills and Methods (20 credits), Professional Values and Ethics (20 credits) Negotiated Learning (20 credits), and a

Dissertation (60 credits). You will also be required to complete three compulsory modules: Interpersonal Violence and Abuse Studies (20 credits), Criminal Psychology, Offending Behaviour and the Criminal Justice System (20 credits), and Working with Specialist Populations in Forensic Settings (20 credits).

### **All MSc Psychology named pathways (as above):**

To support you in terms of your career planning and progress through the award you will be allocated a Personal Tutor [PT], charged with supporting you as they work to identify and then meet your individual personal and professional learning needs. The PT will assume an academic tailoring role which consists of moderating your journey through your programme of study, so that your choice of CPD opportunities focus of the assessments is appropriate to both your area of intended practice (career aspirations).

On entry to the MSc, you will be required to complete a learning plan [LP]. This plan, completed with the help of the personal tutor, will detail the desired target award, your option modules, choice of negotiated learning topic selected by you, and the core modules that are required to complete the target award. The LP, which is subject to final approval by the programme leader will be recorded on a student database. It will be reviewed by you and PT on an annual basis and recorded in your Professional Development Record [PDR] which details on the role of the PT. It comprises a focus for personal tutor meetings and for maintaining a record of progress throughout your period of learning. The PDR will enable you and your PT to work together to maintain a record of the modules studied and your contribution to meeting the target programme learning outcomes. Communication between you and your personal tutor with regards to the LP and PDR may take place via face to face or telephone meetings or via the internet. The preferred process for meeting will be determined jointly by you and your PT. The process relating to the completion of LP and PDR documents will be monitored by then programme leader. Operational team meetings will provide the forum for communication on and development of these processes. In addition to the flexible and specialist nature of the provision here within these Psychology programmes, there are also a number of other distinguishing features:

#### **Disseminating research findings**

We encourage you to get involved within the research community that exists in the team and provide opportunities to enhance your research skills. We have an inhouse journal that is peer reviewed and gives you the chance to get your work published, and also a student conference that runs twice a year that gives you the chance to present your research findings to an audience.

#### **Interdisciplinary learning and working**

Working in an interdisciplinary team is something involved in many of the careers linked to our current and proposed provision. We give you the opportunity to learn alongside other students from different disciplines and often work together in group-based classroom activities and assignments. Appreciating and celebrating the diversity of experience and practice is something we feel is a real strength to our programme, it gives you the chance to develop these skills that will benefit you greatly in your future employment.

You will be given many opportunities within your classroom activities and your assessment to consider applied and work-based learning opportunities. For example, within court days, prison visits, student conferences, and other applied examples we offer students the opportunity to develop a better awareness of what psychology and psychological practice is like in the real world.

#### **Work Experience**

The programme team will encourage you to seek volunteering opportunities throughout your time at the University of Cumbria. This includes volunteering with organisations in and around Carlisle and also to taking part in the Research Student Volunteer Scheme that exists within the department.

The flexibility of this pathway is designed with work experience in mind. Alongside studying, you are strongly encouraged to gain work experience – either voluntary or paid – to increase your employability. This MSc programme do not contain work placements and rather encourage extracurricular volunteering to help you demonstrate to employers that you have the drive and ability to arrange your own work. Volunteering is also strongly encouraged within the University to give real life applied experience alongside your MSc. There are volunteering opportunities within the University community e.g. PASS or voluntary research assistant work

### **Induction and support**

We have an induction session that occurs before the start of your first week of teaching. We will introduce you to the programme, staff and other students, and help you settle into the wider psychology and social science team. From then on, we ensure opportunities for ongoing peer support, personal tutor support, and the wider university support systems.

### **Extracurricular activities**

We have a full schedule of extracurricular activities that are available to you alongside our undergraduate programmes. We offer a range of activities such as Psychology Film Club, research seminars, workshops with our technical equipment.

## **Aims of the Programme**

The overall aims of the Programme are:

1. Provide a motivating and challenging academic and scholarly environment for learners who wish to progress their academic and professional development beyond undergraduate level
2. Facilitate the acquisition and understanding of complex and specialised knowledge and a critical awareness of issues at the forefront of their academic discipline.
3. Develop conceptual knowledge and understanding of how research methodologies enable the critical analysis, interpretation, synthesis and application of evidence within the student's field of study and professional practice
4. Through completion of a dissertation, contest existing knowledge and facilitate the development of new ideas and new ways of thinking.

## **Level Descriptors**

Level Descriptors describe in general terms the expected outcomes you will achieve at each level of study as you progress through your programmes. They describe the relative demand, complexity, depth of learning and learner autonomy associated with a particular level of learning and achievement. The University's Level Descriptors are aligned to the national [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#) (FHEQ) and are a key mechanism for ensuring the academic standards of the University's provision.

