

BSc FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY

**Registering For Level 5
Psychology Modules**

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

March 2011

BSc (Hons) Forensic Psychology Award

Choosing Level 5 (Year 2) Modules

About This Booklet

This booklet is designed to give you information about:

- Level 5 (Year 2) modules and award structure
- what you have to do to register for Level 5 modules

This booklet contains:-

1. The structure of the BSc (Honours) Forensic Psychology award including information about 'Graduate Basis for Chartership' (GBC) which is the pattern of essential modules required by the British Psychological Society (BPS) for postgraduate study in Psychology.
2. Details of how you register on modules.
3. Information about the modules available, in draft form. The descriptors for each module will tell you about any preconditions for studying, like pre-requisites (what you need to have studied before Year 2/Level 5).
4. Information about pre-requisites for the Level 6 (year 3) modules we expect to be available to you, so you can ensure you have the necessary pre-requisites.

(NB: Please note there may be unavoidable changes)

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Graduate Membership of the BPS and GBC

All Psychology Awards (singles and joints) where you study a minimum of 50% psychology at levels 5 and 6 (i.e. 60 credits at each level), are accredited with the British Psychological Society (BPS) and allow you to apply for **Graduate Membership of the Society**.

On this award you will follow a prescribed pattern of modules at Intermediate and Honours levels (compulsory for BSc (Hons) Forensic Psychology) which means you can claim a second level of recognition with the BPS, **Graduate Basis for Chartership (GBC)**, as long as you also achieve at least grade point 7 overall on your award at level 6 (2;2 classification). This means you have been recognised as doing an award that confers eligibility to pursue a career in psychology, including applying for BPS recognised postgraduate courses in psychology.

On this degree you automatically follow the modules which (if you also achieve a 2;2 on your degree) will enable you to apply for GBC with the BPS. If you would prefer not to follow a GBC degree you can transfer to a non-GBC route - BSc (Hons) Forensic Psychology Studies. The BSc (Hons) Forensic Psychology Studies degree is still an honours degree, and still enables you to apply for membership of the BPS, however you will not be eligible to claim GBC. Details can be found in Appendix 3.

Students must recognise that training in Forensic Psychology is acquired through postgraduate education and supervised practice, not through an undergraduate degree. On completion of this programme students are not qualified to practise as a Forensic Psychologist without further training in Forensic Psychology.

BSc Forensic Psychology Award

Modules at Level 5

You must take 120 credits in total at Level 5, followed by a further 120 at Level 6. 90 credits at Level 5 consist of core modules, from both psychology and forensics. The remaining 30 credits are made up of options; half of which must be specific (psychology or forensics), but the remainder can be either psychology/forensics or a university general option (see University General Options, page 5).

Forensic Psychology students must take the following modules at Level 5:

Psychology Core modules

Social Psychology; Theory & Method (TB1)¹

Research Methods 3 (TB1)

Psychology of Criminal Conduct (TB2)

Biological Bases of Behaviour (TB 2)

Cognitive Psychology (TB 2)

Forensic Core module

Forensic Science: Methods of Crime Detection (TB1)

+ 15 **Specific credits** from the list on page 5

+ 15 **General credits** (additional specific option or University General Option).

Your specific or general options may be taken in either teaching block.

Details of Cores and Options are given in the Award Structure on page 5

¹ TB = Teaching Block

BSc (HONS) FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY

Level 5 Structure – All modules are 15 credits (except where indicated)

You must study 120 credits at each level

Core Modules (90 credits)	Specific Option (15 credits)	General Option (15 credits)
<p><u>Teaching Block 1</u> Social Psychology; Theory & method Research Methods 3 Forensic Science: Methods of Crime Detection</p>	<p><u>Teaching Block 1</u> Forensic Histories Manage Your Career Volunteering: Action and Experience 2 (Teaching block 1 or 2) Psychopathology and Health Children in Context The Psychology of Social Perception and Communication</p>	<p><u>Teaching Block 1</u> Forensic, Psychology or University General Option</p>
<p><u>Teaching Block 2</u> Cognitive Psychology Psychology of Criminal Conduct Biological Bases of Behaviour</p>	<p><u>Teaching Block 2</u> Drugs of Abuse Volunteering: Action and Experience 2 (Teaching block 1 or 2) Understanding Relationships Developmental Psychopathology</p>	<p><u>Teaching Block 2</u> Forensic, Psychology or University General Option</p>

