

Overview

Programme Code	36012
Programme Title	Brain and Behaviour
Awarding Institution	Liverpool John Moores University
Programme Type	Masters
Language of Programme	All LJMU programmes are delivered and assessed in English
Programme Leader	Susannah Walker
Link Tutor(s)	

Awards

Award Type	Award Description	Award Learning Outcomes
Target Award	Master of Science - MS	See Learning Outcomes Below
Alternative Exit	Postgraduate Diploma - PD	Take an innovative and informed position in relation to the study of Brain and Behaviour. Devise and synthesise appropriate research methodologies as well as plan relevant research projects. Demonstrate creativity in critical analysis, reflection and communication skills in a wide range of topics associated with the study of Brain and Behaviour

Alternate Award Names	
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External Benchmarks

Subject Benchmark Statement	
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Programme Offering(s)

Mode of Study, Mode of Delivery	Intake Month	Teaching Institution	Programme Length
Full-Time, Face to Face	September	LJMU Taught	1 Years

Aims and Outcomes

Educational Aims of the Programme

The overall aim of the programme is to provide postgraduate students with advanced knowledge of the neurobiological and neurophysiological mechanisms underpinning affect, cognition & behaviour, in health and disease, equipping them with relevant and up-to-date practical laboratory, quantitative and analytical skills. Specific aims of the programme are: 1) To achieve detailed understanding of the neurobiological mechanisms that underlie affect, cognition and behaviour in health and disease 2) To develop and reinforce analytical, quantitative and critical thinking skills that are essential for neuroscientific research, and are increasingly demanded by employers. 3) To be able to operate equipment and conduct laboratory work effectively. 4) To be able to design and conduct research independently, attending at all aspects of scientific work (from planning to ethics, to data collection and analysis, to presentation). 5) To develop communication skills in a professional manner, in a variety of contexts and for a range of audiences. 6) To enhance team work, learning, reflective and problem solving abilities.

Learning Outcomes

Code	Description
PLO1	Search, review, critically appraise and formulate informed opinions based on historic and recent literature relevant to topics in brain & behaviour (neurophysiology, neuroendocrinology, psychology & neuroscience, etc.).
PLO2	Explain and critically evaluate methodological tools, technologies and approaches to the study of brain and behaviour
PLO3	Conduct wet laboratory analysis of biological samples accurately and efficiently.
PLO4	Identify and apply the appropriate computational methods and statistical tests to analyse datasets.
PLO5	Analyse, interpret and discuss experimental data correctly.
PLO6	Design, plan and implement a research study independently, considering ethical and methodological aspects, costs, and pathways to impact.
PLO7	Develop time management and problem-solving skills.
PLO8	Communicate research in an effective, professional manner for both academic and non-academic audiences.

Programme Structure

Programme Structure Description

Students must have attained at least 120 credits to be awarded a Postgraduate Diploma and at least 60 credits to be awarded a Postgraduate Certificate.

Programme Structure - 180 credit points	
Level 7 - 180 credit points	
Level 7 Core - 180 credit points	CORE
[MODULE] 7100BRAIN Somatosensory Systems Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 7101BRAIN Current Methods in Brain and Behaviour Approved 2022.02 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 7102BRAIN Cognitive Neuroscience Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 7103BRAIN Applied Neuroscience Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 7104BRAIN Neuroendocrinology Approved 2022.01 - 20 credit points	
[MODULE] 7105BRAIN Research Project Approved 2022.01 - 60 credit points	
[MODULE] 7106BRAIN Research Methods and Statistics Approved 2022.04 - 20 credit points	
Level 7 Optional - No credit points	OPTIONAL

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

Teaching, Learning and Assessment

Learning in the proposed programme is strongly research-/scholar-led and student-led. The course will be delivered using a wide range of methods, in order to help students develop a broad range of skills. Most modules include lectures to guide students in their understanding of complex concepts. Students will further their knowledge through journal club sessions led by themselves, literature searches, workshops, problem-based learning and case studies. Practical sessions will constitute a substantial proportion of the contact hours in most modules; this includes psychology and life-sciences lab practical sessions and computer-based practical sessions. In addition, this programme emphasises transferable skills, such as critical thinking, communication, and problem-solving skills, which are present in a wide range of learning activities that involve critical analysis of research outputs, communication of scientific information in a variety of contexts, and problem-based learning (including the research project). Assessment Scientific knowledge will be assessed through exams, poster presentations, oral presentations, practical reports, research proposals, communication of scientific papers to a wider audience (in the form of podcasts, vlog posts), and the project write-up. An emphasis is placed on assessments that reflect real world research activities that students will use in their future careers. Specific practical skills will be assessed by means of research proposals and practical reports in the corresponding modules, programming of a behavioural task and production of an accompanying research protocol, one exam on statistics, and the completion of their research project, analysis and reporting of the results. Transferable skills will be evaluated through, poster presentations, oral presentations in the style of a conference, and the use of podcasts / vlog posts; critical thinking will be considered in all assessments without exception.

Opportunities for work related learning

The teaching in the programme is strongly focused on practical training and research skills, so that students will acquire first hand experience of equipment, software and techniques that are currently used in research, industry and clinical settings.

Entry Requirements

Type	Description
Alternative qualifications considered	Applicants must hold an honours degree (2:2 or above) in a relevant subject, i.e. BSc Psychology, Biology, Neurobiology or Zoology, or related science disciplines such as Biological Sciences, Neuroscience, or Pharmacology. Applicants who do not hold a BSc degree but have demonstrable relevant qualifications and/or professional experience will be considered individually based on merits such as publications, scientific communications, or CPD activities.
Other international requirements	International students must hold an equivalent qualification and demonstrate competency in English, with IELTS at 6.5 (with 5.5 or higher in each component), or equivalent.

Extra Entry Requirements