At Level 7 (Usually Master's level), you will be able to demonstrate that you have the ability:

- To display a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights, much of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of your academic discipline, field of study or area of professional practice.

- Employ advanced subject-specific and cognitive skills to enable decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations.
- Generate new ideas and support the achievement of desired outcomes
- Accept accountability for decision making including the use of supervision
- Analyse complex concepts and professional situations by means of synthesis of personal and work place reflection and data drawn from scholarship and research in the field.

### **Programme Outcomes – Knowledge and Understanding**

The programme provides opportunities for you to develop and demonstrate the following:

#### **After 180 credits of study (MSc) you will be able to demonstrate:**

- K1.** A critical and specialist knowledge of contemporary theory and research in a range of applied social science domains.
- K2.** A critical and expert understanding of professional, ethical and legal perspectives relating to professional practice in the applied social sciences. (BPS, Code of Human Research Ethics, 2010).
- K3.** A critical and specialist knowledge of factors that influence research, policy and practice within your chosen discipline area.
- K4.** Your ability to compare, contrast and critically evaluate issues at national and international level in your chosen field of enquiry.

#### **After 120 credits of study (PGDip) you will be able to demonstrate:**

- K1.** A critical and specialist knowledge of contemporary theory and research in a range of applied social science domains.
- K2.** A critical and expert understanding of professional, ethical and legal perspectives relating to professional practice in the applied social sciences. (BPS, Code of Human Research Ethics, 2010).
- K4.** Your ability to compare, contrast and critically evaluate issues at national and international level in your chosen field of enquiry.

#### **After 60 credits of study (PGCert) you will be able to demonstrate:**

- K2.** A critical and expert understanding of professional, ethical and legal perspectives relating to professional practice in the applied social sciences. (BPS, Code of Human Research Ethics, 2010).
- K4.** Your ability to compare, contrast and critically evaluate issues at national and international level in your chosen field of enquiry.

### **Programme Outcomes – Skills and other Attributes (including Employability Skills)**

The programme provides opportunities for you to develop and demonstrate the following:

- S1.** Your competence and expertise in planning, undertaking and completing a critically engaged, coherent, substantial and advanced piece of research.
- S2.** That you are able to produce work to a professional standard in readiness for publication.

**S3.** That you are able to clearly, concisely and professionally communicate your ideas, findings and conclusions (orally or through a range of written media e.g. formal reports, posters, literature reviews).

**S4.** Your ability to work independently and to manage your own learning.

### External and Internal Reference Points

The following Subject Benchmark Statements and other external and internal reference points have been used to inform the Programme Outcomes:

[QAA Subject Benchmark Statement: Psychology \(2016\)](#) (priority area)

[QAA Subject Benchmark Statement: Sociology \(2016\)](#)

[QAA Subject Benchmark Statement: Criminology \(2014\)](#)

[UoC Strategic Plan](#)

[UoC Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy](#)

[UoC Academic Regulations and Academic Procedures and Processes](#)

### Graduate Prospects

By undertaking this programme, you will find it valuable in future careers within a range of sectors. Within each of these sectors there are employers who provide statutory services, voluntary and charitable services and private services. These sectors can include education, social care, health and well-being, working with young people, the criminal justice system and many more. This provides you with a wide range of job opportunities where you will find the content and skills developed on this programme will be useful. Our recent graduates from pathways tell us that they enjoy working in a number of professions. Each pathway will lend itself well to several different settings and roles, for example:

- **Interpersonal Violence and Abuse** – roles working with interpersonal violence such as domestic violence services, working with perpetrators or victims of violence and abuse in the criminal justice system.
- **Organisational** - project managers, role with HR, management roles, research roles within organisations or practice settings.
- **Applied Social Sciences** - any role within these allied disciplines that would value research skills, and training in values and ethics. Also, roles that would be linked to specific option modules, for example of students engaged in the safeguarding modules then it would be excellent preparation for working with young or vulnerable people.
- **Legal and Criminological** - roles within the criminal justice system such as probation, victim support or prison services.
- **Research Methods and Statistics** – research assistant posts, roles in academia or research, PhD level study, research roles in practice.

Within these pathways, we offer a range of teaching and assessment activities that allow you to develop a wide range of skills and subject content. We feel that graduates from our pathways are equipped with skills that will help you stand out from others in future postgraduate training and job applications, for example some of our unique selling points are:

- Our inclusive approach to research methods



- Our ability to tailor learning to your interests
- Our specialist and multidisciplinary teaching team
- The opportunity to learn with students from other pathways
- Opportunities to get involved in extracurricular activities and volunteering both within and outside the team
- The applied nature of the practical work mean that you graduate

Your personal tutor will be able to discuss your career options and ways to help develop your skills in preparation. The flexible nature of the pathways model allows students to gain an MSc that suits their own specific career goals.

