Education Undergraduate

BA (Hons) Education with Psychology
Welcome from the Director of Studies

The University of Bath is a top ranking UK university, renowned as a research-led academic institution with a strong focus on high quality education for the ‘real world’. It is the top-ranked University for psychology, with student satisfaction running high at 96% (The Guardian University Guide 2018).

The Department of Education and the Department of Psychology together deliver our three or four year BA (Hons) degree course in Education with Psychology. Both departments are part of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, and collectively their research has been recognised as being of the highest quality and international importance in the UK (REF 2014).

We strive to ensure a continually evolving degree course that takes into account the most recent developments in research, policy and practices. On this degree, through a unique blend of social science units, you will explore how young children and adolescents learn and develop in contemporary British society and across the world.

This brochure has been specifically designed to help you understand the Education with Psychology degree and the options available. You will find details of our excellent placements scheme, supported by an experienced placements team. Our focus on high-quality teaching and a contemporary, relevant curriculum ensures that a degree from Bath is the ideal starting point for a rewarding career or postgraduate study.

We look forward to meeting you!

Dr Sam Carr
Director of Studies,
Department of Education
Why study Education with Psychology at Bath?

The BA (Hons) Education with Psychology is a social science degree that bridges the disciplines of education, psychology and sociology. It explores how young children and adolescents learn and develop in contemporary British society and across the world.

- The degree is delivered by the Department of Education and the Department of Psychology, providing you with a unique blend of social science units that relate to the study of children and young people.
- You will benefit from the expertise of lecturers and researchers with international reputations who ensure a continually developing programme that takes into account the most recent developments in research, policy and practice.
- A professional placement year is offered to you as a distinctive programme option.
- The programme prepares you for a variety of careers relating to children, youth and family, including social services, non-governmental organisations and teaching. Alternatively, you could study for a higher degree and pursue your interests in research.
- At the University of Bath you can enjoy a vibrant, safe campus only one mile from the beautiful World Heritage City.

"I chose to study Education with Psychology because Bath offered the unique blend of units I wanted across a range of disciplines, allowing me to tailor my academic experience to my particular interests. If I applied for university all over again, I would not change a thing. The course has exceeded my expectations in terms of broadening and deepening my academic knowledge base. I have grown in confidence and drive to achieve my goals, and feel more than equipped for today's academic and working world. My experience has made me the person I am today."

Rachel Smith, student
Your degree structure

The Education with Psychology degree course units are drawn from the disciplines of education, psychology and sociology. This means you will study a range of social science content. In years one and two, the units offered generally fall into three broad categories that involve the study of: social sciences and childhood; psychological perspectives; and research methods. The unit content will enable you to develop your knowledge and understanding about both academic and policy related issues. There are also optional units available for study from year two, allowing you to pursue broader academic interests in your degree. In previous years our students chose, for example, units in criminal justice policy, welfare and the state, race and racism, and French as a language option.

In year three you have the opportunity to spend a year on a placement in an organisation associated with children and young people, which can be located in the UK or overseas. The experience will allow you to consider more deeply your interests and preferences so you can plan for future career options. (Please note you can choose to join the three or four year degree course, but you do not need to make the final decision on taking a placement until your second year.)

The final year of the degree provides the opportunity to specialise according to your interests. The units offer a global perspective and focus upon some of the contemporary issues facing children and young people today.

### Education with Psychology degree structure

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For further details on the units available and the most up-to-date information, please visit our website: go.bath.ac.uk/study
Broad unit categories

Social sciences and childhood
In a range of units, you will explore how understandings of children, young people and their lives relate to broader issues in sociology, social theory and applied philosophy, as well as learning how such issues are treated in policy. You will also look at education and schooling in its social, economic and political context. There will be an historical element to this, so you can learn how perspectives have developed and changed over time.

Psychological perspectives
About a quarter of the course is taught by academics from the Department of Psychology. Units are offered that will develop your knowledge and critical understanding of the scientific underpinnings of psychology, the relationship between individual, social and cultural psychological processes, human development from birth to old age, attitude theory and social cognition, and recent research in the field of developmental disorders such as dyslexia and autism.

Research methods
At Bath we place a strong emphasis on helping you to become research-oriented and research-informed students. You will study research methods in each of the first two years, and will spend a considerable proportion of your final year on a research dissertation of your own choosing, with the help of an individual supervisor. Much of the research training in years one and two will be designed to help prepare you for this final year project.

“Studying Education with Psychology is great because it challenges you with new ways of thinking about topics you may not have come across before or thought about. Disciplines covered include psychology, sociology, education, philosophy, history and sometimes even science. Due to the nature of the degree and the many options available to you, two people taking this programme may end up with quite different knowledge-bases. All whilst being in a small intimate group of students and staff who can give you help and support allowing you to achieve high grades.”

Dylan John
current student
Placements

You will have the opportunity to spend up to 12 months on work placement between your second and final year of study. The aim of the placement is to provide undergraduates with valuable real life experience of issues you have been studying. The placement can also help you to decide where you think your career path lies and give you some useful contacts along the way. A year of professional work is highly valued by employers and may give you a strong advantage in the competitive job market when you graduate.

