The School of Psychology at the University of Kent offers excellent opportunities for postgraduate study. In recent years, we have established ourselves as a leading international centre of teaching and research in both theoretical and applied psychology. This booklet offers an introduction to what is available and a guide to finding out more.

As a postgraduate student at Kent, you have the opportunity to work alongside experts in a wide range of psychological phenomena. For example, you can study the psychology of prejudice, inequality, group dynamics, social motivation, vision, memory, emotion, offenders and justice. Our work is represented in flagship journals and, among our staff, we have editors of major international journals, textbook and monograph authors, and winners of prestigious scientific awards. Reflecting our growing reputation, we were ranked 9th of all of the Psychology departments in the UK in The Times Good University Guide 2017.

At Kent, you can study with leading researchers and benefit from the School’s world-leading experts and an exceptionally international, dynamic and creative environment. There’s a real sense that the School is forging ahead with bold, new ideas, and an excitement felt by both students and staff sharing this experience.

In recent years, we have doubled both our staff and our research student intake, and we continue to build new laboratories and invest in the latest technologies and research methods in social psychology, cognitive psychology, forensic psychology and developmental psychology. In addition, the School has established research centres offering further exciting opportunities for students to learn, develop and expand their horizons.

We represent a truly diverse, multinational community, with students and staff from a range of countries, including Australia, Brunei, Canada, China, Germany, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Poland, Turkey, the USA and Zimbabwe.

I hope the information in this booklet will give you some sense of what it is like to study with us. Please do get in touch if you have any questions – we will be delighted to discuss with you all that Psychology at Kent has to offer.

We very much look forward to welcoming you to the School.

Dr Georgina Randsley de Moura
Head of School
INTRODUCTION

Kent’s School of Psychology has established itself as a leading centre of research and teaching in theoretical and applied psychology, and has a commitment to excellence in scientific research with a concern for problems of contemporary relevance.

Recently, Psychology at Kent received a 93% overall student satisfaction rating in the National Student Survey 2016. The School has expanded significantly in the last few years, reflecting its growing success, and now includes 39 academic staff. Its vibrant nature is reflected in the presence of several leading scholars in their field and junior colleagues with rapidly rising academic reputations.

Research excellence

Based on our results in the 2014 Research Excellence Framework (REF), psychology was ranked joint 11th in the UK for research intensity by the Times Higher Education. Of the research submitted, 77% was rated world-leading or internationally excellent. Of our publications, 22% are in journals ranked in the top five per cent of their field. Additionally, we were placed 17th nationally for Research Council income. In the last year, the total amount awarded in research grants and enterprise tenders was over £1.2 million.

The School of Psychology has built a strong international research reputation in the areas of social psychology (including group processes and intergroup relations); cognitive psychology and neuropsychology; developmental psychology; and forensic psychology. We have three formally constituted research centres: the Centre for Cognitive Neuroscience and Cognitive Systems, the Centre for the Study of Group Processes and the Centre of Research and Education in Forensic Psychology.

We also offer supervision for the following research degrees, which can be taken either full-time or part-time:
- Cognitive Psychology/Neuropsychology PhD
- Forensic Psychology PhD
- Psychology MSc, PhD
- Social Psychology MSc, PhD.

Under the Psychology MSc and PhD programmes, we also offer supervision in the areas of Developmental, Organisational and Political Psychology.

Wide choice of programmes

At Kent, we offer eight taught Master’s programmes covering a broad spectrum of psychological disciplines: Cognitive Psychology/Neuropsychology; Developmental Psychology; Forensic Psychology; Group Processes and Intergroup Relations; Organisational Psychology; Political Psychology; Research Methods in Psychology; Social and Applied Psychology.

Stimulating intellectual environment

The School of Psychology is home to a strong intellectual community in which postgraduates play a central role. Students and research staff participate equally with teaching staff in the activities organised in many of the areas in which they share an interest. There are weekly informal workshops convened especially for students, together
Pathway to an academic career
The most common way to undertake a PhD in psychology is now the ‘1+3’ route: one year taught MSc, plus three years PhD research, usually at the same university. An MSc programme that is recognised by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) for its research training is generally required. All our MSc programmes meet this requirement.

Outstanding facilities
Our facilities for both laboratory and field research are excellent. The School has a modern building housing state-of-the-art laboratories and teaching facilities. There are dedicated individual laboratories as well as specialised labs for different types of research. These include an observation suite and fully equipped video studios; group dynamics laboratories; networked small groups/interpersonal interaction laboratories and hub room; electrophysiology (ERP/EEG) laboratories; eye-tracking laboratories; galvanic vestibular stimulation laboratory (GVS, Magstim); physiological measurement laboratories; social cognition laboratory; transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS); visual cognition laboratories; and virtual reality laboratory.

Our holdings in the University’s Templeman Library include one of the country’s largest collections of books on social psychology. Almost all psychology journals are available online. We also have a large collection of frequently used books and journals in our visiting scholars’ room and MSc study area. The University has also recently invested in Woolf College, a modern facility on the Canterbury campus dedicated to postgraduates, which combines residential accommodation with teaching and social space.

Professional training
We offer various MSc degrees in psychology, which open up career options in the different areas of ‘professional’ psychology, including forensic psychology, and a broad range of other careers where a postgraduate qualification is required or preferred. Graduates with a higher degree often command substantially higher salaries than those with only a first degree.

For those wishing to pursue a career in forensic psychology, an MSc constitutes Stage 1 of The British Psychological Society’s (BPS) professional qualification. Stage 2 consists of two further years of paid work supervised by a chartered psychologist, plus work towards BPS exams. Completion of Stages 1 and 2 leads to chartered status – the required BPS-accredited professional qualification.
Kirandeep Purewal graduated with a degree in Psychology from Kent and is now studying for a Master’s in Group Processes and Intergroup Relations under a ‘1+3’ CASE studentship.

Why did you choose to study Psychology at Kent?
I developed an interest in psychology when I studied the subject at A level. I enjoyed learning about all the experiments and the idea of working with people really appealed to me. The School of Psychology at Kent has a good reputation and a friend of mine, who works in the department, recommended it highly to me. When I came to visit, I thought the campus was lovely and I was really impressed by all the equipment available in the School. Kent is also close to home, which was a big selling point for me.

What attracted you to postgraduate study?
My final-year undergraduate dissertation focused on group processes and I really enjoyed doing research in that area. I am the recipient of a ‘1+3’ CASE studentship, which covers a year of Master’s research plus three years of PhD study, so it just made sense to carry my research forward.

I’m specifically looking at prejudices in school-age children and am excited about going back into schools to conduct my research. My aim this year is to examine weight-based and ethnicity-based prejudices. Over the course of the Master’s and PhD, I will be focusing on a mixture of primary and secondary-age children so that by the end of my research, I should be able to identify when opinions are formed and the key developmental trends, and evaluate strategies to reduce prejudices.

I have formed a good relationship with my main supervisor. He is an expert in the field of group processes and intergroup relations and I’ve got to know him quite well. I’ve also been assigned a second supervisor, who is new to the department and works in a different area of psychology, so can offer another perspective, which is really useful.

What about your fellow students?
Due to the smaller class sizes, everyone knows one another, which is lovely. The postgraduate students are much more determined, they know what they want to do. You see many students who begin work on their research projects and are now considering applying for PhDs – it’s very inspiring.

How does postgraduate study differ from your experience as an undergraduate?
I have found a big difference between the two. The work is obviously harder, but I’m enjoying it more because the course has enabled me to specialise in the area I’m really interested in.