## **Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies employed to enable the Programme Outcomes to be Achieved and Demonstrated**

As a student at the University of Cumbria, you are part of an inclusive learning community that recognises diversity. You will have opportunities to learn by interacting with others in a collegiate, facilitative and dynamic learning environment. Teaching, assessment and student support will allow equal and equitable opportunities for you to optimise your potential and develop autonomy.

We seek to create a stimulating and innovative community of learning, whether encountered on campus or at a distance, on placement or in the workplace. Facilitated by our expert practitioner staff, you will experience a learning environment that is well equipped, flexible, and stimulating.

### **Learning and Teaching**

In line with UoC Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy 2017-22, our learning and teaching methods:

- Promote the development of inclusive practice and address a range of learner types through a wide range of teaching and learning activities.
- Use learning technology to promote student learning and achievement.
- Provide active learning and social learning opportunities through a range of extracurricular activities offered within the department.
- Embed principles of internationalisation and draw on global perspectives across the range of disciplines covered across these pathways.
- Embed principles of employability skills development in all modules on the MSc.
- Utilise research informed teaching in a department that includes a range of subject specialists and research active staff.
- Foster aspiration and career readiness through work-based, experiential and inter-professional learning.
- Foster interdisciplinary learning across all our core modules.
- Are relevant to the needs of the workplace, emphasising problem-solving and the interaction of theory and practice.
- Use research-informed teaching, drawing on industry-based knowledge and expertise.

This programme has been designed to be flexible, utilising a full range of UoC digital resources and supported communication through learning technology as appropriate. Use will be made of UoC learning technology such as Blackboard, Pebblepad and the availability of resources suitable for mobile learning (such as downloadable video's podcasts and associated transcripts, discussion boards, wiki's and blogs). Learning will be based on academic study. Students are actively facilitated

to use, apply and integrate their developing knowledge within their employment contexts. In adopting a reflective approach we endorse an enquiring, evaluative style to academic study. Learning and assessment are considered to be interrelated. Everything that the student undertakes – and the products of that learning – are embedded through active participation and formative opportunities for dialogue and feedback throughout. Modules include formative activity 'specifically intended to generate feedback on performance to improve and accelerate learning' (Nichol & McFarlane-Dick, 2006). Summative assessment is authentic, in that assessment clearly aligns to programme and module level learning outcomes, encourages and enables progressive development through feedback, and is of relevance to either further academic progression or their current and future employment needs. Intellectual, subject specific and key transferable skills are central to learning opportunities and assessment. Students are encouraged to critically reflect on their skill development in their learning and where relevant employment contexts in order to develop their ability to make sound professional judgments.

The MSc follows a series of key principles of teaching and learning and it is important to note that all modules consider formative assessment to be of considerable benefit. The formative work is developmental in nature and prepares students for the summative assessment work. Blended learning is a feature of all modules, by this we refer to the use of face to face lectures, seminars and workshops online activities. The online activities supplement and support the face to face work that we do. Regardless of whether the face to face work is intensively delivered over days or a weekly commitment, the online activities will serve to prepare, supplement and add value to the learning experience.

### **Summative and Formative Assessment**

In line with the UoC Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy 2017-22 and the HPSS Assessment Strategy 2016-2020, our assessment methods:

- Are designed to provide a creative and balanced strategy across the programme
- Provide a range of engaging and challenging opportunities
- Enable the valid testing of the programme learning outcomes
- Are optimised for your chosen modes and patterns of programme delivery
- Are designed in such a way as to avoid the 'bunching' of submission deadlines
- Promote the concept of 'assessment for learning' to enable the development of independent and autonomous thinkers
- Provide a relevant and practicable workload for both students and staff which enables anonymous marking and timely feedback
- Are relevant to the needs of the workplace, allowing for authentic assessment and effective feedback to enable student success

The breadth of assessment methods acknowledges that graduate and employability skills are many and varied and so students need opportunities to develop, practice and be assessed on as full a range of skills as possible. The traditional methods (e.g. essay) are supplemented by applied and ecologically valid methods (portfolio, case analysis, intervention design and evaluation, multi-agency meeting planning and execution) for the workplace. We utilise the labelled "portfolio" as an assessment strategy for modules across the pathways, this means that your assessment could be made up of more than one type or task. We use "portfolio" as an umbrella term but within these portfolios, we include a range of different assessment methods. For example, for one module it may include a presentation and an essay, for another module it may include a literature review and a poster. Each year as a course team, we reflect on the different methods used and ensure students have the opportunity to engage in a range of these methods. Our assessment methods include:

- *Case analysis*
- *Problem based learning*
- *Intervention design and evaluation*

- *Literature review*
- *Reflective Account*
- *Academic essay*
- *Evidence based analysis*
- *Portfolio*
- *Presentation*
- *Web pages*
- *Written report*
- *Online assessment*
- *Research proposal*
- *Dissertation*
- *Written examination*
- *Academic Poster*
- *Multi-Agency Meetings*

### **Formative Assessment**

Formative assessment is an important feature within the programme. The nature of the formative work varies across the modules, essentially this comprises work that informs or becomes part of the summative assessment. Formative work may include in-class or on-line activities such as presenting draft assignments, work in progress, or multiple-choice tests. Peer and self-assessment are also used to give students speedy feedback on formative tasks.