During my placement year I worked as a research assistant at both Michigan State University (MSU) and the University of Oxford. The experience provided many fantastic opportunities to apply the knowledge I had gained during the first two years of my course, as well as acquire various new personal and academic skills. For me, undertaking a placement was an extremely rewarding experience that will continue to be of benefit to me throughout my life and future career – it was challenging and exciting, and something I will never forget! I would strongly recommend doing a placement to all future Education with Psychology students!

Terri Parkin, graduate
Placement with University of Oxford, UK and Michigan State University, USA

Why choose to do a placement?

- The placement is an opportunity to use the theory and practical skills you have developed during your first and second year in a real world context, working alongside education and/or psychology professionals
- It will enable you to learn about an organisation and its area of work, and is an excellent opportunity to discover and evaluate future career paths
- The placement can provide the inspiration on which to base your final year dissertation
- You will acquire transferable skills such as teamwork, oral and written communication, planning, prioritising, problem-solving, decision-making and project management
- A year of professional work is highly valued by employers and may give you an advantage in the competitive job market when you graduate
- Students are sometimes offered permanent graduate jobs by their placement providers.

I completed my placement at Bishopstrow College, an international boarding school in Warminster. The college is for students aged 7-17 who don’t have English as their first language. I worked as a pastoral tutor and sports coach. The placement was fantastic, I worked with a great team of people, and I learned a great deal. I would recommend it to anyone with a passion for working with children, as you get to work closely with them and learn about their culture, as well as help them settle into their life in England.

Rebecca Cox, graduate
Placement with Bishopstrow College, Warminster
What kind of job could I do?

There are placements in a wide range of organisations in the public and private sectors, including teaching, youth work, social services, charities/not for profit sector and research assistantship roles in academic departments. These may be in the UK or overseas. The following are some examples of our recent placement providers:

One25, Bristol
Kaseye Girls Secondary School, Malawi
FELL Research Group, University of Oxford
Kids Company, London
Playbox Theatre, Warwick
School of Experimental Psychology, University of Bristol
City Year UK, London
Headstart Primary School, Johannesburg
Trauma Centre, Bath
Glory School, Nepal
Heritage School, Zimbabwe

During my placement I worked as a Programmes Support volunteer for a charity improving the chances of young people. I supported learners on a one-to-one and group basis, leading group activities and running workshops. The direct contact with young people was my favourite aspect of the work, providing me with opportunities to gain and develop new skills, as well as ideas for my dissertation.

I loved my placement and would recommend doing one to anybody considering the course. Although a placement may be unpaid, it provides invaluable experience and sets you apart from other graduates.

Amber Edwards, student
Placement with Medway Youth Trust

I’m currently working at FranklinCovey, a consultancy firm specialising in behavioural change in the work place. It’s not quite what I imagined myself doing after graduating, but it’s been a very good and extremely interesting challenge. Studying both behavioural and social psychology during my degree has proved hugely valuable and relevant, providing a good foundation of knowledge when discussing and implementing behavioural change.

Additionally, my placement year in Malawi played an integral part in securing my first graduate job. At interview I was required to give a 10 minute presentation on something I felt passionate about. Having my experience in Malawi to draw upon made for quite the presentation and a successful outcome.

Claire Jardine, graduate
Placement with Kaseye Girls Secondary School, Malawi
When do I need to decide?

It is possible to postpone your decision to undertake a placement until the second year. To help you decide, there will be opportunity to see presentations given by students at the Placements Poster Event held on campus in October.

How would I get a placement?

Our Placements Officer and Placements Tutor will support and guide you through the recruitment process to gain your placement:

- During the first and second year you will be given briefings and information on how to make a successful application for a placement and what choices are likely to be available.
- From the beginning of your second year you will start applying for placements. These are advertised online by our Placements Officer. Many students decide to secure their own placements.
- You will receive guidance on CV and letter writing, and interview skills from the Placements Officer and the Careers Service.

What support would I get whilst on placement?

- You will be in regular contact with the Placements Tutor and Placements Officer who will provide you with information, advice and support throughout.
- You will be guided by your Supervisor at the workplace.
- You will have regular contact with other students on placement through a virtual learning environment and a student blog.
- If you are on placement in the UK, a member of our staff (usually the Placements Tutor or Placements Officer) will visit you.

How will my placement be assessed?

- You will need to satisfactorily complete the required number of weeks and submit a number of supporting reports during the placement.
- You will give a poster presentation at the Placements Poster Event.
- You will also need to submit a final report which will be assessed.
- In addition, the Placements Supervisor will write an appraisal of your performance on placement.
- Performance on placement does not count towards your degree classification, but is recognised by an appropriate endorsement on your final degree transcript.

Will I be paid?