Have you found the teaching?
The classes are smaller so there are always good discussions and debates. At undergraduate level, there are so many students that it’s difficult for staff to remember people individually. As a postgraduate student, however, you are able to develop one-to-one relationships with the academics, which is great. Staff in the Psychology office and the IT team are also really friendly and always willing to help.
I’m enrolled on the Graduate School’s Global Skills Award programme, which offers a large range of lectures and workshops aimed at enhancing your employability. Some of the workshops are quite practical, covering CV writing and interview skills while other sessions focus on personal development, such as networking, leadership and confidence. I think the skills I am developing now can be usefully applied to my PhD studies as well as in my career beyond university.

What do you think a further degree gives you that a first degree doesn’t?

Obviously I’m going to gain a lot more knowledge. I like the fact that I’m becoming a specialist in my area and that I am gaining more confidence.

How do you think your studies at Kent are going to affect your employment prospects?

Both Kent and the School of Psychology have been rising in the league tables, and it always helps to have a Psychology degree from a well-respected university. My studies have also helped me to develop solid writing and analytical skills, which I think can be applied to any job.

What’s next for you?

I’m really looking forward to starting my PhD and taking my research further. It will enable me to devote more time, at least three years, to conducting a large-scale research project alongside a few smaller ones. My dissertation will form the basis of my research proposal, so I hope to gain some good research results this year that can then be further developed during my PhD studies.

I am funded by way of a CASE studentship in collaboration with the Anne Frank Trust, so I’m following both an academic and a charity-related path. This should hopefully open up more career options for me after my PhD. In the future, I see myself in a research role but would also like to continue working in the charity sector.

IMPRESSIVE CAREER PROSPECTS

Kent has an excellent record for postgraduate employment: over 96% of our postgraduate students who graduated in 2015 found a job or further study opportunity within six months.
IMPRESSIONS CAREER PROSPECTS

A postgraduate qualification from Kent opens up a wealth of career opportunities by providing an impressive portfolio of skills and specialist knowledge.

As well as providing a first-rate academic experience, we want you to be in a good position to face the demands of a tough economic environment. Employers recognise that a postgraduate qualification demonstrates a wide range of skills. During your programme, you acquire a high level of academic knowledge and specialist practical skills. Kent also helps you to develop key transferable skills, such as the ability to adapt to challenges, analyse complex real-world problems and develop original ideas, which can be applied to all aspects of employment.

We also provide a comprehensive package of skills development training programmes, careers advice, and volunteering and paid work opportunities to help enhance your career prospects.

Transferable skills training
The University’s Graduate School co-ordinates the Researcher Development Programme for research students, providing access to a wide range of lectures and workshops on training, personal development planning and career development skills. The Graduate School also delivers the Global Skills

Award programme for students following taught programmes of study, which is specifically designed to consolidate your awareness of current global issues and improve your employment prospects.

Exciting career options
Kent has an excellent record for postgraduate employment: over 96% of our postgraduate students who graduated in 2015 found a job or further study opportunity within six months. We constantly monitor how well our programmes meet the demands of today’s increasingly competitive and globalised job market.

School of Psychology graduates tend to do well in a wide range of careers. Some have gone on to qualify as occupational, clinical or health psychologists. Others have found careers in therapy, teaching, academia and social work, or have gone into professions such as public relations, marketing, publishing or media work.

Careers and Employability Service
Our award-winning Careers and Employability Service can help you to plan for your future by providing one-to-one advice at any stage in your postgraduate studies. It also provides online advice on employability skills, career choices, applications and interview skills.

Further information
For more information on the careers help we provide at Kent, visit our Employability web page at www.kent.ac.uk/employability
Katie Stanton completed a Master’s in Forensic Psychology at Kent in 2013 and is currently working in a forensic ward at a low secure hospital.

What attracted you to postgraduate study at Kent?
Having an interest in the criminal justice system and the criminal mind, I decided that forensic psychology was the career route for me. I chose Kent because the School of Psychology has a good reputation and I had also heard great things from friends who had studied here. The course, in particular, attracted me due to the wide range of forensic issues it addresses, from criminal conduct, law and justice, assessment and treatment of offenders to forensic cognition. It is also accredited by the British Psychological Society, which allowed me to complete the first stage of my journey to become a chartered psychologist.

How did you find the teaching?
It was great! I got a real sense that those who were teaching me were experts in their field and highly passionate about their specific topics. I really enjoyed the Assessment and Treatment of Offenders in Forensic Settings module, in which a variety of psychologists from different settings came in to present a workshop. This enabled me to get a taste of what it’s like to work in the field and what being a forensic psychologist actually involves.

What did you particularly enjoy about your studies?
Being part of a supportive School that often hosted events to further enrich the students’ experience. For example, regular Café Psychology events were held in which a guest speaker would present research and engage in discussion on their topic area. I also had the opportunity to visit Broadmoor Hospital for a day and I assisted the School in hosting the 2013 Eurogang conference, mixing with leading researchers from around the world.

What are you doing now?
Currently, I’m gaining some practical clinical experience on a forensic ward at a low secure hospital for patients who have been sectioned under the Mental Health Act.

My role generally involves supporting the patients with their daily routine, promoting their independence and assisting with their rehabilitation. This can include anything from simply chatting with patients, reinforcing their coping strategies via their specific care plans if they become unsettled, engaging them in activities, taking them on community inclusion, and completing patients’ observations and notes for the multidisciplinary team on how they have been throughout the day.

What are you planning to do next?
I would like to gain some experience as an assistant psychologist in a secure setting in which I can become involved in assessment and treatment plans for patients with a forensic background. I would also like to go back to university and eventually complete a PhD in this area.

What are the advantages of doing a further degree?
I think it gives you the opportunity to focus on the area within your field that interests you the most. Doing a further degree demonstrates to employers that you have invested your time in further learning and that you have the capability to study at a higher level.

What advice would you offer someone thinking of coming to Kent?
I would advise you to really research the postgraduate course you are interested in. Find out what it involves and what impact it will have on your chosen career. Also, read the University’s website as it’s full of useful information or, better still, arrange to attend an open day and have a look round in person. I’m sure you won’t be disappointed!
There is a range of taught postgraduate programmes on offer, so you can choose the degree that reflects your interests. Below is an explanation of the different Master’s degree programmes on offer.

The School of Psychology offers the following eight coursework Master’s degrees:

- Cognitive Psychology/Neuropsychology MSc
- Developmental Psychology MSc
- Forensic Psychology MSc
- Group Processes and Intergroup Relations MSc
- Organisational Psychology MSc
- Political Psychology MSc
- Research Methods in Psychology MSc
- Social and Applied Psychology MSc.

All of our MSc programmes are recognised by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) for research training and ‘1+3’ funding. Our MSc in Forensic Psychology was in the first group of professional MSc programmes to be accredited by the British Psychological Society (BPS) and has received the highest commendations from this body.

Programme structure

All our taught Master’s programmes are based around a 180-credit structure (two Kent credits = one ECTS credit). All Master’s students take the Statistics and Methodology module (40 credits) – Organisational Psychology students take Organisational Psychology Methods and Statistics – and conduct an empirical research project (60 credits), which is written up in the form of a dissertation, on a subject related to your chosen programme. The remaining 80 credits consist of modules specific to the individual Master’s programme.

Teaching and assessment

The programmes are taught by a combination of lectures, seminars and workshops. In addition, particular optional units require ‘hands-on’ experience and learning of particular skills.

Assessment is through a wide variety of methods, including seminar presentations, extended essays, multiple choice and short answer tests, examinations and the dissertation.

Statistics and Methodology

This module is compulsory for all our MSc students. It provides a postgraduate-level orientation to both basic and advanced contemporary statistical and methodological issues in psychology. The module is taught by weekly lecture-workshops and computing surgeries, and assessed by two extended examinations (50% of the final mark each).

Dissertation

All students undertake a supervised empirical research project in an area of psychology relevant to their chosen MSc programme, and submit a dissertation of 8,000-10,000 words.