## **Student Support**

We provide responsive learner support that promotes student success. Our approach to learner support is designed to support achievement and progression, champion inclusivity and accessibility, prepare you for opportunities beyond study, and promote independence and resilience, enabling you to achieve your potential.

As a student of the University of Cumbria, you will be taught by academics and expert practitioners who facilitate learning through structured inquiry. You will be provided with access to high quality academic resources through physical and digital libraries and will be supported to develop skills that enable you to become a critical, reflective, discerning and independent learner and researcher.

### **Induction: Initial and ongoing induction**

A postgraduate induction is timetabled for the week before the programme delivery starts.

Students who cannot attend may follow the sessions via blackboard. The Induction day is followed by a series of bespoke sessions on information literacy (appropriate for Level 7 students), library induction, study skills and time management sessions.

### **Personal Tutoring**

You will also be allocated a Personal Tutor. Your Personal Tutor will be proactively involved in the delivery of your programme and will have contact with you throughout your time at the University. They will support your learning and development, including through tutorials, Progress Reviews and other support as outlined in the Personal Tutoring Policy. Within the programme there are opportunities for individual and group tutorials embedded. However, you are encouraged to book

appointments if and when you feel in need of some support. All students have access to the discussion boards and email. Students can request skype tutorials and our intranet blackboard provision includes a range of functions to make the learning interactive for example, voice recorded ppt lectures using Camtasia. In addition the international office supports all international students with a range of activities. Student Union clubs and societies are also available to join on all campus sites. You will also be allocated a Personal Tutor. Your Personal Tutor will be proactively involved in the delivery of your programme and will have contact with you throughout your time at the University. They will support your learning and development, including tutorials and other support as outlined in the Personal Tutor Policy.

### **Personal Development Planning**

All students have the opportunity to complete a PDP this is a facilitated process and is embedded within the course and available through pebblepad.

### **Library and Academic Support (based in Information Services)**

Module leaders will collaborate with Library and Academic Advisors to ensure that your reading and resource lists are current and items are available via the library discovery tool OneSearch. In order to maximise access, availability and usefulness, ebooks and electronic journal titles will, in most cases, be prioritised. You can access a wide range of electronic and print content using [OneSearch](#) and you can find out more about key texts, databases and journals for your subject by accessing the library's [subject resources webpages](#). Where appropriate, module reading and resource lists will be made available to you electronically using the University's [online reading and resource list system](#).

The [Skills@Cumbria](#) service can help support your academic skills and success throughout your programme. The service is delivered by a team of professional Library and Academic Advisors. It includes a suite of [online self-help resources](#) accessible 24/7 via the University's website and Blackboard site. It also provides group and individual advice and guidance accessible through and alongside your course and by different means such as face to face, email or virtual. Visit [skills@cumbria](#) for more details.

### **IT and Technical Support**

Technology is an invaluable asset when it comes to studying, so it's important you know how to make the most out of the excellent [facilities](#) we have available. Our aim is to ensure you can access university electronic resources from anywhere or any device, whether on or off campus. The [Student Hub](#) is your one-stop gateway to all university systems, Outlook email, and OneDrive.

Whether you consider yourself a computer expert or you're not confident about your IT skills, we're always around to ensure you get the level of support you need. We have a wealth of information and support available on the [website](#) and have a dedicated IT Service Desk where you can talk to someone by phone or log your question online from anywhere, at any time.

### **Student Support Services**

Student Support Services offer a wide range of support, including: careers and employability, financial help, counselling, health and wellbeing and support for disabled students and those with specific learning requirements. We also offer mentoring by trained students which you can request at any point during your studies. We know that you want to get the most out of your programme, make the best use of your time and find or continue in the career you always dreamed of. Access university support and facilities easily and quickly via the [website](#) and/or via the Student Services guidance tile on the [Student Hub](#). In addition to the range of guidance above, you have the opportunity to further develop your personal, academic and professional skills by taking part in a number of initiatives coordinated and delivered by professional services advisers:

### **Preparing for Postgraduate Study**

This free online pre-entry Master's level course is available free of charge through the Open Education Platform powered by Blackboard as is Head Start Plus. It provides a useful insight into the

academic requirements of study at postgraduate level and is recommended to students who are about to start their PG qualification. To access the course simply follow the link to <https://openeducation.blackboard.com/cumbria> and set-up a free account with Open Education. Once logged on, select the course free of charge and work through it at your own pace.

### **Peer Mentoring @ Cumbria**

You will be allocated a student Mentor who will be in touch to offer a non-judgemental and friendly hand and to help with various aspects of your student experience, from making friends to settling in, to helping you understand the expectations of academic study and dealing with assessment worries.

