

BA (HONOURS) IN PSYCHOLOGY

**Duration:**

Three Years
Full-Time

CAO Code:

NC010

CAO Points Guide:*

400

NFQ Level:

Level 8

*This is a guide only, points vary each year.

About the Course

NCI's BA (Honours) in Psychology is accredited by the Psychological Society of Ireland (PSI), the professional body for psychology in the Republic of Ireland. Honours graduates are eligible to apply for Graduate Membership of the PSI. A PSI accredited degree is also a prerequisite for most postgraduate professional training programmes in psychology.

This degree offers a solid grounding in all the core areas of psychology including cognitive psychology, personality and individual differences, lifespan development, social psychology, behavioural psychology, research methods and biological psychology, as well as specialised topics such as workplace psychology and cyber-psychology.

Graduates of this course understand the principles of psychology and have a broad understanding of human behaviour, know how to critically analyse problems and how to conduct scientific research.

Who is the course for?

This course will appeal to students who have a curiosity about the human mind and who wish to work in a variety of related fields. The course is for school leavers, mature students and graduates of QQI level 5/6 programmes who wish to embark on a course of full-time study.

Career Prospects

A degree in psychology provides graduates with specific knowledge related to psychology, and broader transferable skills such as critical evaluation and research skills. For graduates who wish to go on to pursue a professional career in psychology, having a PSI accredited degree is necessary for most professional postgraduate courses, such as clinical psychology, educational psychology, behavioural psychology, counselling psychology and organisational psychology. Graduates are also very well placed to follow career paths outside of psychology, in fields such as human resources, recruitment, management, consultancy and marketing.

Course Structure and Award

This undergraduate course is a three-year honours degree run over six semesters with continuous assessment held throughout the course and examinations at the end of each semester. Students complete research projects in their final year of study. These research projects are considered for submission to the Psychological Society of Ireland Annual Student Congress. NCI psychology students have achieved notable success in national research competitions. One student won the Best Research Project award in 2020, another received an Honourable Mention for Undergraduate Research, and most recently, an NCI student won the Outstanding Undergraduate Presentation Award at the 2025 Student Congress. In each year of the degree any student with an overall average of 70+ will win a Dean's Award. On completion you will receive a QQI BA Honours Degree in Psychology at level 8 on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Further Study Options

Upon successful completion of the BA (Honours) in Psychology, graduates who have acquired the appropriate entry requirements can progress to postgraduate programmes at level 9 on the National Framework of Qualifications such as the MA in HRM at NCI, as well as clinical, educational, occupational and counselling psychology at other venues.

Course Fees (EU)

€6,250 per annum payable by the student. (Fees revised annually). Students who qualify for SUSI can put their grant toward the course tuition fees.

Admission Requirements and Policies

Minimum entry requirements are a grade H5 and above in two higher level subjects together with a minimum of O6/H7 in four other subjects. A minimum of grade O6/H7 must be obtained in English. A grade O6/H7 must be obtained in Mathematics. Applicants from a PLC/further education course must have a full level 5/6 award and three distinctions. Mature applicants, applicants with a disability or those applying through the DARE or HEAR access schemes should refer to our Admissions section on p56, which also includes our admission policies, including laptop requirements.



COURSE CONTENT

Year 1

- Introduction to Psychology
- Core Research Skills for Psychologists
- Social Psychology
- Introduction to Developmental Psychology
- Introduction to Statistics
- Cognitive Psychology
- Learning and Behaviour
- Coaching Psychology

Year 2

- Applied Statistics
- Personality and Intelligence
- Biological Psychology
- Psychopathology
- Advanced Cognitive Psychology and Neuroscience
- Applied Research Methods Psychology Labs
- Plus, two electives

Year 2 Elective Modules Include

- Behavioural Science: Problem Based Learning
- Psychology of Gender
- Critical Thinking
- Multicultural Psychology

Year 3

- Health Psychology
- Advanced Biological Psychology
- Behavioural Psychology
- Applied Developmental Psychology
- Final Project
- Plus, four electives

Year 3 Elective Modules Include

- Educational Psychology
- Positive Psychology
- Criminal Psychology
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health
- Psychology of Ageing
- Cyberpsychology
- Psychotraumatology
- Workplace Psychology



"Psychology is one of the most interesting fields to study as it's about what is important to us."

Kate Cowman
BA Hons
in Psychology