(Candidates undertaking the Forensic Psychology programme submit two pieces of written work in the style of journal articles, one empirical paper of around 3,500 words and one review article of around 5,000 words, in place of the traditional dissertation).

The dissertation carries a third of the marks for each MSc programme.

The aim of the dissertation is to test your ability to plan, execute, analyse and report a piece of independent research in the relevant setting. You conduct your research in the spring and summer terms, and submit the dissertation in July or August.

Part-time study

If you choose to study for your MSc part-time, you are advised to take at least 50% of the programme in the first year, of which 40 Kent credits is the Statistics and Methodology module. You conduct your dissertation project during the second year. Deadlines will apply in the year in which you take the relevant module.

Cognitive Psychology/Neuropsychology MSc

www.kent.ac.uk/pg/65

Cognitive psychology and neuropsychology bring together a range of different theoretical frameworks. Cognitive psychological, neuropsychological,
neurobiological and computer science approaches combine in order to explain how the human mind/brain solves a variety of complex problems, such as recognising objects, remembering previous experiences, reading, speaking and reasoning.

The MSc programme provides an overview and critical evaluation of the major issues, investigative strategies and empirical findings of recent attempts to integrate these different approaches to ‘brain cognition’.

Programme structure

Compulsory modules
- Current Issues in Cognitive Psychology and Neuropsychology
- Statistics and Methodology
- Dissertation

Optional modules
Two from:
- Advanced Cognitive (Neuroscience) Methods in Practice
- Advanced Topics in Cognition in Action
- Advanced Topics in Cognitive Development
- Advanced Topics in Developmental Psychopathology
- Cognitive Neural Networks
- Developmental Psychology in Professional Practice
- The Psychology of Eyewitness Testimony

Developmental Psychology MSc
www.kent.ac.uk/pg/66

Developmental Psychology is concerned with understanding the psychological processes that underlie an individual’s social, emotional and cognitive development throughout the lifespan. To understand any psychological phenomenon fully, it is necessary to understand how it develops. The MSc in Developmental Psychology focuses on questions such as: what psychological changes occur during infancy, childhood and adolescence? What psychological processes drive the development of children? Why are children different from adults? What can psychologists do to promote healthy development?

The programme draws on the strengths of developmental psychologists working in the Child Development Unit (CDU), which brings together academic staff and other researchers interested in studying developmental psychology among children and adolescents (with a focus on language development, representational ability and early social-cognitive understanding of others, singing, autism spectrum disorders and specific language development impairment, and infant face processing). Some of this research is also carried out in nurseries and primary schools. Likewise, some social psychologists at Kent conduct projects in secondary schools on the development of prejudice and social exclusion.

The aim of the MSc is to provide you with specialised knowledge of a range of theoretical and practical approaches to developmental psychology, including an understanding of how research in developmental psychology can inform policy and practice across
The MSc in Forensic Psychology programme serves two main functions. Firstly, it provides a recognised training route if you wish to continue your studies by reading for a research degree (PhD) in the areas of legal, criminological and forensic psychology. It has been awarded Specialist Advanced Course recognition by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC).

Secondly, the programme provides the first year of professional training (academic element) towards qualification as a Chartered Forensic Psychologist if you intend to work as a practitioner. It has been accredited by The British Psychological Society (BPS) as a professional training course since October 1996.

Teaching on the core forensic modules on the programme includes contributions by several honorary teaching staff, all of whom are Chartered Forensic Psychologists working in applied settings (for example, in special hospitals, regional secure units and prisons).

We are particularly interested in receiving applications from suitably qualified graduates who have direct experience of the application of psychological principles in custodial or other forensic settings. Applicants must be eligible for the Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership (GBC) with the BPS (see p32).

Programme structure

Compulsory modules

- Assessment and Treatment of Offenders in Forensic Settings
- Forensic Cognition: Theory, Research and Practice
- Psychology of Criminal Conduct
- Psychology of Law and Justice
- Statistics and Methodology
- Research Project
Group Processes and Intergroup Relations MSc
www.kent.ac.uk/pg/70

Group processes and intergroup relations have become a central part of the discipline of social psychology, addressing issues of prejudice, discrimination, conflict reduction, persuasion and social influence, power, group decision-making and ethnic loyalty. We have therefore developed our Master’s programme in recognition of this growing interest.

The MSc in Group Processes and Intergroup Relations addresses questions such as: how do the groups that surround us and that we associate with affect us? How does social psychology theory about groups help us understand problems such as organisational effectiveness? More broadly, what are the implications of social psychological approaches to the development of policy for health provision, legal arrangements and environmental issues? Social psychology is at the forefront of these issues because it addresses both basic psychological processes and their interpersonal and social implications.

 Within this degree, the focus is on how these issues can be considered specifically in terms of intragroup and intergroup processes. Some parts of the programme are taught by professional applied psychologists or other experts from outside the School of Psychology.

Programme structure
Compulsory modules
• Advanced Topics in Group Processes
• Advanced Topics in Intergroup Relations
• Current Issues in Social and Applied Psychology I: Theory
• Statistics and Methodology
• Dissertation

Optional modules
One from:
• Advanced Developmental Social Psychology
• Current Issues in Social and Applied Psychology II: Applications†
• Developmental Psychology in Professional Practice
• The Psychology of Eyewitness Testimony

†Recommended module for Group Processes and Intergroup Relations students, although you may be permitted to take others at the discretion of the programme director and the specific module convenor.

Organisational Psychology MSc
www.kent.ac.uk/pg/366

The MSc in Organisational Psychology develops your theoretical and research-based knowledge of social and occupational psychology to enhance your understanding of workplace behaviour. It offers you a pathway to a career as a practitioner or academic researcher in the field of organisational psychology.

This MSc programme brings together aspects of psychological research into applied, social, and organisational psychology modules from Kent’s School of Psychology with modules on organisational behaviour and people management from Kent Business School.

Programme structure
Compulsory modules
• Current Issues in Social and Applied Psychology II: Applications
• Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Creativity
• Organisational Psychology: Methods and Statistics
• The Psychology of Selection and Assessment*
• Research Apprenticeship
• Dissertation

Optional modules
Three from:
• Applying Psychology to Organisations: Extended Literature Review
• Employee Resourcing*
• Employment Relations*
• Groups and Teams in Organisations
• Leadership and Management*
• Learning and Development*

*Taught by Kent Business School (please note that this information is subject to change).

CONTINUED OVERLEAF
Political Psychology MSc
www.kent.ac.uk/pg/1206
The MSc in Political Psychology is an exciting new programme exploring the relationships between political and psychological processes. It combines modules from the School of Psychology and the School of Politics and International Relations to offer a unique interdisciplinary focus on key current issues in political psychology.

The programme focuses on key topics including political ideologies, government perceptions, justice and inequality, beliefs in political conspiracies, and political conflict and violence. Develop your knowledge of theory and practice by studying a range of areas such as advanced intergroup relations, public opinion, and statistics and methods.

Programme structure
Compulsory modules
• Advanced Topics in Intergroup Relations
• Political Psychology

Optional modules
• Public Opinion: Nature and Measurement*
• Statistics and Methodology
• Research Project

Optional modules
One from:
• Advanced Topics in Group Processes
• Current Issues in Social and Applied Psychology II: Applications
• Negotiation and Mediation*

*Taught by the School of Politics and International Relations (please note that this information may be subject to change).

Research Methods in Psychology MSc
www.kent.ac.uk/pg/73
This is a generic research methods programme which, like all of our Master’s programmes, offers advanced and broad-based training in the major methods and statistical techniques in use in psychology. The major difference between this and the other programmes is that it offers a wider range of optional modules, allowing you to tailor your studies to suit your own particular interests. You can therefore choose modules from those on offer in the more specialised programmes and undertake a project in one of the School’s major research areas.