### **Mature Students' Events**

Whether it is a coffee morning, lunchtime gathering or a social event, there are events happening throughout the year to link you up with other mature students who will also be juggling a number of commitments alongside their studies.

### **Help is at Hand Events**

Keep a look out for these interactive events on campus around October and January. You are encouraged to attend these as they showcase the range of support available here and give you the opportunity to talk to people from Finance, Accommodation, the Students' Union, the Wellbeing and Disability Team etc.

### **Career Ahead+**

Career Ahead+ is the University of Cumbria's Employability Award. Completing Career Ahead+ will help you recognise and develop your skills, providing a greater opportunity for you to get the job you want when you graduate. The award is based on what employers look for in an ideal candidate, in relation to skills, knowledge and experience. You will be supported with career direction, gaining experience, and providing all the skills needed to complete the perfect application and be successful in that all important job interview. Contact [careerahead@cumbria.ac.uk](mailto:careerahead@cumbria.ac.uk) or visit [www.cumbria.ac.uk/careerahead](http://www.cumbria.ac.uk/careerahead) for more information.

Pathway and module map (\* = core; § = compulsory )

	Research Methods and Statistics	Organisational	Legal and Criminological	Interpersonal Violence and Abuse	Applied Social Sciences	PgC Safeguarding	PgC Interpersonal Violence and Abuse
Block 1	HLLP7048 Qualitative Research Methods and Statistics <sup>§</sup>	HLLP7050 Organisations and the Environment <sup>§</sup>	HLLP7052 Criminal Psychology, Offending Behaviour & CJS <sup>§</sup>	HLLP7049 Critical Perspective in safeguarding vulnerable adults <sup>§</sup>	HLL7034 Theories of Contemporary Society <sup>§</sup>	HLLP7049 Critical Perspective in safeguarding vulnerable adults <sup>§</sup>	HLLP7044 Psychology of Violent Behaviour <sup>§</sup>
	HLLP7053 Implementing Psychological Research Techniques <sup>§</sup>	HLLP7045 Organisational Psychology <sup>§</sup>	HLLP7047 Working with Specialist populations in forensic settings <sup>§</sup>	HLLP7044 Psychology of Violent Behaviour <sup>§</sup>	Option		
Block 2	HLLP7008 Research Skills and Methods*	HLLP7008 Research Skills and Methods*	HLLP7008 Research Skills and Methods*	HLLP7008 Research Skills and Methods*	HLLP7008 Research Skills and Methods*	HLLP7010 Professional Values and Ethics*	HLLP7010 Professional Values and Ethics*
	HLLP7010 Professional Values and Ethics*	HLLP7010 Professional Values and Ethics*	HLLP7010 Professional Values and Ethics*	HLLP7010 Professional Values and Ethics*	HLLP7010 Professional Values and Ethics*		
Block 3	HLLP7042 Advanced Statistics <sup>§</sup>	HLLP7042 Advanced Statistics <sup>§</sup>	HLLP 7041 Interpersonal Violence and Abuse <sup>§</sup>	HLLP 7041 Interpersonal Violence and Abuse <sup>§</sup>	Option	HLLP7055 Critical perspectives in safeguarding and child protection <sup>§</sup>	HLLP 7041 Interpersonal Violence and Abuse <sup>§</sup>
	HLLP7066 Negotiated Learning*	HLLP7066 Negotiated Learning*	HLLP7066 Negotiated Learning*	HLLP7066 Negotiated Learning*	HLLP7066 Negotiated Learning*		

<b>Programme Curriculum Map</b>					
<b>Academic Level</b>	<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Module Status*</b>	<b>Programme Outcomes achieved</b>
7	HLLP7008	Research Skills and Methods	20	Core	K1-2; S2-4
7	HLLP7010	Professional Values and Ethics	20	Core	K2-3; S2-4
7	HLLP7006	Dissertation	60	Core	K1-4; S1-4
7	HLLP7066	Negotiated Learning	20	Core	K1-4; S2-4
7	HLLP7034	Theories of Contemporary Society	20	Compulsory	K1-4; S2-4
7	HLLP7052	Criminal Psychology, Offending Behaviour and the Criminal Justice System	20	Option	K1-4; S2-4
7	HLLP7047	Working with Specialist Populations in Forensic Settings	20	Option	K1-4; S2-4
7	HLLP7042	Advanced Statistics	20	Option	K1-4; S2-4
7	HLLP7053	Implementing Psychological Research Techniques	20	Option	K1-4; S2-4
7	HLLP7048	Qualitative Research Methodologies and Techniques	20	Option	K1-4; S2-4
7	HLLP7041	Interpersonal Violence and Abuse	20	Option	K1-4; S2-4
7	HLLP7044	Psychology of Violent Behaviour	20	Option	K1-4; S2-4
7	HLLP7049	Critical Perspectives in Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults	20	Option	K1-4; S2-4

