Studying BSc Psychology courses at City

This Online Chat session is for prospective students interested in studying our BSc Psychology, BSc Sociology with Psychology and BSc Criminology with Psychology courses. The session will be run by current students, giving you the opportunity to ask questions about your chosen course and life at City, University of London. As this is a typed chat group session, you will be able to see the answers to questions asked by other applicants.

Thank you for joining us for today’s Online Chat session. This session is for applicants for our BSc Psychology, BSc Sociology with Psychology and BSc Criminology with Psychology courses. This session runs from 16:00 - 17:00 (GMT). This is an open chat session for you to ask any questions you have regarding these courses and life at City, University of London. During the session we might also share videos, polls or documents relating to your course.

To ask a questions, please type it in the chat box. Your question will not post straight away – it will be sent to our Moderators who will type an answer back. Once their answer is complete, it will be published with your question. Please be patient as it might take some time for us to respond to your questions.

Hi! I am a third year BSc (Hons) Criminology and Psychology student here at City, University of London. My favourite element of this course is that learn from two different disciplines, which gives me a different perspective on the world and many of the concepts I have learnt in both Criminology and Psychology. Feel free to ask me any questions about this course!

Hello, I was wondering if the course is heavily based on one discipline than the other or if it’s a equal split between the two? Is there more psychology than criminology vice versa?

Hi! The course is accredited by the British Psychological Society, to get this accreditation it has to cover all of the required core modules. This means rthat the course is very Psychology based but you still learn a lot of Criminology too! For example, in my first year I has only one criminology module, but in my final year there is an equal split of three criminology and three psychology modules.

For the criminology section is more to do with prevention and cause or is there a topic about criminal justice and court related

In my second year I took a Criminal Justice module, this outlined the structure of the criminal justice system and how offenders travel through it. In regard to prevention and cause this is very much an underlying theme thought the course, I am currently studying a Criminal Behaviour module which touches on the causes of criminals. However, many of the modules look at the background of criminology and the key issues involved. It is in the last year that you can choose more focused modules.

Hi! What are the assessment methods used in psychology?

Hi! The assessment methods vary widely and are decided upon by each module leader. From my experience in the first year many assessments included in class tests (multiple choice) and coursework (essays and statistical), with very few exams (essays). In the second year they move away from multiple choice and focus on coursework and exams. By the final year there is much more focus on exams with the exception of a couple of coursework assignments.
hello, i was wondering if the psychology course is science heavy, do you need prior knowledge and will you be disadvantaged?

Hi! There is science included in Psychology (such as biology) but if you have not studied them previously then you will not be at a disadvantage, I took Psychology but no other science at A Level and I am doing great. The course is taught so that even people with no prior Psychological knowledge will do just as well as those that do.

And with the psychology section is it heavily science based or quite varied? For example looking at: psychodynamic, psychopathology, differential association theory etc.?

The Psychology modules are very varied. In the first year you will tackle all of the approaches (such as the psychodynamic approach) on a broad level and this knowledge will be built upon through the course. Psychopathology is focused on in the third year if you choose, I am currently taking a Psychopathology module and will be taking a Neuropsychological Psychopathology module next term. However, this is taught briefly in second year biology too. As mentioned previously many theories are touched upon in the modules and the core knowledge you need for your career will be taught.

Do we have to have any psychology related work experience to get accepted into the course?

You by no means need work experience in Psychology to be accepted on the course, I had none prior to my start date. However, entry is based upon your grades and personal statement, so I can only speak for myself. It is always helpful to obtain experience as it shows motivation and dedication to the discipline.

Hi! I want to do Bsc Psychology with a work placement and wanted to know when do we apply for the work placement and what kind of placements are available for Psychology.

Hi! You apply for a work placement in your second year, so that the placement would be taken between your second and third year of study. In regards to the type of placements available you are required to source and apply for them yourself, with the help of our careers team.

Thank you also how many lectures are you required to go to each week and what are other methods of teaching? Like tutorials and lab sessions?
Please take a look at the webpage for the course, it details the information you need. There are roughly 4 modules each term and these would most likely have one lecture a week. Many of the Criminology modules have seminars along with them and many of the statistics/lab methods lectures have lab classes too, both of which you are expected to attend. You are mostly taught by lectures but there are lab classes and seminars in addition to this.

**Criminology and Psychology**

This interdisciplinary degree is BPS accredited and provides a solid foundation in psychology as well as criminology.

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**Are there any placements offered during the course?**

All students on the course have the option to take a placement year, but you are required to source and apply for them yourself, with the help of our careers team. You can also take part in our Miro-Placement Programme which offers summer placements in various disciplines.

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**Hi, I was wondering does the psychology course entails more lectures or group work? How’s the timetable split between the two?**

Hi! The Psychology course contains both lectures and group work. Group work tends to be used as a way of assessment (for example a group presentation) for a module with lectures. Seminars are held in groups and you are expected to communicate with fellow students, these are usually held after lectures (I have not been in a module that is exclusively seminar based) for some but by no means all modules. Primarily you will be attending lectures though!

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**Thank you, also what are the university facilities like like the library? And is there practice materials when revising for exams?**

The library is a great place to study on your own or as a group, we have both social and silent study spaces/floors. There are PC’s available, as well as spaces to use your laptop. You can book a private room or technobooth to study in too. We have physical copies as well as online copies of some textbooks, but you are also granted access to many journals articles online through the university.

In regard to practice material this is down to the lecturers discretion. However, in my experience most modules have had practice questions for exams. If none are available due to a new format the lecturer may post practice questions on moodle (the university portal), if not you can visit them in their clinic/office hours to request material or ask for revision advice.

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**Also, in regard to picking City as a first option- is there any benefit in terms of the selection process or is it purely based on grades and personal statement?**
Primarily, yes it is based upon your grades and personal statement. However, those who put City as a first option are prioritised for accommodation.

This session has now ended. Thank you so much for joining us today. If you have any further questions, please email onlineevents@city.ac.uk.