The degree involves four elements: statistics and methodology; optional modules taken from current issues in theory and research; optional modules taken from advanced research in psychology; and a research dissertation. The optional modules are mostly taught in a seminar format and cover advanced issues in social psychology, including social cognition, intergroup processes, small group processes, forensic psychology and other topics. Apart from Statistics and Methodology, all modules are assessed entirely by coursework.

Programme structure
Compulsory modules
• Statistics and Methodology
• Dissertation

Optional modules:
Four from:
• Advanced Cognitive (Neuroscience) Methods in Practice
• Advanced Developmental Social Psychology
• Advanced Research Methods
• Advanced Topics in Cognition in Action
• Advanced Topics in Cognitive Development
• Advanced Topics in Developmental Psychopathology
• Advanced Topics in Intergroup Relations
• Advanced Topics in Group Processes
• Current Issues in Cognitive Psychology and Neuropsychology (two modules)
• Current Issues in Social and Applied Psychology I: Theory
• Current Issues in Social and Applied Psychology II: Applications
• Developmental Psychology in Professional Practice
Social and Applied Psychology MSc
www.kent.ac.uk/pg/75

The MSc in Social and Applied Psychology is concerned with issues such as: how are attitudes formed and developed, and how do they relate to behaviour? What are the key motives that affect people’s reactions to the social world? What social psychological processes are implicated in the form and content of language and communication? What are the implications of social psychological approaches to the development of policy for health provision, legal arrangements, environmental issues and equal opportunities?

This degree programme considers how social psychology can be used to address these sorts of questions and applied to social problems generally. This helps you develop a greater awareness of how a social psychological analysis can be used, whether in research design or in framing a useful interpretation of a problem. Some parts of the programme are taught by professional applied psychologists or other experts from outside the School of Psychology.

Programme structure

Compulsory modules
• Current Issues in Social and Applied Psychology I: Theory
• Current Issues in Social and Applied Psychology II: Applications
• Statistics and Methodology
• Dissertation

Optional modules
Two from:
• Advanced Developmental Social Psychology
• Advanced Topics in Cognitive Development
• Advanced Topics in Developmental Psychopathology
• Advanced Topics in Group Processes

• Political Psychology
• The Psychology of Eyewitness Testimony

* Recommended module for Social and Applied Psychology students, although you may be permitted to take others at the discretion of the programme director and the specific module convenor.

Further information
For further information on our taught postgraduate programmes, please contact:
Carly Ternham,
T: +44 (0)1227 824775
E: psypgadmissions@kent.ac.uk
www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/msc
TAUGHT MODULES

Below is a list of modules currently offered on taught postgraduate programmes in the School of Psychology. Please note that some modules may not be available in a particular year.

Advanced Cognitive (Neuroscience) Methods in Practice
Convenor: TBC
Module code: SP850
This module provides theoretical instruction and practical experience in some key advanced research methods appropriate for scientific research in cognitive neuropsychology. The study of cognitive processes and the temporal nature of brain activity features highly. Lectures introduce key cognitive research methods (e.g., behavioural reaction times, eye-movements analysis and event-related brain potentials) and discuss relevant theory, experimental design and analysis. Lab-based practical sessions are interspersed throughout the module to allow you to gain ‘hands-on’ experience in using these research methods.

Advanced Developmental Social Psychology
Convenor: Dr Lindsey Cameron
Module code: SP842
Advanced Developmental Social Psychology provides you with a strong understanding of the theoretical accounts of major issues within the field of developmental social psychology (such as prejudice and stereotype development). You critically review recent research into the development of social cognition, with a focus on the theoretical integration of concepts from developmental psychology and social psychology, and the applied implication of the research under review. You gain an in-depth understanding of children’s social development and how this knowledge can inform educational practice.

Advanced Research Methods
Convenor: Dr Kirsten Abbot-Smith
Module code: SP808
In studying this module, you gain a broad and practical understanding of the processes involved in the development of high-quality and ethical research designs and procedures in psychology. One key focus is on gaining a deeper understanding of research ethics, particularly in regard to the practicalities of working with vulnerable populations. The other key focus is on practical issues. Here you will be taught to use Qualtrics, MTurk and E-Prime to present experimental stimuli and/or questionnaires. Additional practical topics include power analysis, stimuli development, counterbalancing and calculation of inter-rater reliability.

Advanced Research Project in Political Psychology
Convenor: Dr Aleksandra Cichocka
Module code: SP861
The module stresses the integration of psychology and political science as a way to analyse and explain political processes. You undertake a supervised empirical research project grounded in the area of psychology or political science and informed by the other discipline. This teaches you to plan, execute, analyse and report a piece of independent research in the relevant setting. The dissertation consolidates theoretical knowledge of psychology and political science, fosters an ability to integrate findings from the two fields, and develops an appreciation of the ways in which that knowledge has been applied in previous research and practice, and the methodological and statistical skills to set up a scientific investigation.

Advanced Topics in Cognition in Action
Convenor: Dr Amir-Homayoun Javadi
Module code: SP829
The central theme of this module is to explore how cognition functions in the real world, that is, to investigate the application of cognitive models to the broader context of human behaviour. Possible topics for study include: the role of cognition in development, emotion, memory and action; and applications to
eyewitness testimony, intentional forgetting and embodied cognition. Practical applications and relevance to a general understanding of behaviour are emphasised throughout.

**Advanced Topics in Cognitive Development**

**Convenor:** Dr David Williams  
**Module code:** SP851

Key themes and recent empirical work in cognitive development are examined and you critically appraise alternative theoretical, empirical and methodological perspectives in the study of cognitive development in children. Topics include: research methods in developmental psychology; introduction to theories of word learning; the critical period for language learning; perceiving animacy; social learning and imitation; thinking about the minds of others; understanding knowledge; and early morality.

**Advanced Topics in Group Processes**

**Convenor:** Dr Tim Hopthrow  
**Module code:** SP844

This module provides an opportunity to study the literature on group processes and intergroup relations at an advanced level, and to familiarise yourself with the current small group perspectives on groups. It builds on knowledge of social psychology and, in places, biological psychology gained at undergraduate level. You also consider how social psychological and evolutionary theories in combination can explain group processes. Topics addressed include group cohesion, intragroup and intergroup conflict, status and leadership, and group size. The module draws primarily on small group research in social and evolutionary psychology, but you also consider perspectives from other fields, such as economics and anthropology.

**Advanced Topics in Intergroup Relations**

**Convenor:** Dr Aleksandra Cichocka  
**Module code:** SP813

Here, you examine advanced theory and research in intergroup relations. You consider the nature of social categorisation processes and how stereotypes develop, persist and change. You then explore the relationship between intergroup perceptions and prejudice, and how intergroup relationships influence both variables. You consider how and why stereotypes and prejudice become manifested as discrimination and intergroup conflict, and then how groups become mobilised to perform collective action. Finally, you study the motivational and social elements in intergroup relationships, social identity as a group member, and how these issues can be studied both in the laboratory and in real-world settings.

**Applying Psychology to Organisations: Extended Literature Review**

**Convenor:** TBC  
**Module code:** SP859

In this module you conduct an extended literature review and critique on a topic relevant to organisational psychology. The topic is developed through discussion with an academic supervisor, to identify a particular area of research that is relevant and topical. You develop advanced research skills and problem solving. On completion of the module, you have specialist knowledge and evidence of independent research.
Assessment and Treatment of Offenders in Forensic Settings

Convenor: Professor Theresa Gannon
Module code: SP825
This module explores issues relating to the assessment, management and treatment of offenders from a psychological perspective. An introduction to the role of clinical psychology within a maximum-security hospital explores issues related to working with dangerous mentally disordered and non-disordered offenders. The importance of assessment in understanding the function of offending, identifying treatment targets and measuring change are highlighted, along with the difficulties associated with it.