Level 6 Structure – All modules are 15 credits (except where indicated) –

You must study 120 credits at each level

Core Modules (90 credits)	Specific Options (15 credits)	General Option (15 credits)
<p><u>Teaching Block 1</u> Developmental Psychology Psychology in the Justice System Psychology Project (30)</p>	<p><u>Teaching Block 1</u> Practical Methods of Crime Detection Evolution and Psychology Advanced Research Methods Autistic Spectrum Conditions Psychological Interventions</p>	<p><u>Teaching Block 1</u> Psychology, Forensic or University General Option</p>
<p><u>Teaching Block 2</u> Dealing with Difference Psychology Project (contd) Forensic Psychology Applications</p>	<p><u>Teaching Block 2</u> Analysis & Investigation of TEREFF Incidents Children and Pictures Health Psychology Families in Context</p>	<p><u>Teaching Block 2</u> Psychology, Forensic or University General Option</p>

The third year model given here may change. Options do not necessarily run each year.

PSYCHOLOGY MODULES

A summary of each module, including indicative content, learning strategies and assessment details, can be found on the module registration webpage at <http://www.staffs.ac.uk/schools/sciences/psychology/coursematerials/options/level2/index.php> .

To access module descriptors for all available modules go to <http://www.staffs.ac.uk/current/student/modules/>

There are **several important prerequisites** for studying modules in level 6. These are summarised below in the table below:

Level 6 module	Level 5 modules which must be passed in advance
Psychology Project	Social Psychology; Theory & Method AND Research Methods 3

ADVICE ON MODULE SELECTION

Remember you must take **120 credits overall** at Level 5.

You can ask your Personal Tutors as well as the Level 5 tutor (Emily Buckley: Room S221) for advice on your choices.

NB

There will be a chance to amend your choices later if you find a timetable clash. Occasionally there are changes to the precise form of assessment. You should always check the specific details when you start the module.

Check the Level 4 Notice Board for announcements related to Module Registration for changes that may occur.

UNIVERSITY GENERAL OPTIONS

At all levels, you may study for 15 credits in disciplines other than Psychology through taking University General Options. Descriptions of the modules available will be available on the **University Website** prior to Module Registration week.

The University General Option lists are still being finalised, and you will find modules on a range of subjects such as I.T., business and languages. You will need to check that you meet any conditions, such as pre-requisites, for studying any modules outside of Psychology. You will also have to check that it doesn't clash with any Psychology or Forensics core lectures. It is a good idea to find out more from a tutor involved in the module.

If you would rather take an additional module from the award specific option group(s) attached to your award, rather than a University General Option, you are free to do so in any year, but they will be labelled as your general credits.

Arrangements for module registration 2011

The first part of enrolment onto Intermediate Level (Year 2) Psychology Modules (with the exception of Volunteering²) will take place in S207, Psychology, 2nd Floor Mellor Building on Wednesday 30th March 2011, between 1.30pm and 3.30pm. You will be able to sign up for your Psychology lectures and seminars for next year at that time.

Preparing for Module Registration

Before coming for Module Registration you need to fill in your Module Registration Form.

- § First list all your CORES and OPTIONS.
- § Then check the day and time of Lectures and Seminars for each module on your list.
- § Ensure that there are **no clashes** between your modules for both Lectures and Seminars. You cannot do an Option that clashes with any of your Core Lectures.³
- § Choose at least 2 possible **Seminar times** for each module – as you may not always get your first choice.
- § Fill in the **Timetable** at the back of this Booklet (preferably in pencil) to ensure that you have no clashes.
- § Take your Module Registration Form and Timetable to S207 on 30th March 2011.
- § Once you have signed up for a module, note on your timetable which slots you have confirmed, and keep your timetable in a safe place – it is not an easy task to find out your seminar times at a later date.

Forensic Module Registration will be taking place on Monday 28th March 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm S511 Mellor. You must sign up for Forensic Science: Methods of Crime Detection, and any forensic options at this time.

