

MSc Organisational Psychology CityChat session

An opportunity to ask our current Organisational Psychology students about studying the course and PG life here at City, University of London.



Welcome to this MSc Organisational Psychology online chat session. Thanks so much for your application and we hope that you find the following session useful. With you this evening is one of our students currently studying Organisational Psychology here at City, as well as our School of Arts and Social Sciences Marketing Executive. Please ask any questions you have about what it's like to study a Masters here with us at City, University of London.



Hi everyone! Welcome to our online chat session for Organisational Psychology. You all should have applied to the course at City and this is an opportunity for you to speak to a student on the course



I wanted to know about the employability one gains after completing this course.



I haven't yet completed the course but I can tell you that the modules cover a lot of aspects of working as an Organisational Psychologist. We also have a lot of professionals come in and talk to us about their work.



Some examples are that you can work in recruitment, as a consultant within an organisation or as a freelancer.



6 months after each graduation there is an independent employment survey done called the DHLE. Here are the results of Organisational Psychology at City: https://www.city.ac.uk/careers/your-career/destinations-of-city-graduates?course=MSc_Organisational_Psychology



Wat's the single best thing about the course?



The teachers, the people, the facts that it is just 2 days per week... it's a lot of things... I can't choose one. The uni is beautiful as well and the area around, it makes my day to walk around City.



*fact



I have a couple of years work experience in Human Resource. I wish to catapult to doing more with the degree.



I am 100% sure that you will gain a lot from this course. I came in with no experience at all in this sector and I feel very confident in my abilities today. I have a lot of classmates with your background as well



I would be giving up a well paid job to study as my current employer won't allow me to work part-time. I currently deal with people, culture and performance and freelanced as a capability consultant and career consultant. With this in mind, what do you think this course could provide for me?



I believe it will provide you with networking first of all and I also think that it will expand your knowledge. It will give you the theoretical knowledge to practical skills you already have. But from what you say, this is the perfect course for you.



What is the job prospect after doing this course?



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The fact that the course is just 2 days per week, does it influence social university life? And does it mean that there is a lot of older people?



There are people from all ages but it doesn't affect your relationship with anyone. Social life is not an issue. There is a bar at city we used to meet every week after classes but as soon as you get into your essays two days per week will seem perfect.



How is the experience staying away from family in London?



It is hard sometimes but living in London is worth it. Doing a master's is quite independent work despite the lectures and I think it is a great overall experience. If there is one city that it is worth to leave your family for is London haha



London is full of really diverse communities and there are societies at city which help you make friends with similar interests or lifestyles as you



Also since I am an international student, how is the cost of living managed? I understand that it is very expensive, what are some options of international students to afford a cost effective living?



It is expensive but as I say to my friends back in Greece, groceries are not that expensive and regarding living costs, having a great room in a shared flat is the norm around here.



where do you get your study material from?



We were provided with a platform called Moodle. EVERYTHING and I mean everything is on there, including the library, I will tell you that I did not have to buy any books and I only had to rent 2 because I couldn't find them online. The resources are on point at City.



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There are many services that will do whatever they can to provide you with either accommodation or financial support. I personally, try to have a sense of my expenses and I cook a lot, instead of eating out.



So, do we have to do our other assignments and projects on other days??



What do you mean by other days? Other than the 2 day of lectures?



Great ! In my interview they talked about jobs regarding the masters degree, did you have the opportunity to get a work experience , work within an organisation as a City student or something like that ?



We did some workshops during the terms where we could pick professionals' brains and we had various training sessions, those helped a lot to get a better understanding of working life.



I have applied for my accommodation in Liberty House.. any views ??



Unfortunately, I live in a flat. BUT I had a lot of classmates that lived there and most of them and others in other City accommodations said that it is great and that they were partying a lot. (Great studying advice)



Hi, I've come from a Psychology undergrad degree, but no experience in the related fields, how do you feel the course provides for someone with a broader subject knowledge and less practical experience?



I am exactly like you and for me it was enlightening, I don't think I could learn more. I didn't even come from a psychology background I was a Sociology undergrad and I am very confident in what I have learned here.



You're very sweet!! But do let me know about the other days!



Time management is something that is very subjective. I couldn't study on the days of my lectures because I would come home late, so yea mostly you will have to study the rest of the 5 days of the week



Out of the grads last year, what percentage found employment within 6 months?



Hello, so the data is collected and given to us quite a bit later so this is most up to date info we have: 6 months after each graduation there is an independent employment survey done called the DHLE. Here are the results of Organisational Psychology at City: https://www.city.ac.uk/careers/your-career/destinations-of-city-graduates?course=MSc_Organisational_Psychology



Some of my questions were already discussed further above. Great. 😊 I was also wondering regarding the prospects after completing this course. Besides the "classic" Organisational Psychology" fields. Are there so other options for example in other fields of psychology? Or some further educations in a specific field of psychology?



I can tell you that I am hoping to become a coach. It is completely different from the general prospects but I have been trained on it and I love it. If you need more on this please ask, I understand that my answer was a bit subjective.



