



# Higher Diploma in Psychology

(2 Years Full Time / 4 Years Part Time)



## Introduction

The Higher Diploma in Psychology is an intensive two-year postgraduate conversion course for graduates with an honours degree in a discipline other than psychology, who would like to take the first step towards a professional career in psychology.

The curriculum for the Higher Diploma in Psychology is taught in conjunction with the Honours BA in Psychology. Core modules cover the key areas of psychology required for PSI accreditation.

Additionally, you may select elective modules covering a wide range of topics that reflect the diversity of staff interests and expertise within the School of Psychology. You will gain experience with psychological research by completing a series of practical laboratory experiments in psychology in your first year. In second year, you will conduct an individual research project on a topic of your choice under the supervision of an academic staff member. Small group tutorials will provide further support for your learning.

## Programme Highlight

The degree is accredited by the Psychological Society of Ireland (PSI) as a first degree (equivalent to an Honours BA in Psychology), and confers eligibility for Graduate Membership of PSI. The Higher Diploma in Psychology is an internationally recognised degree that allows graduate membership of relevant psychological societies including the British Psychological Society (BPS). The degree enables further postgraduate training in clinical, counselling, health and other types of psychology.

## Programme Content and Structure

**120 credits**  
L8 Taught Masters

### Stage 1:

#### Core Modules:

- Brain and Behaviour
- Introduction to Social Psychology
- Child & Adolescent Development
- Laboratory Practicals in Psychology I
- The Psychology of Language
- Visual and Social Cognition
- Foundations of Psychology
- Research Methods & Stats II
- Laboratory Practicals in Psychology II

#### Optional modules:

- Introduction to Disability Studies
- Introduction to Health Psychology
- Introduction to Work and Organisational Psychology
- Clinical Psychology
- The Science + Art of Therapy: From Freud to Zinn
- Psychology for Everyday Life
- Psychology of Ageing
- Psychology and Crime
- Applied Health Psychology
- Career development in psych

### Stage 2:

#### Core Modules:

- Lifespan Developmental Psychology
- Behavioural Neuroscience
- Advanced Social Psychology
- Human Intelligence and Personality
- Research Methods & Stats III
- Research Project and Skills

#### Optional modules:

- Child & Adolescent Development
- Introduction to Disability Studies
- Introduction to Health Psychology
- Introduction to Work and Organisational Psychology
- Clinical Psychology
- The Science + Art of Therapy: From Freud to Zinn
- Psychology for Everyday Life
- Psychology and Crime
- Applied Health Psychology
- Career development in psych
- Cross-Cultural Psychology
- Advanced Cognitive Psychology
- How to Change Behaviour

## Why study at UCD?



### Graduate Education

12,000 graduate students; 17% graduate research students; structured PhDs



### Graduate Employability

Ranked no. 1 in Ireland in QS Graduate Employability ranking



### Global Careers

Dedicated careers support; 2 year stayback visa to work in Ireland



### Global Community

8,500 international students and 300,000 alumni network across 165 countries



### Global Profile

UCD is ranked in the top 1% of higher education institutions worldwide



### Welcoming Campus

Modern parkland campus with 24 hr security. Wide range of facilities, clubs, societies and supports



## Career Opportunities

Enables further postgraduate training in clinical, counselling, health or other types of psychology.

## Graduate Profile



**Brendan Byrne**  
Graduate

The Higher Diploma in Psychology at UCD equipped me with the academic knowledge and practical skills I needed to transition into the field of Psychology. I couldn't recommend it highly enough.

## Applicant Profile

- Applicants for the Higher Diploma in Psychology programme must be graduates with an honours degree (typically a 2.1 or higher), or final year students on an honours degree programme in any discipline. Offers to applicants who are not graduates will be contingent on degree results. The programme welcomes applications from mature students.
- The selection process for the Higher Diploma in Psychology will take account of: 1) undergraduate record and, where relevant, postgraduate record; 2) certified modules or courses in psychology; 3) experience of psychology through work or voluntary activities; 4) employment record; 5) references; 6) applicant's personal statement on the application form.

## Fees

Tuition fee information is available on [www.ucd.ie/fees](http://www.ucd.ie/fees).

## International Applicants

A number of places on the Higher Diploma in Psychology are offered each year to international applicants. Applications for this programme will open October and close mid March. International applicants may contact Julia McKeon ([julia.mckeon@ucd.ie](mailto:julia.mckeon@ucd.ie)) to indicate their interest in applying for the Higher Diploma in Psychology. International applicants may apply for the Higher Diploma in Psychology through the UCD Online Applications homepage [www.ucd.ie/apply](http://www.ucd.ie/apply)

The following website provides general information for international students who wish to study at UCD: [www.ucd.ie/global](http://www.ucd.ie/global). Teaching in Irish Universities is normally through the medium of English. All applicants are therefore required to demonstrate a high level of competence in the English language.

### CONTACT US

#### EU Students

t: 353 1 716 8363

e: [julia.mckeon@ucd.ie](mailto:julia.mckeon@ucd.ie)

w: [www.ucd.ie/psychology](http://www.ucd.ie/psychology)

🐦 @UCDPsychology

#### International Students

e: [internationalenquiries@ucd.ie](mailto:internationalenquiries@ucd.ie)

w: [www.ucd.ie/global](http://www.ucd.ie/global)

### APPLY NOW

This programme receives significant interest so please apply early online at

[www.ucd.ie/apply](http://www.ucd.ie/apply)