The module explores the variety of perspectives and practical methods employed by practising forensic psychologists in the treatment and training of both normal and psychologically disturbed offenders. It begins with an extended site visit to Broadmoor Special Hospital, and continues with sessions on the assessment and treatment of offenders in both special hospital and prison settings, including sex offenders, arsonists, violent offenders, female offenders who have been sexually abused and the treatment of addictions.

Cognitive Neural Networks

Convenor: Dr Mark Grzes (Computing)
Module code: SP846
This module is a collaboration between the Schools of Computing and Psychology, under the umbrella of Kent’s Centre for Cognitive Neuroscience and Cognitive Systems (CNCS). Taught in weekly one-hour lectures, it gives you a thorough introduction to the use and theory of cognitive neural networks. You acquire hands-on knowledge of network models in practical (surgery) sessions. The module ends with a workshop seminar, in which you give a presentation on the application of neural nets to higher cognitive phenomena.

Current Issues in Cognitive Psychology and Neuropsychology

Convenor: Dr Joseph Brooks
Module code: SP827
This module provides a coherent base for understanding the methodological and optional modules in cognitive psychology and neuropsychology, each of the latter outlining a major area of concern (vision, learning, memory, language, reasoning, emotion). The relationship between brain and mind, the modularity of brain and mind, and the notion of different levels/frameworks of description and explanation are discussed. Finally, the principled use of cross-domain constraint satisfaction as an essential heuristic is critically analysed.

Current Issues in Social and Applied Psychology I: Theory

Convenor: TBC
Module code: SP802
Current Issues in Social and Applied Psychology I deals with the conceptual frameworks offered by social psychology and the ways in which social psychology has been or can be applied. The module explores important conceptual issues, including the levels of analysis we adopt, the nature of social knowledge, the self in social psychology, social influence, social cognition and attitude change, discourse analysis, the social psychology of language, and the theory of applied social psychology.

Current Issues in Social and Applied Psychology II: Applications

Convenor: Dr Mario Weick
Module code: SP817
This module is primarily taught by practitioners and deals with implementing social psychological theory and method in applied settings. These include organisational psychology, dealing with media coverage, equal opportunities issues, ethics, environmental design, terrorism and presenting psychological findings. This module often includes guest lectures by visiting scholars from overseas.
Supervision is provided by the principal teaching staff and by other appropriate staff with research interests in your chosen area.

Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Creativity
Convenor: Dr Tendayi Viki
Module code: SP858
The focus of this module is on helping you develop the skills for working in an innovative environment as a social scientist. Innovation has become important to organisations. The practice of hypothesis-driven or Lean Innovation provides a unique role for the social scientist within start-ups and large organisations. In this module, you learn about the theory and practice of Lean Innovation. You also work on validating business ideas as part of a team. You are partly assessed on how well you work in a team to develop, test and validate an innovative business idea. You also write a business report about the processes you follow and the validation work you do.

Forensic Cognition: Theory, Research and Practice
Convenor: Dr Caolile Ó Ciardha
Module code: SP847
What sort of thinking occurs in men who sexually molest children, rape adults, or commit acts of violence? Do these men think their actions are legitimate in some instances or do they know their actions are wrong but choose to offend nonetheless?

Cognition, or thinking, is recognised as being a key component underlying the way people behave.

In this strongly research-based module, you learn about some of the influential theories that have been developed to help explain offenders’ antisocial actions, the latest cutting-edge research designed to help understand why men offend, and widely used treatment programmes designed to alter cognitive characteristics associated with offending in order to reduce recidivism. You also learn about fascinating social-cognitive phenomena associated with child and adult eyewitness testimony, and how memory can play havoc with the criminal justice system.

Groups and Teams in Organisations
Convenor: TBC
Module code: SP856
This module applies social and organisational psychology approaches to groups and teams within organisations, specifically regarding the attitudes and behaviours of group/team members and their impact on the organisation as a whole. The module introduces the theoretical and empirical background, and uses it to help you develop ideas for further research and practice. All topics are related to groups and teams within organisations, and include: social identity processes in organisations, leadership, organisational mergers, and equality.
Organisational Psychology: Methods and Statistics
Convenor: Dr Giovanni Travaglino
Module code: SP857
This module focuses on developing and extending your knowledge of research methods and statistics. An important element is to develop your understanding of the basics of research methods and statistical analysis. However, the module goes further by teaching you about some advanced methodological and statistical tools. Topics to be covered include:
• searching and reviewing relevant literature for a research project
• research design, variables, sampling, levels of measurement, surveys and experiments
• descriptive statistics (frequency, mean, mode, median)
• basic inferential statistics (t-test, correlations, chi-square, One-Way ANOVA)
• advanced inferential statistics (Multivariate ANOVA, Linear and Logistic Regression)
• presenting statistical findings in an understandable way when writing research reports.

Political Psychology
Convenor: Dr Aleksandra Cichocka
Module code: SP860
This module provides an opportunity to study, at an advanced level, the literature on political psychology. It stresses how psychology and political science, in combination, can serve to analyse and explain political processes. Emphasis is on applying theoretical models and empirical findings to analysing real-world problems. Topics include political ideology, social justice and inequality, political engagement and extremism, political leadership and perceptions of government and authority. The module relies heavily on student participation and discussion.

The Psychology of Eyewitness Testimony
Convenor: Dr Markus Bindemann
Module code: SP853
This module provides you with theoretical instruction about how the methods and techniques of cognitive psychology have been applied to the practical topic of evaluating eyewitness testimony. The study of cognitive processes involved in face recognition and face matching feature prominently.

Psychology of Criminal Conduct
Convenor: Dr Emma Alleyne
Module code: SP805
This module examines the topic of criminality from a broadly social psychological perspective. The evidence that consistent criminal tendencies can be reliably assessed is considered, and the extent to which personality factors can explain that consistency is evaluated. You explore the concept of psychopathy before examining more generally the relationship between crime, law and moral judgement. Theoretical perspectives on the origins of the criminal tendency in childhood are detailed and its abundant expression in adolescence highlighted and examined. The role of victims in creating, defining and reporting crime is analysed, and the psychological consequences of crime for victims and potential victims are explored.

Psychology of Law and Justice
Convenor: Dr Jane Wood
Module code: SP806
This module examines the social psychological processes involved in defining an act as criminal and deserving of prosecution and conviction. When do we rightly blame someone for wrongdoing? How do models of blame inform our criminal justice system? The actions of victims, police, witnesses and the courts are examined in turn. Factors determining sentencing are also explored. You discuss the position of psychologically ‘abnormal’ offenders in relation to the appropriateness of present practice. Public attitudes to punishment are also examined.
Research Apprenticeship
Dissertation
Convenor: Dr Aleksandra Cichocka
Module code: SP855
You undertake a supervised empirical research project in an area of organisational psychology to gain practical experience of research. The module allows you to develop research skills by working closely with expert researchers or practitioners. You work on a wider programme of research developed by your supervisor, or on a project specific to an organisation (still with close supervision from an academic supervisor).

Some of the apprenticeship involves working in collaborative teams (eg, for data collection) but you write up the research independently in the form of a dissertation. Most projects are with academics from the University (School of Psychology, Kent Business School, or related disciplines) but there are some opportunities to work on projects outside the University with external research partners.

Research Project in Criminology, Legal or Forensic Psychology
Convenor: Professor Theresa Gannon
Module code: SP809
This module entails you undertaking independent empirical research on a forensic topic, to be written up as a review article and an empirical paper. The area is guided by your supervisor, but also informed by the Division of Forensic Psychology curriculum. The research should be of a publishable standard and make an original contribution to the field.