Okay, there is a lot you are providing right now!! A lot of information, thank you sooooo much!! @Dia



You are welcome, I wish I had done this when I was applying!



Thanks, do you anticipate any changes to the course for Sept 18? Eg lecturers, content re-design etc



Changes to the course have a really long process (about a year) for all to be approved. To my knowledge there are no changes to the course planned this year. We also have to have curriculum changes approved by the BPS. We got lots of new lecturers about 2 years ago so aside from new Visiting Lecturers it should be the same core staff. The course director is Julia Yates



Thanks, do you have any comments on the Professional Skills module? Its one of the more unique modules to this course, so I'm interested in hearing how you found it?



Ok.... this is weird because it was one of my favorite modules. I just finished the essay actually. The whole module is focused around professional experiences and training, which is great. Julia Yates (programme director) is also the module leader and she is incredible. We have had many different practitioners on this module come in and talk to us about work.



So no possibilities to do some external jobs as a city student to gain experience ? What about helping teachers in their researches or something like that ?



☺ Unfortunately I haven't been involved in something like that but I am sure there are going to be opportunities with the teachers. Sorry for the insufficient reply.



Sounds very cool. Coaching in what?



Career coaching mostly. I have been taught to life-coach as well but I am more interested in the working aspect of it. My dissertation is going to be on career coaching as well



I wanted to learn more about inclusivity and diversity. In particular female leadership which module would cover this? the dark side of management?



The dark side of management is a whole lecture I attended. About female leadership and inclusion I will say that City is at the top. First of all, our programme director is a woman, and my classmates are from all backgrounds and cultures. The programme is also very sensitive and inclusive on the teachings. This is something you will definitely find acceptable here



Great to know City practice these principles but many organisations don't do this affects employee status faction scores, gender gap, glass ceiling etc so would like to learn more about it.



These are conversations we had a lot during class, I think you will fit right in and that you are going to have a great time here.



Aha guess I found the right person to ask, thanks. I enjoyed my undergrad degree, but it felt like the support from supervisors/tutors was a bit lacking, I've seen really good student reviews on City saying that supervisors are very supportive and available, has this been your experience as well?



I am the right person to ask for this question too! Whenever I had a problem, a question or anything at all I would email any of my teachers and they would be more than happy to help me as soon as possible and do everything they could possibly do. They are very clear is they won't be able to respond even before you email them. for example in class they would say 'This week I may take longer to respond to any emails, please keep trying to reach me'



Do we look at positive psychology at all?



Yep! A lot! We have 2 modules that focus on it and separate lectures on other modules.



So, correct if I'm wrong. But we do get a chance to work during the course??



Not unless you choose to take one of the positions offered to us. they are independent positions that open up in different organisation and the city staff forwards them to us in case we are interested.



You have been very helpful. As a student nearing completion of your degree, what are your next steps? What are things a student should do to ensure they get employed. I am concerned as I will taking huge loans to fund my education. Also I am going to be a full time student. What are my options in this scenario? Will I be able to work and learn in this full time schedule? Any of your classmates facing a similar case?



Yes. You will be able to work but you will most probably need to cut-off your hours. I am a full-time student and I managed fine with working 2 days per week and sometimes I had to work just one day. My next steps are to build some network around career coaching and get some paid hours of coaching. I was thinking of going into recruitment just until I can work full-time as a coach. There are good money in recruitment (if I may be so blunt)



But does this Master teaches you enough about coaching or it is more traditional teaching about Organisational Psychology, human resources... etc etc



It teaches you more than enough about coaching. I promise. The first day I walked in the lecturer said 'Don't let anyone tell you that this is a human resources degree it's so much more than that'



After this master would you feel confident enough to be a coaching psychologist ? And do you receive an ICF certificate or something like that, to be an accredited coach , because as you said, nowadays a lot of people likes to call themselves "coaches" 😊



I recently had a conversation about that with one of my classmates who has been a coach for ten years and he was not impressed with the ICF, eve though he was a member, that's all I know. Yes, I feel more than confident to become a coach, I really feel that it suits me and that I got the best training. I would like to be an accredited coach but I will have to see how it goes.



You mentioned the two days of lectures? So we really only go to uni two full days a week and the rest is self-study? Or how is it organised? In general I am wondering about the workload of this course?



For me it was Term 1: Thursday and Friday 9-4 and Term 2: Thursday 9-4 and Friday 10-5 with 10-15 minute breaks during lectures and a one-hour lunch break inbetween the three-hour lectures. The rest was self-study. Your schedule might differ from mine (disclaimer) 😊



Alright and how much of the self-study do you really need to study approximately?



This is the question I feared most. haha No, look, it depends. Sometimes you will have all of the time in the world other time all will go south and you will have to fight your way to the deadline. But this is all on you. That's the difference with the Master's. I'll tell you that the teachers always separate their lectures in a way that you will cover the material for one essay weeks before another this way you might have to work all through your term but it will be much more organised.