



# Biology with Psychology BSc (Honours): C1C8



This degree course is for students wishing to develop an understanding of the influences that govern human behaviour, underpinned by knowledge of the biology of the system. The degree is designed so that students can choose the areas of biology that interest them the most and link these studies to a progressive understanding of developmental, physiological and cognitive psychology. As well as in-depth knowledge of Biology and Psychology, the degree provides students with an impressive mixture of both scientific, analytical skills and communication and interpersonal skills. This unique mixture provides students with an excellent basis for future employment.

**Entry requirements.** Typically ABB at A-level for entry from the sixth form with at least two science subjects from Biol/Chem/Comp/EnvSci/Maths/Phys/Psych, or equivalent 2 A- plus 2 AS-levels. Applicants with other types of qualification should enquire for details.

**Specialist facilities.** This course is taught jointly by biology staff in the Lancaster Environment Centre and the School of Health & Medicine, and the Department of Psychology, so students benefit from the excellent complementary facilities which these Departments have to offer. All staff in these areas are research active, and many of them are recognised as international leaders in their fields, with the Division of Biomedical & Life

Sciences ranked joint 1st in the UK for Allied Health Professions research. Our current research interests include neurodegenerative diseases, cellular responses to DNA damage, corneal transparency, plant and animal cell signalling, cancer cell biology and ecology and conservation biology. Due to our high level of research funding and activity in these areas, our students are exposed to up-to-date facilities, and in their third year research project, have the opportunity to carry out cutting edge research using our modern facilities.

**Careers information.** Biology with Psychology is a relatively new degree, but the graduates from the two individual degrees have a very good employment record and pursue a wide range of careers. Whilst some of our graduates opt to undertake postgraduate study, such as a PhD or Masters degree, or to move into teaching, more than two thirds of our graduates enter jobs related to their degree. These include the pharmaceutical industry, hospital research and diagnostics, the food industry, forensic science and research institutes, for example. The remainder of our graduates take advantage of the transferable skills embedded in their degree providing a foundation for careers in other sectors including finance, management, marketing, information technology and communications.

## Michelle Cunningham

"The Biology and Psychology degree at Lancaster allowed me to continue studying two subjects I had developed a passion for at A-level. The vast range of courses available in my first year allowed me to decide which areas I enjoyed the most and wished to study in detail. The courses in Biology and Psychology complemented each other perfectly giving me a deeper level of understanding of the topics. The staff were friendly and helpful and were always willing to do all they could to help me achieve the best possible results. Gaining a degree in Biology and Psychology has opened up many more career opportunities than would otherwise be available to me from a single subject degree."



For further information contact:  
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The Lancaster  
Environment Centre

## First Year

In the first year, students take Part I of their degree, which consists of three 5-module (or the equivalent) units. Students take a 1-unit course in Psychology, and the remaining 10 modules are chosen from those on offer in Biology. Students may either opt for a Biomedicine or an Environmental Biology focus.

### Unit 1: Understanding Psychology

An overview of the core psychological areas of Cognitive, Developmental, Social and Neuropsychology.

### Units 2&3: Biomedicine Route

Select 10 modules from around 25 available in Environmental Biology, Biology and Chemistry.

### Units 2&3: Environmental Biology Route

- Environmental Issues for the 21st Century
- Interdisciplinary Skills
- Plus:*
- Choice of 8 modules from Environmental Biology, Biology and Chemistry.

## Second Year

In the second and third years, courses are designed to develop more specialist knowledge and to allow students to pursue their particular areas of interest. Students take three compulsory Psychology modules and two modules from those on offer in Biology. Students also take biology techniques courses, and in the final term of the second year, begin a dissertation module. This involves an original piece of research undertaken either in LEC, Biomedical & Life Sciences, or via a work placement.

### Psychology Theme:

- Cognitive Psychology
- Brain & Behaviour
- Developmental Psychology

### Biology Theme:

- Environmental Biology *OR* Biomedicine Techniques courses
- Research Project
- Plus two from:*
- Populations to Ecosystems • Genetics • Evolution
- Cell Biology • Biochemistry • Principles of Biodiversity Conservation • Environmental Physiology
- Medical Microbiology • Genetics

## Third Year

In the final year, students take three further psychology modules and four biology modules in the Michaelmas and Lent terms. As in the second year, biology subject modules can be selected to allow students to follow either a biomedicine or environmental biology theme. Research project dissertations are also completed during the first term of third year.

### Psychology Theme:

- Advanced Human Neuropsychology
- Advanced Developmental Psychology *OR* Advanced Cognitive Psychology
- One other module from those available in Psychology

### Biology Theme:

Choose four Biology Modules from:

- Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution • Animal Behaviour
- Issues in Conservation Biology • Conservation in Practice
- Global Change Biology • Cell Biology • Genetics
- Protein Biochemistry • Immunology • Biomedicine