

## COURSE SPECIFICATION

Course Aim and Title	MSc Business Psychology
Intermediate Awards Available	Postgraduate Diploma Postgraduate Certificate
Teaching Institution(s)	University of East London
Alternative Teaching Institutions (for local arrangements see final section of this specification)	AKMI Metropolitan College, Greece
UEL Academic School	Psychology
UCAS Code	
Professional Body Accreditation	N/A
Relevant QAA Benchmark Statements	N/A
Additional Versions of this Course	
Date Specification Last Updated	April 2019

### Course Aims and Learning Outcomes

This course is designed to provide the foundation for students wishing to become practising business psychologists. There are two entry points each year (September and January) and the course can be studied full time over three terms or part time over six terms. The course will comprise one 60-credit module and four 30-credit modules.

The overall aim of the course is to:

- Aim one: gain a thorough understanding of the discipline of business psychology
- Aim two: develop awareness and competence in practical and professional practice
- Aim three: gain a thorough knowledge of research methods and data analysis
- Aim four: develop a critical and reflective approach

What you will learn:

#### Knowledge

- A thorough and contemporary knowledge of the discipline of business psychology
- A thorough and contemporary knowledge of research methodologies as applied to real world environments
- A knowledge of and exposure to real organisations with real issues to address

#### Thinking skills

- Developing a critical approach to the evaluation of theories, models etc applied to the world of work

- Seeking evidence based research to support/refute some of the more fanciful claims of certain commentators on the workplace
- Developing confidence in the use of a range of research methodologies

### **Subject-Based Practical skills**

- Designing a selection event
- Presenting complex data to a lay audience
- Undertaking a coaching intervention
- Carrying out an ergonomic analysis of a safety critical system
- Investigating a morale/motivation issue in the workplace
- Qualifying in the use of ability and personality tests

### **Skills for life and work (general skills)**

- Becoming a more ethical practitioner: ethical considerations will underpin all teaching and ethical clearance will be required for the research dissertation
- Becoming a more effective team worker: team working skills will be covered and all coursework assignments will be carried out on small teams
- Becoming more effective in negotiating around sensitive and difficult organisational issues: consultancy skills will be taught and coursework assignments will often include supervised negotiated entry into organisations

### **Learning and Teaching**

#### **Knowledge is developed through:**

Weekend teaching sessions

Independent reading and literature reviews

Discussion and collaboration in study groups

Specialist workshops

Organisational visits and external expert speakers

#### **Thinking skills are developed through:**

Reflecting on the research literature

Reflecting on own organisational experience

The process of conducting desk research for coursework and dissertation

The process of conducting live research and interventions for coursework and dissertation

#### **Practical skills are developed through:**

Independent study and practice

Practical tasks and presentations

Supervision tutorials

The practical interventions required in all coursework

**Skills for life and work (general skills) are developed through:**

The process of conducting live research and interventions for coursework and dissertation

The practical interventions required for all coursework

Working collaboratively with other students on complex and multifaceted coursework assignments

**Assessment**

**Knowledge is assessed by**

Carefully constructed coursework, each piece requiring theoretical knowledge, practical application and critical self-reflection.

An extensive research dissertation requiring multiple skills of consultancy, research, technical knowledge, critical analysis and effective writing skills

**Thinking skills are assessed by**

Critical self-reflections on experiences gained during coursework assignments

**Practical skills are assessed by**

The practical element of all assignments, which requires student groups to undertake an intervention within an organisation, such as designing and running a training course

The research dissertation, which requires students to identify a real organisational or employment issue, to negotiate a contract with the client, and to gain access to staff within the organisation

**Skills for life and work (general skills) are assessed by**

All coursework, which often requires students to work together to complete assignments, sometimes based in external organisations, which reflect the sorts of challenges faced by professionals in the field

The quality of the coursework, and this will depend in great part on how well the student groups work together. Again this interdependence with others reflects how professionals work in the field.

Students with disabilities and/or particular learning needs should discuss assessments with the Course Leader to ensure they are able to fully engage with all assessment within the course.

## Course Structure

All courses are credit-rated to help you to understand the amount and level of study that is needed. One credit is equal to 10 hours of directed study time (this includes everything you do e.g. lecture, seminar and private study).

Credits are assigned to one of 5 levels:

- 3 Equivalent in standard to GCE 'A' level and is intended to prepare students for year one of an undergraduate degree course.
- 4 Equivalent in standard to the first year of a full-time undergraduate degree course.
- 5 Equivalent in standard to the second year of a full-time undergraduate degree course.
- 6 Equivalent in standard to the third year of a full-time undergraduate degree course.
- 7 Equivalent in standard to a Masters degree.

Courses are made up of modules that are each credit weighted.

The module structure of this course is as follows:

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit Weighting	Core/Option	Available by Distance Learning? Y/N
7	GC7412	Health and Wellbeing at Work (Mental Wealth)	30	Core	N
7	GC7413	Assessing and Developing People in the Workplace	30	Optional	N
7	GC7414	Work Design, Organisational Change and Development	30	Optional	N
7	GC7415	Leading, Engaging and Motivating People at Work	30	Optional	N
7	GC7416	Developing as a Researcher Part 1	30	Core	Y
7	GC7417	Developing as a Researcher Part 2	30	Core	Y

*Please note: Optional modules might not run every year, the course team will decide on an annual basis which options will be running, based on student demand and academic factors, in order to create the best learning experience.*

### **Additional Detail About the Course Module Structure**

The teaching year is divided into three terms of roughly equal length. A typical full-time student will study two 30 Credit Modules in each of the Autumn, Spring and Summer Terms. A typical part-time student will study one 30 Credit Module in each term over a two-year period. A core module for a course is a module which a student must have passed (i.e. been awarded credit) in order to achieve the relevant named award. An optional module for a course is a module selected from a range of modules available on the course. All students must complete all core modules. The course comprises three further 30-credit modules (see table above). Students can choose all three offered by the course or may replace one of them with a 30-credit module offered by other courses in the Department of Professional Psychology. The overall credit-rating of this course is 180 M Level credits. If for some reason you are unable to achieve this credit you may be entitled to an intermediate award, the level of the award will depend on the amount of credit you have accumulated. You can read the University Student Policies and Regulations on the UEL website.

### **Typical Duration**

The typical duration of this course is 1 year full-time or 2 years part-time. Entry points are in September and January each year. It is possible to move from full-time to part-time study and vice-versa to accommodate any external factors such as financial constraints or domestic commitments. Some of our students make use of this flexibility and this may impact on the overall duration of their study period.

The time limit for completion of a course is four years after first enrolment

### **Further Information**

More information about this course is available from:

- The UEL web site ([www.uel.ac.uk](http://www.uel.ac.uk))
- The course handbook
- Module study guides

- UEL Manual of General Regulations (available on the UEL website)
- UEL Quality Manual (available on the UEL website)
- School web pages

All UEL courses are subject to thorough course approval procedures before we allow them to commence. We also constantly monitor, review and enhance our courses by listening to student and employer views and the views of external examiners and advisors.

**Additional costs:**

Level A and Level B Certificates in Occupational Testing are offered to course members. The costs of additional delivery needed will be dispersed to those course members who elect to undertake this extra training. The current discounted cost of this four-day course is £984.00 (plus VAT). The current cost without discount is more than £2000 (plus VAT).