- Most placements are unpaid but some offer a small allowance.
- When calculating your financial position you should work on the basis that placements will be unpaid. If you do go abroad please take into account visa costs and travel expenses.
- Students are usually eligible for the full maintenance loan if they are on an unpaid placement in the public or voluntary sector. Students on paid or unpaid placements in the private sector are usually entitled to a reduced non-income assessed maintenance loan.
- You will pay reduced fees for the placement year.
Career opportunities

The BA (Hons) degree in Education with Psychology provides an academic foundation for a career in a range of fields such as education, child and youth research and services, social work, social planning, management and administration. It enables you to work in both government-related and non-government organisations whose concern is the welfare of children, families and young people. It provides an excellent basis for several different forms of professional training, for example, teacher training or social work. Achieving a 2:1 or above will also give you the opportunity to study for a higher degree and pursue an academic career in the social sciences.

“Since graduating, I have worked at Shift Learning, a market research agency specialising in the education sector, helping improve the experience of learners. My degree has helped me no end, giving me a sound research knowledge, a passion for the education sector and a research career in a field I love.

Lucy Wild, graduate
Now Senior Research Executive, Shift Learning

“The interdisciplinary approach of this degree programme allowed me to engage with issues in young people’s lives from educational, psychological, sociological and philosophical perspectives. The fact that we could choose from a range of optional units allowed us all to create our own learning paths, exploring in greater depth disciplines that were of individual interest to us; psychology in my case.

The small class sizes allowed us to engage at a deeper level with our tutors, and gave us a sense of community, which resulted in constant support, making my time here even more enjoyable. I would absolutely recommend this course to those who want a career involving young people, whether it is in teaching, psychology, research or social services (and the list continues). In my case, what I learned during my time at Bath equipped me with the tools and knowledge to succeed in an MSc Psychology of Education degree, allowing me, in turn, to pursue plenty of career options in Psychology.

I have been incredibly fortunate to have taken part in such an exciting programme, to have studied in one of the best universities in the country and to have lived in such a beautiful city. I cannot imagine doing anything differently.”

Joyce Meloni, graduate
Undergraduate Education

Dr Ceri Brown
Ceri is interested in the role of place and space in education, and the schooling experiences of children in poverty in the UK. She has explored the material, cultural, social and mobility ‘binds’ that prevent children from achieving in school. She is also interested in identity construction and the role of friendship in learning. Ceri teaches about educational policy, schooling, education and contemporary issues in childhood and youth.

Dr Sam Carr, Director of Studies
Sam has a particular interest in exploring human relationships and the ways in which they shape (and are shaped by) our experiences of education. His teaching areas include educational psychology, children and technology, youth and deviance, and research methods.

Dr Rita Chawla-Duggan
Rita’s research interests are in learner identity, child poverty and education quality, the social influences on children’s learning, especially fathering, and the study of early years’ education. Rita teaches about the family as educator and designing and analysing curriculum.

Dr Richard Joiner
Richard’s main area of research is the use of digital technology to support learning and has an interest in gender and the use of new digital media. He teaches a range of psychology units.

Dr Lizzi Okpevba Milligan
Lizzi is interested in issues of social justice, equity and educational quality in low income countries. Her current research explores the policy-practice tensions with particular focus on the language in education policy in Rwanda.

Dr Richard Watermeyer, Director of Research
Richard has broad interests in educational policy, practice and pedagogy. His current work has a particular focus on the impacts of marketisation and neoliberalisation on academic practice and identity, and the future role of the public university. Richard is Director of Research within the Department and teaches educational research methods.

Academic staff and affiliates are involved in a diverse range of fields in education and psychology. Here are details of a few staff members to show how our research and teaching interests overlap:
About Bath

Bath is a great place in which to be a student. The University occupies a purpose-built campus which is safe and friendly with a vibrant international community, excellent student services, outstanding arts facilities and a first-class sports complex.

The campus has open views across the beautiful hills of the West Country but is less than 2km from the World Heritage City of Bath - one of the most elegant and interesting cities in the UK, famous for its Roman baths, medieval Abbey, Georgian squares and sweeping crescents. Bath offers some of the best shopping and cultural attractions outside of London. There is a great selection of restaurants, cafés, bars, pubs and clubs. The city has three theatres, cinemas and many fascinating museums and galleries.

Frequent bus services link the campus, city and major student residential areas. Bath is not far from Bristol International Airport, providing rapid access to international destinations. By train, London is approximately 90 minutes and Bristol only 15 minutes away. You are always connected to your work, your home and your social life when studying.

Key Facts

BA (Hons) Education with Psychology
Three years LX5H
BA (Hons) Education with Psychology
Four years with placement LXM3

Assessment Methods
• Coursework
• Dissertation
• Essay
• Oral assessment
• Written examination

Delivery methods
• Lectures
• Seminars

Contact time with staff
In your first year, you should expect to spend 20% of your time in a lecture or seminar setting and 80% of the time in independent study. Your unit option choices will determine your future contact hours.

Entry requirements
Typical offer: ABB

Contact us

admissions@bath.ac.uk
+44 (0)1225 383019

For more information about these degrees, entry requirements, fees and admission, please visit our website:
go.bath.ac.uk/edu-psych
See what our students have to say about studying our degree in Education with Psychology

Getting started with Augmented Reality

1. Download the free Aurasma App from the App store or Google Play store
2. Open your web browser and visit: bit.ly/bathchannel then select Follow
3. In the Aurasma App use the camera view (tap the icon), hold your device over an image when you see this symbol: Watch the video come to life!