7	HLLP7055	Critical Perspectives in Safeguarding and Child Protection	20	Option	K1-4; S2-4
7	HLLP7045	Organisation Psychology	20	Option	K1-4; S2-4
7	HLLP7050	Organisations and the environment	20	Option	K1-4; S2-4
7	HMFA7011	Multi-disciplinary Perspectives on Children, Adolescents and Families	20	Option	K1-4; S2-4
7	HLLP7070	Leading the Transformation of Services	20	Option	K1-4; S2-4
7	HLLP7060	Outdoor Spaces Health and Wellbeing [online]	20	Option	K1-4; S2-4
7	HLLP7061	Environmental Psychology [online]	20	Option	K1-4; S2-4

## Notes

This programme operates in accordance with the University's Academic Regulations and Academic Procedures and Processes.

Students choose two additional option modules. Optional modules may be subject to availability and viability. If we have insufficient numbers of students interested in an optional module in any given academic year, this may not be offered. If an optional module will not be running, we will advise you as soon as possible and help you choose an alternative module. For the options in Block 1 and 3, students will have the choice of the options currently running within those Blocks subject to minimum numbers and viability. Whilst the full list of options is listed above, these will **not** all be available in each block. Module pass mark: 50% (Postgraduate).

HMFA7011 and HLLP7070 are modules that are currently validated under the MA Working with Children Families and Adolescents and are offered as options for this Applied Social Sciences pathway as they meet with the programme learning outcomes.

A failed student will not be permitted to re-register on the same programme.

Students exiting with 60 credits at Level 7 would receive PGCert Psychology

Students exiting with 120 credits at Level 7 would receive PGDip Psychology

Students completing with 180 credits at Level 7 would receive an MSc Psychology: Applied Social Science



<b>* Key to Module Statuses</b>	
Core Modules	Must be taken and must be successfully passed
Compulsory Modules	Must be taken although it may possible to condone/compensate as a marginal fail (within the limits set out in the Academic Regulations and provided that all core or pass/fail elements of module assessment have been passed)
Optional Modules	Are a set of modules from which you will be required to choose a set number to study. Once chosen, it may possible to condone/compensate as a marginal fail (within the limits set out in the Academic Regulations and provided that all core or pass/fail elements of module assessment have been passed)
Qualificatory Units	These are non- credit-bearing pass/fail components that are used to satisfy relevant professional, statutory or regulatory body professional requirements that are associated with the programme

<b>'MSc Psychology: Applied Social Science' - Programme Delivery Structure: Full Time</b>				
<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Delivery Pattern</b>	<b>Method(s) of Assessment</b>	<b>Approximate Assessment Deadline</b>
		<b>Autumn Semester / Spring Semester</b>		
HLLP7034	Theories of Contemporary Society	Block One (Oct-Nov)	Portfolio	End of Block
Option	Please refer to Option List	Block One (Oct-Nov)	Varies depending on choice	End of Block
HLLP7010	Professional Values and Ethics	Block Two (Nov-Jan)	Portfolio	End of Block
HLLP7008	Research Skills and Methods	Block Two (Nov-Jan)	Portfolio	End of Block
Option	Please refer to Option List	Block Three (Feb-Mar)	Varies depending on choice	End of Block
HLLP7066	Negotiated Learning	Block Three (Feb-Mar)	Portfolio	End of Block
HLLP7006	Dissertation	Yearlong (October to September)	Dissertation and Presentation	End of Block

Students who are Part Time will study one module per block with their dissertation coming in their final year  
Students who are Full Time will study two modules per block with their dissertation in Block three onwards.  
For the options in Block 1 and 3, students will have the choice of the options currently running within those Blocks subject to minimum numbers and viability. Whilst the full list of options is listed above, these will **not** all be available in each block.

**'MSc Psychology: Interpersonal Violence & Abuse' - Programme Curriculum Map**

<b>Academic Level</b>	<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Module Status*</b>	<b>Programme Outcomes achieved</b>
7	HLLP7008	Research Skills and Methods	20	Core	K1-2; S2-4
7	HLLP7010	Professional Values and Ethics	20	Core	K2-3; S2-4
7	HLLP7006	Dissertation	60	Core	K1-4; S1-4
7	HLLP7066	Negotiated Learning	20	Core	K1-4; S2-4
7	HLLP7041	Interpersonal Violence and Abuse	20	Compulsory	K1-4; S2-4
7	HLLP7044	Psychology of Violent Behaviour	20	Compulsory	K1-4; S2-4
7	HLLP7049	Critical Perspectives in Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults	20	Compulsory	K1-4; S2-4

**Notes**

This programme operates in accordance with the University's Academic Regulations and Academic Procedures and Processes.

A failed student will not be permitted to re-register on the same programme.

