

# BA (HONOURS) IN PSYCHOLOGY

## Duration:

Three Years  
Full-Time

## NFQ Level:

Level 8

## CAO Points Guide:\*

400

## CAO Code:

NC010



\*For each course we have given a guideline based on our points over the past 3 years. This is a guide only, points vary each year.

Our psychology degree is accredited by the Psychological Society of Ireland (PSI). The PSI is the professional body for psychology in the Republic of Ireland, with accreditation enabling honours graduates of our degree to pursue further professional training in psychology.

In accordance with our quality assurance processes, programmatic review is underway. This current review may result in some changes to the content of this course starting in September 2023.

## About the Course

Psychology is the fascinating study of the human mind and seeks to understand how we think, act and feel. In this degree you will look at compelling questions such as: What shapes our personality? How do children develop and learn? What influences our well-being? Why do we sometimes forget things? What gives some teams an edge over others? The psychology degree at NCI will set you on an amazing journey of discovery. It will also equip you for a range of careers. Your degree could see you eventually working in a number of clinical and psychological settings, or alternatively in business areas such as marketing, management and human resources, or in sports, education, social work, among others. It is a degree that gives a variety of career choices and the option of further postgraduate study.

Working with our dedicated and experienced psychology faculty you will gain a solid grounding in all the core areas of psychology including cognitive psychology, personality and individual differences, lifespan development, social psychology, research methods and biological psychology, as well as specialised topics such as workplace psychology and, cyber-psychology. You will cover all the major theoretical perspectives, like the theories of Freud, Jung and Pavlov, and will be encouraged to apply these theories to the world around you through an interesting range of projects and assignments. Studying psychology will take you through some of the darker and the dazzling aspects of the human condition. This degree will give you an excellent broad knowledge in psychology and the ability to later specialise in the areas you most enjoy.

As a graduate of this course you will:

- Understand the principles of psychology and gain a broad understanding of human behaviour.
- Learn how to critically analyse problems and how to conduct scientific research.
- Apply your knowledge of psychology to the workplace, the community and society.

If you have an interest in human behaviour and wish to open up a range of careers, then this course will be tremendously rewarding and valuable.

## Who is the course for?

The 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.

## Course Structure and Award

This undergraduate course is a three-year honours degree. The course is 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 will be considered for submission to the Psychology Society of Ireland Annual Student Congress. In 2020, an NCI psychology student was awarded the prize for 'Best Research Project' in the undergraduate category at this prestigious and highly competitive national event.

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.

## Career Prospects

The degree is accredited by the Psychological Society of Ireland and therefore allows graduates to complete further graduate training within psychology in areas including:

- Clinical psychology
- Organisational psychology
- Forensic psychology
- Counselling psychology

Completion of the degree will also facilitate graduates in entering many other professions including human resources, recruitment, management, consultancy and marketing.

## 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 National College of Ireland, as well as clinical, educational, occupational and counselling psychology at other venues.

## Laptop Requirements

NCI strongly advises that all students should have access to a suitable laptop for their course. A student laptop loan scheme may be available for certain eligible students. Details of the laptop loan scheme and laptop specifications, which can be different for each course, are available on our website.

## Minimum Entry Requirements

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. Mature applicants, applicants with a disability or those applying through the DARE or HEAR access schemes should consult pages 66 and 67.

## Course Fees (EU)

€6,250 per annum payable by the student. (Fees revised annually).

# A GUIDE TO COURSE CONTENT

## Year 1

- Applied Introduction and History of Psychology
- Introduction to Research Methods
- Social Psychology
- Lifespan Development
- Cognitive Psychology
- Introduction to Statistics

## Year 2

- Personality and Intelligence
- Biological Bases of Behaviour
- Applied Statistics
- Coaching Psychology
- Psychology of Learning and Behaviour Analysis
- Applied Research Methods
- Psychology Labs

## Year 3

- Final Project
- Health Psychology
- Abnormal Psychology
- Plus four electives\*

\*Elective Modules Include:

- Criminal Psychology
- Applied Developmental Psychology
- Psychology of Thinking
- Evolutionary Psychology
- Cyberpsychology
- Workplace Psychology
- Contemporary Neuroscience
- Financial Management
- Tools for the Enterprise
- Organisational Development
- Public Relations and Social Media
- Entrepreneurship
- International HRM
- Contemporary Issues in Reward Management
- Ethics and Social Responsibility

Students will also be able to select from a range of non-psychology elective subjects including Organisational Development, Public Relations and Social Media, Entrepreneurship, and International HRM.

All electives are subject to minimum numbers and resource constraints.



"You get to see what makes people tick and how the little things can influence us every day."

**Conor O'Reilly**  
*BA Hons in Psychology*