Statistics and Methodology
Convenor: Professor Roger Giner-Sorolla
Module code: SP801
This compulsory module provides a postgraduate-level orientation to both basic and advanced contemporary statistical and methodological issues in psychology. The methodological issues considered include: validity and reliability in measurement; experimental, quasi-experimental and correlational research designs in the laboratory and field; qualitative research methodologies; and the problem of bias in psychological research. The statistical techniques taught include: univariate and bivariate descriptive and inferential statistics; psychometric techniques; exploratory data analysis; basic and advanced topics in ANOVA and ANCOVA; multiple regression; factor analysis; and structural equation modelling.

LOOKING FOR FUNDING?
For information on postgraduate funding and scholarships available at Kent, see www.kent.ac.uk/pgfunding
Kent’s School of Psychology offers a supportive, dynamic and diverse environment for creative research across a range of areas in psychology.

We offer the following research degrees:

- Cognitive Psychology/Neuropsychology PhD
- Forensic Psychology PhD
- Psychology MSc, PhD
- Social Psychology MSc, PhD.

Under the Psychology MSc and PhD programmes, we also offer supervision in the areas of Developmental, Organisational or Political Psychology.

**Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)**

The Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) is a three-year full-time (or five-year part-time) programme in which candidates research and write a thesis of up to 80,000 words under the supervision of at least two members of academic staff. The thesis must show the ability to conduct an original investigation, to test ideas, to organise material appropriately, and to understand the relationship between the theme of the thesis and the wider field of knowledge of which it forms a part. It should be an original contribution to knowledge or understanding in the field you are investigating and be of a publishable standard.

**Research environment**

A dynamic culture characterises the research environment within the School and we use a variety of methods including experimental, survey and archival approaches. As a postgraduate researcher, you have the opportunity to become part of a specialist group, attending group research meetings and becoming involved in ongoing programmes of research. You learn more about research in psychology by attending the weekly research seminars given by visiting speakers, and gain teaching experience (and earn money) working as a part-time seminar leader or practical demonstrator in the School of Psychology.

**Strong links**

You benefit in your research from our well-established links with outside organisations such as the Prison Service, the NHS and local schools. You also have full use of our excellent laboratories and equipment, as well as our extensive online Research Participation Scheme (RPS), which co-ordinates recruitment of research participants from undergraduate students who participate as part of their course requirement. In addition, the School has recently established a University-wide Research Participation Scheme (uwRPS).

**Dedicated resources**

PhD students have shared offices and each has a dedicated computer, a photocopying allowance and use of a telephone. All doctoral students have a conference allowance and the School makes separate funds available for advanced training and skills development, as well as expert training in media skills. We hold an annual PhD conference for Year 2 and 3 students, where you will have the opportunity to present your research to staff and other students.

**Graduate Committee**

The School’s Graduate Committee actively promotes and monitors the work of research students, assisting with grant applications, publications, conference presentations and career development. Supervision includes a supervisory panel for all research students and at least fortnightly meetings with your main supervisor.

**Transferable skills training**

The Faculty of Social Sciences provides excellent support in the form of a transferable skills training programme for research students, with courses in topics such as communication skills, research management and career management. All research students also take our Statistics and Methodology module, unless you have previously had equivalent training in methodology and statistics.

CONTINUED OVERLEAF
Research students are also able to benefit from the skills training offered by the University’s Graduate School – see www.kent.ac.uk/graduateschool for details.

**Supervision**

Supervisors give guidance on the nature of research, the standard of work expected, and relevant literature and sources. You are required to meet your supervisor regularly, to agree upon a schedule of work, and to produce written work for comment periodically. Each research project requires specialised and individual supervision, and we accept applications only where it is clear that appropriate supervision can be provided. Before deciding on a research topic and finalising your proposal, we recommend you make informal contact with the Director of Graduate Studies (see right) or with a member of staff with specialist expertise in the area.

**Research strengths**

The School of Psychology has built a strong international research reputation in four core collaborative thematic areas: Cognition and Neuroscience, Developmental Psychology, Forensic Psychology and Social Psychology. Through many collaborative links and activities, our research forms an integral part of the international research community in all these areas.

**Cognition and Neuroscience**

In Cognition and Neuroscience, our research has an international reputation in the areas of visual cognition, attention and memory, and language and communication.

**Developmental Psychology**

Research topics in Developmental Psychology include: prejudice, conversational norms and group identity in children; theory of mind, language development and children’s information processing; gang activity and antisocial behaviour among adolescents; and self-stereotyping and prejudice against the elderly.

**Forensic Psychology**

Forensic Psychology research at Kent focuses on offending behaviour and court process issues. Specific areas of expertise include the treatment and rehabilitation of firesetters, sexual harassment, and aggression and violence.

**Social Psychology**

In Social Psychology, we have established an international presence in the topic areas of prejudice and social categorisation, social inequality and cohesion, group dynamics and social influence, and personality, social motivation and health behaviour.

**Research centres**

The School has three formally constituted research centres, reflecting areas of specialist interest: the Centre for Cognitive Neuroscience and Cognitive Systems, the Centre for the Study of Group Processes and the Centre of Research and Education in Forensic Psychology.

**Further information**

For further information, please contact:

Director of Graduate Studies (Research), Professor Robbie Sutton
E: psygradresearch@kent.ac.uk).

“My experience studying for a PhD in Psychology at Kent has been very rewarding and challenging. Thanks to the support of the faculty and staff, I feel that I have gained all of the knowledge, experience and skills achievable from an excellent doctoral course.”

Joe Pelletier
PhD Psychology
The School of Psychology comprises 36 members of academic staff, ranging from leading scholars in their field to younger colleagues with rising academic reputations.

The following members of staff are able to provide supervision for research leading to PhD degrees.

**Academic staff**

**Dr Kirsten Abbot-Smith**  
Senior Lecturer in Psychology  
Child language development and its intersection with how children perceive events.  
www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/people/abbot-smithk

**Professor Dominic Abrams**  
Professor of Social Psychology; Director of the Centre for the Study of Group Processes  
Social identity and intergroup relations; prejudice; sexism; deviance; social identity in organisational contexts; group consensus processes; the self-concept and self-regulation of behaviour. Publications include *Multidisciplinary Handbook of Social Exclusion Research* (co-ed, 2007).  
www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/people/abrams

**Dr Emma Alleyne**  
Senior Lecturer in Forensic Psychology  
Socio-cognitive and group processes that underlie group offending, for example, what differentiates gang youth and non-gang youth with similar social/environmental backgrounds; multiple-perpetrator rape (MPR) and psychological factors that distinguish MPR from lone perpetrators; firesetting behaviour and clinical treatment of firesetters.  
www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/people/alleynee

**Dr Zara Bergström**  
Lecturer in Cognitive Psychology  
The neurocognitive mechanisms of episodic memory; control processes and long-term memory retrieval; cognitive neuroscience techniques; applied memory research; memory in old age.  
www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/people/bergstromz

**Dr Markus Bindemann**  
Senior Lecturer in Psychology  
Face and person perception; detection of people in natural settings; person memory and eyewitness identification; perception of eye-gaze and emotion from faces and other aspects of social cognition.  
www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/people/bindemannm

**Dr Joseph Brooks**  
Lecturer in Psychology  
Visual perception, perceptual organisation, visual illusions, ambiguous images (can be seen in different ways), visual attention and the neural processes that give rise to them; effect of social aspects of behaviour, such as sexuality, on attention and perception.  
www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/people/brooks

**Dr Anna Brown**  
Senior Lecturer in Psychological Methods and Statistics  
Quantitative modelling of psychological data; modelling response processes to cognitive and non-cognitive assessments using Item Response Theory (IRT).  
www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/people/brown

**Dr Lindsey Cameron**  
Senior Lecturer in Psychology  
Social developmental psychology: development and reduction of intergroup prejudice in children; direct intergroup contact and extended intergroup contact; development of ethnic and national identity in children and adolescents; acculturation in childhood; experience of prejudice and discrimination, and its consequences for social development.  
www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/people/cameronl