Students exiting with 60 credits at Level 7 would receive PGCert Psychology

Students exiting with 120 credits at Level 7 would receive PGDip Psychology

Students exiting with 180 credits at Level 7 would receive an MSc Psychology: Interpersonal Violence and Abuse

Module pass mark: 50% (Postgraduate).

<b>'MSc Psychology: Interpersonal Violence &amp; Abuse' - Programme Delivery Structure:</b>				
<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Delivery Pattern</b>	<b>Method(s) of Assessment</b>	<b>Approximate Assessment Deadline</b>
		<b>Autumn Semester / Spring Semester</b>		
HLLP7049	Critical Perspectives in Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults	Block One (Oct-Nov)	Portfolio	End of Block
HLLP7044	Psychology of Violent Behaviour	Block One (Oct-Nov)	Portfolio	End of Block
HLLP7010	Professional Values and Ethics	Block Two (Nov-Jan)	Portfolio	End of Block
HLLP7008	Research Skills and Methods	Block Two (Nov-Jan)	Portfolio	End of Block
HLLP7041	Interpersonal violence and Abuse	Block Three (Feb-Mar)	Portfolio	End of Block
HLLP7066	Negotiated Learning	Block Three (Feb-Mar)	Portfolio	End of Block
HLLP7006	Dissertation	Yearlong (October to September)	Dissertation and Presentation	End of Block

<b>'MSc Psychology: Organisational' - Programme Curriculum Map</b>					
<b>Academic Level</b>	<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Module Status*</b>	<b>Programme Outcomes achieved</b>
7	HLLP7008	Research Skills and Methods	20	Core	K1-2; S2-4
7	HLLP7010	Professional Values and Ethics	20	Core	K2-3; S2-4
7	HLLP7006	Dissertation	60	Core	K1-4; S1-4
7	HLLP7066	Negotiated Learning	20	Core	K1-4; S2-4
7	HLLP7042	Advanced Statistics	20	Compulsory	K1-4; S2-4
7	HLLP7045	Organisational Psychology	20	Compulsory	K1-4; S2-4
7	HLLP7050	Organisations and the environment	20	Compulsory	K1-4; S2-4
<b>Notes</b>					
<p>This programme operates in accordance with the University's Academic Regulations and Academic Procedures and Processes.</p> <p>A failed student will not be permitted to re-register on the same programme.</p> <p>Students exiting with 60 credits at Level 7 would receive PGCert Psychology</p> <p>Students exiting with 120 credits at Level 7 would receive PGDip Psychology</p> <p>Students exiting with 180 credits at Level 7 would receive an MSc Psychology: Organisational</p> <p>Module pass mark: 50% (Postgraduate).</p>					

<b>'MSc Psychology: Organisational' - Programme Delivery Structure:</b>				
<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Delivery Pattern</b>	<b>Method(s) of Assessment</b>	<b>Approximate Assessment Deadline</b>
		<b>Autumn Semester / Spring Semester</b>		
HLLP7050	Organisations and the Environment	Block One (Oct-Nov)	Portfolio	End of Block
HLLP7045	Organisational Psychology	Block One (Oct-Nov)	Portfolio	End of Block
HLLP7010	Professional Values and Ethics	Block Two (Nov-Jan)	Portfolio	End of Block
HLLP7008	Research Skills and Methods	Block Two (Nov-Jan)	Portfolio	End of Block
HLLP7042	Advanced Statistics	Block Three (Feb-Mar)	Portfolio	End of Block
HLLP7066	Negotiated Learning	Block Three (Feb-Mar)	Portfolio	End of Block
HLLP7006	Dissertation	Yearlong (October to September)	Dissertation and Presentation	End of Block

**'MSc Psychology: Research Methods & Statistics' - Programme Curriculum Map**

<b>Academic Level</b>	<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Module Status*</b>	<b>Programme Outcomes achieved</b>
7	HLLP7008	Research Skills and Methods	20	Core	K1-2; S2-4
7	HLLP7010	Professional Values and Ethics	20	Core	K2-3; S2-4
7	HLLP7006	Dissertation	60	Core	K1-4; S1-4
7	HLLP7066	Negotiated Learning	20	Core	K1-4; S2-4
7	HLLP7042	Advanced Statistics	20	Compulsory	K1-4; S2-4
7	HLLP7048	Qualitative Research Methodologies and Techniques	20	Compulsory	K1-4; S2-4
7	HLLP7053	Implementing Psychological Research Techniques	20	Compulsory	K1-4; S2-4

**Notes**

This programme operates in accordance with the University's Academic Regulations and Academic Procedures and Processes.  
 A failed student will not be permitted to re-register on the same programme.  
 Students exiting with 60 credits at Level 7 would receive PGCert Psychology  
 Students exiting with 120 credits at Level 7 would receive PGDip Psychology  
 Students exiting with 180 credits at Level 7 would receive an MSc Psychology: Research Methods and Statistics  
 Module pass mark: 50% (Postgraduate).