KEEP CHECKING THE LEVEL 4 PSYCHOLOGY NOTICE BOARD FOR MORE SPECIFIC & NEW INFORMATION

If you plan to study a **University General Option** in another subject area, you will have to find out from the relevant faculty/field offering it how you enrol and when the lectures and seminars are. This information is usually available online via the University's homepage.

² Enrolment onto Volunteering will be in Flaxman.

³ Sometimes you may not know of clashes but you should be able to sort these out later

How your degree classification is calculated

Your grades at Level 5 contribute to your final degree classification, and so we thought it would be useful to include information here on how degree classifications are calculated.

Having checked that you have passed all the modules and satisfied all the requirements of your award the **Award Board will consider your overall score in Level 5 and 6 modules.**

This overall score will be determined by taking into account **all your Level 5 module results** and giving them a **30% weighting**, and **all your Level 6 module results** and giving them a **70% weighting**. **You must ensure that you have completed at least the minimum number of specific credits required for your award.** Any Additional modules you have taken must be recorded as "Additional" rather than Core, Specific Option or General Option modules. This must be done at the point of module enrolment - it cannot be done once you have completed the module. You should note that additional modules will not be taken into account when determining your degree classification. You should read the sections on Module Enrolment and Student Workload very carefully for more details on this issue.

In order to ensure equity for students who have studied different numbers of credits at each of Levels 5 and 6, the **Award Board will calculate the average grade point achieved per 15 credits at each of Levels 5 and 6.** This figure will then be used in calculating honours classification.

Where compensation is awarded by a Level 6 Award Board (to either Level 5 or Level 6 modules) the original Grade Point achieved will contribute to the overall score.

In summary then:

Overall Score = 30% of average grade points per 15 credits at Level 5 + 70% of average grade points per 15 credits at Level 6.

Appendix 1: Example Enrolment Form

STAFFORDSHIRE UNIVERSITY
 Faculty of Sciences
 Psychology and Mental Health



MODULE REGISTRATION FORM 2011-12
 AWARD: BSc Honours Forensic Psychology 09C89100
 LEVEL: FIVE (INTERMEDIATE)

Please complete the following details (in black or blue biro)

FAMILY NAME	
FORENAMES	
REGISTRATION NUMBER	
YEAR OF ENTRY	MOBILE T'PHONE NO:

Core modules for which you will automatically be registered
 Teaching Block 1

Teaching Block 2

SCS85220-5	SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY; THEORY AND METHOD	<input type="checkbox"/>	SHS85200-5	COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY	<input type="checkbox"/>
SHS82202-5	FORENSIC SCIENCE: METHODS OF CRIME DETECTION	<input type="checkbox"/>	SHS85202-5	BIOLOGICAL BASES OF BEHAVIOUR	<input type="checkbox"/>
SHS85203-5	RESEARCH METHODS 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	SHS85208-5	PSYCHOLOGY OF CRIMINAL CONDUCT	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please choose ONE specific option (15 Credit) (please tick one)

Teaching Block 1

Teaching Block 2

AI00089-5	MANAGE YOUR CAREER	<input type="checkbox"/>	AM25412-5	VOLUNTEERING: ACTION & EXPERIENCE 2	<input type="checkbox"/>
AM25412-5	VOLUNTEERING: ACTION & EXPERIENCE 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	SCS85212-5	DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOPATHOLOGY	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCS85213-5	THE PSYCHOLOGY OF SOCIAL PERCEPTION & COMMUNICATION	<input type="checkbox"/>	SHS82205-5	DRUGS OF ABUSE	<input type="checkbox"/>
SHS82203-5	FORENSIC HISTORIES	<input type="checkbox"/>	SHS85205-5	UNDERSTANDING RELATIONSHIPS	<input type="checkbox"/>
SHS85204-5	PSYCHOPATHOLOGY & HEALTH	<input type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>
SHS85210-5	CHILDREN IN CONTEXT	<input type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>

Please choose ONE general option (15 credit) (either a University general option or another Psychology or Forensic specific option from the list above) and write your choice in the box below

Teaching Block 1

Teaching Block 2

Code	Title	Code	Title

I understand that I shall be entered for assessment in these modules only, unless I amend my programme of studies with the consent of my Award Tutor

Signature..... Date.....

