

Overview

Programme Code	35435
Programme Title	Doctor of Health Psychology
Awarding Institution	Liverpool John Moores University
Programme Type	Professional Doctorate
Language of Programme	All LJMU programmes are delivered and assessed in English
Programme Leader	Lisa Newson
Link Tutor(s)	

Awards

Award Type	Award Description	Award Learning Outcomes
Target Award	Doctor of Health Psychology - DHP	See Learning Outcomes Below

Alternate Award Names	
------------------------------	--

External Benchmarks

Subject Benchmark Statement	
------------------------------------	--

Accreditation

Programme Accredited by

PSRB Name	Type of Accreditation	Valid From Date	Valid To Date	Additional Notes

British Psychological Society (BPS)	Accredited against the requirements for the Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership (GBC) of the British Psychological Society (BPS).			Graduates from the Doctor in Health Psychology programme are deemed to have met the requirements for Chartered Membership of the Society (CPsychol) and full membership of the Division of Health Psychology
Health and Care Professions Council, the (HCPC)	Approved by the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) for the purpose of providing eligibility to apply for registration with the HCPC as a practitioner psychologist.			

Programme Offering(s)

Mode of Study, Mode of Delivery	Intake Month	Teaching Institution	Programme Length
Full-Time, Face to Face	January	LJMU Taught	27 Months

Aims and Outcomes

Educational Aims of the Programme

The programme aims are to: Train individuals to be eligible to apply for Registered Health Psychologist and Chartered Psychologist status Train individuals who are able to carry out safe independent practice* in health psychology Train individuals who are able to reflect on their practice and produce work at the forefront of health psychology *Practice is defined as demonstration of the following competences: research, teaching & training, consultancy, professional skills and behaviour change interventions.

Learning Outcomes

Code	Description
PLO1	Understand, interpret and contribute to a substantial body of knowledge at the forefront of health psychology which merits publication
PLO2	Demonstrate detailed understanding of a range of techniques of research and intervention applicable to health psychology
PLO3	Conceptualise, design and implement projects to support the generation of new knowledge at the forefront of health psychology

Code	Description
PLO4	Apply high-level skills in critical thinking, reflection and meta-reflection
PLO5	Demonstrate possession of competences in research, teaching and training, consultancy and behaviour change interventions in health psychology
PLO6	Demonstrate possession of generic professional competence befitting a health psychologist and applicable to other, cognate professions
PLO7	Exercise personal responsibility, show autonomous, evidence-based decision-making, and be adaptable in unpredictable and complex situations

Programme Structure

Programme Structure Description

For statutory reasons, the duration of training must be two years full time, and thus the programme is set for two years as a minimum. The programme is 540 credits in total. Trainees enter the programme with a BPS GBC and an accredited MSc in Health Psychology or a BPS Stage One Qualification in Health Psychology with an overall mark equivalent to a merit. On entry students will be awarded advanced standing of 180 credits at Level 7 by credit transfer/RPL. The programme follows the university professional doctorate framework, and consists of three modules intended to map onto the three stages of the university framework. In this documentation these are referred to as 'phases' in order to avoid confusion with the national terminology for health psychology training which uses the term Stage 1 to refer to the MSc component and Stage 2 to refer to the doctoral-level stage. Therefore, in national parlance, this Professional Doctorate is a Stage 2 training course. The three modules are 8001HEAPSY: (30 credits) 8002HEAPSY: (270 credits) 8003HEAPSY: (60 credits) In order to reflect national standards, there is no formal progression from phase to phase or from module to module. All modules are open from enrolment and remain so throughout the training. All modules are CORE. 8001HEAPSY deals with planning training, in line with the national health psychology qualification framework. Training has begun at this stage, but demonstration of early planning is necessary, and this module is assessed within a month of commencement of training. This is in order to demonstrate to the BPS and HCPC that trainees have shown planning and foresight. It is also an essential record of the early stages of training which is used to determine mission creep, and for trainees to have a baseline for reflection in the final module. 8002HEAPSY is open from enrolment and is the module where the different health psychology competences (research, teaching and training, consultancy, professional skills and behaviour change interventions) are captured, each being assessed. Assessments mirror those in the BPS Standards. 8003HEAPSY is a module intended to capture those elements of practice related to professional skills overall and to show reflection and meta-reflection on the training. The viva voce element is tied to this module but is not credit bearing. All assessments are graded on a pass/fail basis, in keeping with all existing programmes in the UK and the BPS Qualification in Health Psychology. The competences are based upon a threshold and so reaching that threshold of competence is a binary distinction.