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Dr Aleksandra Cichocka  
**Lecturer in Political Psychology**  
Links between the self and various social and political realities; how self-concept and group image relate to intergroup attitudes, political ideology and support for status quo. Publications include: *The Psychology of Conspiracy* (co-editor, 2015); *Social Psychology of Social Problems: The Intergroup Context* (co-editor, 2012).  
www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/people/cichockaa

Dr Heather Ferguson  
**Reader in Psychology**  
Language and communication; perspective taking; comprehension of counterfactuals and negation; mental representations involved in language understanding; time-course and brain processes involved in various cognitive functions; autism spectrum disorder.  
www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/people/fergusonh

Dr Mike Forrester  
**Reader in Psychology**  
www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/people/forresterm

Professor Karen Douglas  
**Professor of Social Psychology**  
Understanding beliefs in conspiracy theories; language and stereotyping; sexist language; lay theories of persuasion; social psychology of the internet; interpersonal and intergroup communication. Publications include: *Social Psychology* (co-author, 2013); *Feedback: The Communication of Praise, Criticism and Advice* (co-ed, 2010).  
www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/people/douglask

Professor Theresa Gannon  
**Professor of Forensic Psychology; Director of the Centre of Research and Education in Forensic Psychology**  
www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/people/gannon

Professor Roger Giner-Sorolla  
**Professor of Social Psychology**  
The role of emotions in prejudice and self-control; moral judgements and emotion (anger, disgust, guilt and shame); cross-cultural differences in moral beliefs. Publications include: *Judging Passions: Moral Emotions in Persons and Groups* (2012).  
www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/people/ginerr

Dr Tim Hopthrow  
**Senior Lecturer in Psychology**  
Small group performance and decision-making, especially in the context of co-operative behaviour in social dilemmas; the effects of alcohol consumption on group performance.  
www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/people/hopthrowt
Dr Amir-Homayoun Javadi  
Lecturer in Cognitive Psychology/Cognitive Neuroscience  
Refining and improving non-pharmacological approaches to the enhancement of memory, learning and decision making, using a variety of methods (eg, physical exercise, electrical and magnetic brain stimulation and sleep); imaging methods including eye-tracking and EEG.  
www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/people/javadia/

Professor Bob Johnston  
Professor of Cognitive Psychology  
Cognitive processes underlying face and object processing, for example, accessing and representing information about familiar people; recognising other-race faces; understanding how unfamiliar faces become familiar; determining how age-of-acquisition influences object identification.  
www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/people/johnstonb

Dr Lydia Kearney  
Lecturer in Cognitive Psychology  
Social anxiety and experience of mental imagery; ways anxious self-imagery reflects cognitive biases in attention and interpretation; imagery and rumination; imagery and emotion; cognitive and behavioural precursors of depression and anxiety.  
www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/people/kearneyl

Dr David Kelly  
Lecturer in Developmental Psychology  
Visual and cognitive development; cross-cultural differences in perception and eye-movements; face recognition in children and adults; multisensory processing in infancy.  
www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/people/kellyd

Dr Erika Nurmsoo  
Lecturer in Psychology  
Language acquisition, focusing on word learning; theory of mind development; source monitoring and use of testimony in preschoolers; children’s comprehension of partial and ambiguous input; understanding and use of symbols, drawing and pretence.  
www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/people/nurmsooe

Dr Caoilte Ó Ciardha  
Lecturer in Forensic Psychology  
Treatment needs of offenders and causal factors in offending with a particular emphasis on the role of cognition; research methods that offer potential in tapping into cognitive constructs in an indirect way, such as looking at people’s response patterns to sexually salient stimuli and how that relates to problematic sexual interest, for example, paedophilia. Work to date has primarily focused on behaviours such as sexual offending and firesetting.  
www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/people/ociardhac
ACADEMIC STAFF (CONT)

Dr Afroditi Pina
Senior Lecturer in Psychology
Sexual violence, gender equality and victimisation, in particular rape and the myths that surround it; sexual harassment, its impact on its victims, women’s coping strategies, and the link between sexual harassment and the emotions of anger and fear. More recently, looking into self and sexual objectification, and its effects on women’s self-esteem, victim blaming and coping strategies.

www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/people/pinaa

Dr Georgina Randsley de Moura
Senior Lecturer in Social Psychology; Head of School
Intra-and intergroup dynamics and social psychology in organisations, especially leadership, innovation and what happens when group members break rules or norms.

www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/people/randsleyg

Dr Marta Ponari
Lecturer in Cognitive Psychology
Interaction between cognition and emotion; embodied semantics, especially the role of sensory-motor and emotional information in how we acquire and represent meaning; facial expression recognition; emotional processing in ageing.

www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/people/ponarim

Dr Dinkar Sharma
Reader in Psychology
Cognition and emotion; selective attention; priming; cognitive approaches to addiction.

www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/people/sharmad

Professor Joachim Stoeber
Professor of Psychology
Perfectionism, well-being, and performance; coping; personal goals in adolescence; stress and health in the workplace; motivation; personality and individual differences.

www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/people/stoeberj

Professor Robbie Sutton
Professor of Social Psychology
Just-world beliefs and system-justification; social norms and communication processes especially as they relate to prejudice, stereotyping, and the perpetuation of injustice and inequality; the inner logic of apparently irrational behaviours, such as mutually destructive conflicts and environmental
Dr Eduardo Vasquez
Lecturer in Forensic Psychology
Aggression and displaced aggression; anger, rumination, and aggression and violent behaviours; intergroup relations; personalisation, self-disclosure and liking; intergroup conflict and aggression; intergang violence; alcohol and social behaviours: alcohol and aggression, alcohol and intergroup anxiety; applications to criminal behaviour. www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/people/vasquez

Dr Giovanni Travaglino
Lecturer in Social and Organisational Psychology
Social and cultural psychology of collective action and protest. Factors predicting intentions to oppose criminal (mafia-style) organisations collectively in the South of Italy. Social psychology of deviance and groups’ responses to disloyal members. www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/people/travaglinog

Professor Ayse Uskula
Professor of Social Psychology
Cultural conceptions of honour and roots of honour-related aggression; ecocultural influences on cognitive and social psychological (for example, social exclusion, honour) processes; social, cultural and religious correlates of attitudes toward inter-ethnic and interfaith intimate relationships; the role of self-regulatory mechanisms in social cognition (for example, processing of health messages), social interaction (for example, aggression) and well-being (for example, depression). www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/people/uskula

Dr Mario Weick
Senior Lecturer in Psychology
The impact of social and situational factors on people’s perceptions, judgements and actions; the role of power and control – specifically how powerful and powerless people differ in their perceptions, the way they make judgements and their actions. www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/people/weickm

Dr David Wilkinson
Reader in Psychology
Visual cognition; perceptual and attentional performance in healthy and brain-damaged individuals; the use of sensory stimulation to rehabilitate stroke patients. www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/people/wilkinsond

Dr David Williams
Reader in Developmental Psychology
Various forms of developmental psychopathology, including autism spectrum disorder and specific language impairment; the nature and neurocognitive bases of developmental disorders, as well as what these disorders tell us about typical development; use of cognitive-experimental techniques among typical and atypical populations. www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/people/williamsd

Dr Arnaud Wisman
Lecturer in Psychology
Coping mortality salience; terror management theory; the self-concept, self-esteem and self regulation; groups, automatic social behaviour, conformism and cultural world views; evolutionary social psychology, attraction, scent and sexuality. www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/people/wisman

Dr Jane Wood
Reader in Forensic Psychology
Street and prison gang formation and activity; public attitudes to crime and punishment; bullying in prison and schools; resettlement and rehabilitation of ex-offenders and the role of emotions in judging offenders. Publications include: Crime and Crime Reduction: The Importance of Group Processes (co-ed, 2013); Public Opinion and Criminal Justice (co-ed, 2008). www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/people/woodj

despoilation; implications of these processes for gender (sexism, fear of crime and views of rape complainants) and global warming (climate change). Publications include: Social Psychology (co-author, 2013); Feedback: The Communication of Praise, Criticism and Advice (co-ed, 2010). www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/people/suttonr
General entry requirements

If you wish to apply for a higher degree, you must normally have a first or second class honours degree in a relevant or appropriate subject, or the equivalent from an internationally recognised institution (for more information on requirements for international qualifications, visit www.kent.ac.uk/international/student/country).