Signature of Tutor.....

N.B. If you change modules subsequent to module registration you must complete a module amendment form, which you can collect from the Sciences Reception on the ground floor of the Mellor Building. You must ensure that any module changes form the correct module combination for your award.

Please retain a copy of this form for your records and return the top copy to the Sciences Reception, Mellor Building by no later than Friday 1st April 2011

Appendix 2: Blank Timetable

NAME: AWARD:

SEMESTER ONE

Day	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6
MON										
TUE										
WED										
THU										
FRI										

SEMESTER TWO

Day	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6
MON										
TUE										
WED										
THU										
FRI										

APPENDIX 3: BSc (Hons) Forensic Psychology Studies (Non-GBC route)

This is a route offering a less constrained choice of modules but does **not** confer GBC. The Forensic Psychology Studies Award does, however allow you to apply for **Graduate Membership** of the Society.

What is GBC? GBC stands for Graduate Basis for Chartership and means you have been recognised as doing an award that confers eligibility to begin to pursue a career in psychology, including applying for BPS recognised postgraduate courses in psychology (e.g. Clinical, Educational etc.).

By choosing to do Forensic Psychology Studies you are choosing not to have a Graduate Basis for Registration. If you think you may be interested in this alternative, please speak to your Personal tutor, Award Leader (Emily Buckley) or one of the Level 5 tutors (Ceri or Emily)

If you have completed the first year of BSc Psychology you can transfer to BSc Forensic Psychology Studies.

Summary of modules you must study (all 15 credits unless stated)

Intermediate Level:

Core modules Social Psychology; Theory & Method
Forensic Science: Methods of Crime Detection
Psychology of Criminal Conduct
Cognitive Psychology

- + 30 specific credits in Psychology
- + 15 specific credits in Psychology or Forensics
- + 15 general credits (Psychology, Forensic or University General Option).

Honours Level:

Core modules Developmental Psychology
Psychology in the Justice System
Dealing with Difference
Forensic Psychology Applications

- + 30 specific credits in Psychology
- + 15 specific credits in Psychology or Forensics
- + 15 general credits (Psychology or University General Option)

The main difference is that you do not have to pass Research Methods 3 and you are not able to do a Psychology Project at Level 6. You must take 120 credits in total at Level 5 and a further 120 at Level 6. Your specific or general options may be taken in either Teaching Block.

Appendix 4: Changing Modules after Module Registration

CHANGING MODULES

1. You are expected to keep a record of the modules you have chosen in each Semester, including seminar slots. A Timetable is attached for this purpose.
2. You cannot change modules without getting a tutor to sign your Module amendment sheet.
3. Once your tutor has signed the module amendment sheet you **must** hand it in to the **Psychology Admin Staff** (via Reception, Mellor Ground Floor). All changes must be recorded by the Psychology secretary otherwise you will not be registered for that module on the University system and this will affect assessments for that module.
4. Often changing a module means you have to choose a new seminar slot for that module, this must be done through the Psychology Admin Staff. You can also contact the office by emailing psychadmin@staffs.ac.uk or by calling extension 4475 (01782 294475 from outside the university).

CHANGING SEMINAR TIMES

Whenever possible we will try and accommodate people with a genuine need, but in general, you are advised not to change Seminar times unless absolutely necessary. Please choose your modules and seminar slots carefully to avoid unnecessary problems later on.

You must keep a record of the Lecture and Seminar times for your chosen modules as you will need these in September at the start of Level 5

If you do need to change your seminar times you must:

1. Discuss your needs with the **Level Tutors** or **Psychology Secretary** and provide evidence why you need to change seminar times
2. Do this **within the first 2 weeks of the semester**.
3. Notify your Module Tutor that you will be changing seminar slots and let them know which slot you have changed from and to.
4. Make sure your name is on the Seminar List for the slot you have changed to – you will need to see the Psychology Secretary to do this.

NB – It may not always be possible to change your Seminar times because:

- § Most Seminars have an upper limit of the number of people in the group (normally 20-25) but this varies across modules.
- § Some seminars (e.g. Research Methods, Social Psychology; Theory & Method) can only accommodate a set number of people.