<b>'MSc Psychology: Research Methods &amp; Statistics' - Programme Delivery Structure:</b>				
<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Delivery Pattern</b>	<b>Method(s) of Assessment</b>	<b>Approximate Assessment Deadline</b>
		<b>Autumn Semester / Spring Semester</b>		
HLLP7053	Implementing Psychological Research Techniques	Block One (Oct-Nov)	Portfolio	End of Block
HLLP7048	Qualitative Research Methodologies and Techniques	Block One (Oct-Nov)	Portfolio	End of Block
HLLP7010	Professional Values and Ethics	Block Two (Nov-Jan)	Portfolio	End of Block
HLLP7008	Research Skills and Methods	Block Two (Nov-Jan)	Portfolio	End of Block
HLLP7042	Advanced Statistics	Block Three (Feb-Mar)	Portfolio	End of Block
HLLP7066	Negotiated Learning	Block Three (Feb-Mar)	Portfolio	End of Block
HLLP7006	Dissertation	Yearlong (October to September)	Dissertation and Presentation	End of Block



<b>'MSc Psychology: Legal &amp; Criminological' - Programme Curriculum Map</b>					
<b>Academic Level</b>	<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Module Status*</b>	<b>Programme Outcomes achieved</b>
7	HLLP7008	Research Skills and Methods	20	Core	K1-2; S2-4
7	HLLP7010	Professional Values and Ethics	20	Core	K2-3; S2-4
7	HLLP7006	Dissertation	60	Core	K1-4; S1-4
7	HLLP7066	Negotiated Learning	20	Core	K1-4; S2-4
7	HLLP7052	Criminal Psychology, Offending Behaviour and the Criminal Justice System	20	Compulsory	K1-4; S2-4
7	HLLP7047	Working with Specialist Populations in Forensic Settings	20	Compulsory	K1-4; S2-4
7	HLLP7041	Interpersonal Violence and Abuse	20	Compulsory	K1-4; S2-4
<b>Notes</b>					
<p>This programme operates in accordance with the University's Academic Regulations and Academic Procedures and Processes.</p> <p>A failed student will not be permitted to re-register on the same programme.</p> <p>Students exiting with 60 credits at Level 7 would receive PGCert Psychology</p> <p>Students exiting with 120 credits at Level 7 would receive PGDip Psychology</p> <p>Students exiting with 180 credits at Level 7 would receive an MSc Psychology: Legal and Criminological</p> <p>Module pass mark: 50% (Postgraduate).</p>					

<b>'MSc Psychology: Legal &amp; Criminological' - Programme Delivery Structure:</b>				
<b>Module Code</b>	<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Delivery Pattern</b>	<b>Method(s) of Assessment</b>	<b>Approximate Assessment Deadline</b>
		<b>Autumn Semester / Spring Semester</b>		
HLLP7047	Working with Specialist Populations in Forensic Settings	Block One (Oct-Nov)	Portfolio	End of Block
HLLP7052	Criminal Psychology, Offending Behaviour and the Criminal Justice System	Block One (Oct-Nov)	Portfolio	End of Block
HLLP7010	Professional Values and Ethics	Block Two (Nov-Jan)	Portfolio	End of Block
HLLP7008	Research Skills and Methods	Block Two (Nov-Jan)	Portfolio	End of Block
HLLP7041	Interpersonal violence and Abuse	Block Three (Feb-Mar)	Portfolio	End of Block
HLLP7066	Negotiated Learning	Block Three (Feb-Mar)	Portfolio	End of Block
HLLP7006	Dissertation	Yearlong (October to September)	Dissertation and Presentation	End of Block

**Methods for Evaluating and Improving the Quality and Standards of Learning**

**Mechanisms used for the Review and Evaluation of the Curriculum and Learning, Teaching and Assessment Methods**

- Module Evaluation
- Programme Validation and Periodic Review
- Annual Monitoring
- Peer Review of Teaching
- External Examiner Reports
- Student Success and Quality Assurance Committee

**Mechanisms used for gaining and responding to feedback on the quality of teaching and the learning experience – gained from: Students, graduates, employers, placement and work-based learning providers, other stakeholders, etc.**

- Staff Student Forum
- Module Evaluation Forms
- Programme Evaluation: National Student Survey, UK Engagement Survey
- Module/Programme/Personal tutorials
- Meetings with External Examiners

**Date of Programme Specification Production:**

**Date Programme Specification was last updated:**

**For further information about this programme, refer to the programme page on the University website**

**The following information has implications for potential international applicants who require a Tier 4 visa to study in the UK**

**Is the placement requirement more than 50% of the programme?**

No

**If yes, what % of the programme is the placement requirement?**

N/A

**If yes, is the amount of placement a statutory requirement to meet Professional, Statutory or**

No

<b>Regulatory Body (PSRB) or Department of Education requirements?</b>	
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