Statistics and research methods training in the social sciences

You must have taken and passed a minimum of a one-term course each in statistics and social science research methods (or two terms of a joint statistics and research methods course). Our postgraduate programmes involve a rigorous one-year statistics component, which you must pass in order to be awarded a degree. Teaching assumes familiarity with the following topics: means and standard deviations; distributions, hypothesis testing and statistical significance; t-tests; correlation coefficients; variables and measurements.

English language

The University requires all non-native speakers of English to reach a minimum standard of proficiency in written and spoken English before beginning a postgraduate degree.

Minimum standard: IELTS – 6.5, incl 6.0 in reading and writing, and 5.5 in listening and speaking; Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE Academic) – 62, incl 60 in each subtest; Cambridge English: Advanced and Proficiency 176, incl minimum of 169 in reading and writing and 162 in speaking and listening; Internet-based TOEFL – 90 incl minimum of 22 in reading, 21 in writing and listening, 23 in speaking.

If you do not reach the required standard, you can apply for one of our pre-sessional courses. For further information, please see www.kent.ac.uk/ip

Contact International Recruitment for clarification (www.kent.ac.uk/internationalstudent/recruitment/team.html).

Making an application

You can apply for a Kent higher degree online at www.kent.ac.uk/courses/postgrad/apply

If you do not have access to the web, please contact the Recruitment and Admissions Office for advice, see details on p34.

To consider your application, the School of Psychology requires access to your final degree transcript or marks to date, plus two academic references. You may also be asked to provide additional paperwork concerning statistical training after submitting your application.

CONTINUED OVERLEAF
Supplementary requirements for MSc in Forensic Psychology

Professional recognition
In addition to the entry requirements outlined above, applicants for the MSc in Forensic Psychology must hold a Bachelor’s degree that makes them eligible for Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership (GBC) with the BPS.

Normally, you will be automatically eligible if you have been awarded an honours degree in Psychology in the UK that has been accredited by the BPS. If you do not hold an accredited UK degree or your degree was awarded overseas, you can still obtain GBC through having your degree assessed by the BPS or by taking a conversion course.

For more information, visit www.bps.org.uk

Please note that GBC is different from Graduate Membership of the BPS (as the Society recognises some degrees for graduate membership but not for GBC). We are unable to process applications where the applicant does not have GBC. However, we may call applicants to interview if they are awaiting the results of their GBC examination or conversion course.

Forensic-related work experience
Although we do not reject applicants outright who have been unable to obtain forensic-related work experience, evidence of such work experience will be taken into
account when considering prospective students’ applications. We strongly favour those who have obtained work or research experience within a forensic setting. Examples of acceptable experience include voluntary (or, in some cases, paid) work with victim support, the police, prison service, NHS or forensic-related charities. One of your referees should be from the organisation where you obtained your work or forensic research experience.

Interview process
If you have met the admissions criteria, you may be called for interview by a panel of Forensic Psychology staff in order to assess your suitability for the programme. We do not admit anyone onto the Forensic Psychology MSc programme without interview. However, being called for interview is no guarantee that you will be offered a place.

We expect you to make every effort to attend the interview in person so you can meet us and see our facilities. An offer of an interview via Skype will only be extended if you are studying or working outside Europe at the time of the interview. Outside of these circumstances, you can only request a Skype interview if you provide a compelling case in a one-page statement for our assessment; approval will be given at the programme director’s discretion.

Owing to high demand, interviews take place at set points in the admissions cycle and these will be the only opportunities for consideration. The interview dates are published on the online prospectus where the application is submitted. We will advise you on how to complete the booking process once your application has passed the initial review.

During the interview we will be interested in your knowledge of forensic psychology, reasons for studying the subject, research experience, and forensic-relevant work experience.

Application deadline
Applications for the MSc in Forensic Psychology should be submitted a few weeks prior to the set interview dates. For our other programmes there is no fixed deadline for applications from home/EU students, though we strongly recommend you apply as soon as possible; no later than three months before your intended start date.

For international students, the deadline for applications is 31 July.

Tuition fees
For the most up-to-date information on tuition fees, please visit www.kent.ac.uk/pg

Funding
A limited number of Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) studentships and University-funded School scholarships may be available in each academic year. For more information, including details of availability and application deadlines, see www.kent.ac.uk/psychology/pg/fees-funding.html

Contacts
If you have an enquiry in relation to a specific programme, please contact: Carly Turnham, School of Psychology, University of Kent, Canterbury, Kent CT2 7NP UK
T: +44 (0)1227 824775
E: psypgadmissions@kent.ac.uk
European connections

Kent is known as the UK’s European university. Our two main UK campuses, Canterbury and Medway, are located in the south-east of England, close to London, and we also have study locations in Paris, Rome, Athens and Brussels.

We have a diverse, cosmopolitan population with 158 nationalities represented. We also have strong links with universities in Europe. From Kent, you are around two hours away from Paris and Brussels by train.

A global outlook

Kent has a great international reputation, attracting academic staff and students from around the world. Thirty-seven per cent of our academic staff are from overseas and our schools are engaged in collaborative research with universities worldwide. We also offer a range of opportunities to study abroad and an approach that is truly global.

The Graduate School

As a postgraduate student, you also have the support of the Graduate School, which promotes your academic interests, co-ordinates the Researcher Development Programme and the Global Skills Award, and facilitates cross-disciplinary interaction and social networking.

Funding

Kent provides a variety of financial support opportunities for postgraduate students. These range from research studentships, location-specific funding, sport and music scholarships, and funding specifically for overseas fee-paying students. For further information, see www.kent.ac.uk/pgfunding

Enhanced career prospects

At Kent, we want you to be in a good position to face the demands of a tough economic environment. During your studies, you acquire a high level of academic knowledge and specialist practical skills.

Location

Canterbury

Faculty

Faculty of Social Sciences

School

School of Psychology

Contact

Carly Turnham, School of Psychology, University of Kent, Canterbury, Kent CT2 7NP UK
T: +44 (0)1227 824775
E: psypgadmissions@kent.ac.uk

Applications

Online at
www.kent.ac.uk/courses/postgrad/apply

We also help you to develop key transferable skills that are essential within the competitive world of work.

Further information

For information about applying to Kent, or to order a copy of the Graduate Prospectus, please contact:
Recruitment and Admissions Office, The Registry, University of Kent, Canterbury, Kent CT2 7NZ, UK
T: +44 (0)1227 827272
F: +44 (0)1227 827077
www.kent.ac.uk/pg

The University also holds Open Days and postgraduate recruitment events throughout the year. Please see www.kent.ac.uk/visit

* of 122 universities, not including specialist institutions
This brochure was produced in February 2017. The University of Kent makes every effort to ensure that the information contained in its publicity materials is fair and accurate and to provide educational services as described. However, the courses, services and other matters may be subject to change. For the most up-to-date information, see www.kent.ac.uk/pg Full details of our terms and conditions can be found at: www.kent.ac.uk/termsandconditions

For the University to operate efficiently, it needs to process information about you for administrative, academic and health and safety reasons. Any offer we make to you is subject to your consent to process such information and is a requirement in order for you to be registered as a student. All students must agree to abide by the University rules and regulations at: www.kent.ac.uk/regulations
COME AND VISIT US

To find out more about visiting the University, see our website:
www.kent.ac.uk/visit