Programme Structure - 360 credit points	
Level 8 - 360 credit points	
Level 8 Core - 360 credit points	CORE
[MODULE] 8001HEAPSY Planning Training in Health Psychology Approved 2022.01 - 30 credit points	
[MODULE] 8003HEAPSY Reflection in Health Psychology Approved 2022.01 - 60 credit points	
[MODULE] 8002HEAPSY Professional Practice in Health Psychology Approved 2022.01 - 270 credit points	

Module specifications may be accessed at <https://proformas.ljmu.ac.uk/Default.aspx>

Teaching, Learning and Assessment

Workshops, lectures, supervision, placement learning. A range of coursework assessments to include research papers, case studies and reflective commentaries. Viva voce examination. Each assessment is mapped onto learning outcomes attached to specific competences, given that the national curriculum is based upon a competency model. It will be possible for previously experienced trainees to submit a portfolio of evidence, including a mapping document and commentary, which can substitute for certain assessments/competences. This is limited to consultancy, research, teaching and training and behaviour change interventions, and no more than 50% of the assessments within 8002HEAPSY, the practice module, will be accepted via substitute evidence under any circumstances. In addition, work being submitted must relate to skills and knowledge acquired under the supervision of a Health Psychologist or equivalent specialist, and must have been acquired after the trainee obtained eligibility for the Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership from the British Psychological Society (BPS GBC).

Opportunities for work related learning

The entire programme, and others of its ilk, is predicated upon work-based learning in placement/s supplemented by supervision and taught elements. The majority of time is spent in placement (employment or voluntary work) which is set up by the trainee rather than the course team (who assess each proposed placement against criteria as to their relevance and levelness). The university's policies on placement learning will apply except if professional body requirements are different. Normally professional body and competent authority requirements are more detailed. Placements are a prerequisite for being accepted onto the course, although candidates do not have to have a full, two-year placement established at the outset, rather a minimum of one year. This reflects the reality of the availability of longer-term posts. Placements can be in a variety of areas, including the NHS, university departments, the Department of Health, NICE, health-related charities, practices of individual practitioners, and so on. They must allow the trainee enough autonomy that they can develop elements of their workstream and provide evidence for the use of health psychology models and approaches and demonstrate that they have met the requirements for each of the national curriculum competences at the appropriate level. Trainees can have as many placements as necessary, although achieving the competences through one or two placements is strongly encouraged. In each placement there is a placement contact, usually the line manager, who works with the Programme Team to ensure that the work is being conducted satisfactorily. They have no part in the assessment, however. Lines of reporting are in place to ensure that if there are problems in the workplace the Programme Team is notified, since Fitness to Practise procedures might need to be invoked. Placement visits, usually on site, occur three times in the course of each individual's training. Trainees are registered on a programme that could bring them into contact with children and/or vulnerable adults. Therefore they are required to apply for a check with the Disclosure and Barring Service through the University. The Faculty has a Criminal Convictions Panel, with external members, at which any trainee whose check shows evidence of a Police record is considered in the context of their suitability to remain on their chosen course of study. Details of application will be made available to trainees during the interview process. The programme is built to follow the LJMU Code of Practice for Placement Learning with note of the following caveat from the code: In some schools, professional considerations and PSRB requirements may involve a set of requirements and/or procedures over and above those outlined in this Code. In such cases, the requirements of the PSRB must always be met. This Code of Practice provides the minimum requirements for LJMU management of placement learning.

Entry Requirements

Type	Description
------	-------------

Alternative qualifications considered	<p>The following criteria are essential: BPS GBC A BPS accredited MSc Health Psychology, normally at least at merit level A pre-arranged work placement of at least one year which can be evidenced at interview. This is normally full-time employment, or voluntary work, or a combination of both. A mixture of part-time roles can be acceptable, provided that the total amount of work across all placements/employment is in line with the enrolment status of the trainee, i.e. full or part-time. Placements are not normally arranged by the university, but by the trainee. Evidence of employer support for the programme of study, to be evidenced at interview Successful performance at interview Acceptable references from three sources Applicants whose graduate study was undertaken in languages other than English will need to demonstrate English language proficiency to the level of an IELTS overall score of 7 with no element below 6.5</p>
---------------------------------------	--

Extra Entry Requirements