

BSc (Hons) Psychology (F/T) - SH 341

1 Context and Objectives

Mauritius obtained independence in 1968 and became a Republic in 1992. Prior to this, it was a Dutch, French and English colony. Slaves were brought in from East Africa and Madagascar. Following abolition of slavery, indentured laborers were brought in from India. The population is diverse in terms of racial, cultural and religious groups. Economically, Mauritius is cited as a success story in the African continent. The economic development of Mauritius is often accounted for by the resiliency and diversity of its people, which is considered one of its main asset and this diversity is incorporated in its national self-image.

Psychology, as a field of study, helps in understanding human cognition and behavior, and managing human diversity.

At the University of Mauritius, we offer you a degree that provides a thorough grounding in the theories, practice and research methods of psychology. In the first two years, you will be introduced to the main areas of Psychology: Developmental Psychology, Cognitive Psychology, Biological Bases of Behaviour, Social Psychology, Counselling, and Research Methods. In your final year, you will study more specialised topics in Psychology and will have to submit a dissertation based on an original piece of research. The latter is aimed to help you develop your research skills and apply the theories and methodologies learnt to specific social contexts.

The objectives of the programme is to provide:

- In-depth knowledge of Psychology as a science that students understand from a theoretical and applied perspective.
- A sound, critical, scientific understanding of historical and contemporary issues and theoretical approaches to studying the mind, brain, behaviour and experience, and of the complex interactions between these.
- Ability to critically evaluate and synthesise psychological concepts, theory and research findings from multiple theoretical, ethical, cultural and global perspectives.
- Understanding of the applications of psychological knowledge and interventions and your creativity in real-world problem solving.
- Research skills in employing a range of quantitative and qualitative research methods, statistical analysis and measurement techniques, culminating in the ability to conduct research independently.
- A broad general education that is appreciated by employers in a number of professions requiring social analysis in a changing society, both in the public and private sector.
- The first step to further studies at post graduate level and beyond either locally or abroad.

2 Learning Outcomes

Over the course of this programme, students are expected to be able to:

- Define, discuss and demonstrate an understanding of psychological concepts and theories while recognizing the diversity of psychological functioning and the global and socio-cultural context of human life.
- Critically evaluate psychological theories in terms of their relevance and validity.
- Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of a range of qualitative and quantitative research methodologies, and competence in working independently to design, conduct and report an empirical research project complying with established ethical standards.
- Demonstrate a sound and critical understanding of the applications of psychology and approach problem-solving in systematic, innovative and creative ways to explain and devise solutions to a range of real-world problems.

3 Teaching and Learning Methods

The BSc (Hons) Psychology programme is designed to reflect the teaching and learning values we promote at the University of Mauritius. These include:

- Placing our students at the centre of our activities by providing a flexible, relevant and up-to-date curriculum supported by quality teaching and learning.
- Providing a supportive environment that would prepare students for employment and life.
- Ensuring that research and professional practice informs all our teaching.

The course is designed to support your development and progression as independent learners, harnessing your skills and competencies during your time at the university. The key distinguishing features of the psychology course as well as the teaching and learning approaches are highlighted in the curriculum. The concepts, topics and theories are mapped to learning outcomes.

The focus is on psychology-specific skills that are valued by employers, such as research and data analysis, effective planning, problem solving, critical analysis, interpersonal skills, team work, and communication skills. To this end, we use a variety of methods to teach such as formal lectures, discussions, case studies, critique of research articles, individual and group work and presentations. Additionally, students are encouraged to join the Psychological Society at the university. This gives them an opportunity to organize activities, hold talks on important societal issues, and create awareness about psychological health and well-being.

4 Entry Requirements

General

In accordance with the University General Entry Requirements for admission to undergraduate Programmes.

Programme (Specific)

Credits in English and Mathematics at GCE 'O' Level and Any 2 'A' Levels

5 Programme Duration

	Normal (Years)	Maximum (Years)
Degree:	3	5

6 Minimum LCCS Credits Required (LCCS Credits)

For Degree Award

CORE	ELECTIVE	DISSERTATION	IT MODULE	TOTAL
156	18	20	6	200

-For each Academic Year

Year 1 = 66 LCCS Credits

Year 2 = 66 LCCS Credits

Year 3 = 68 LCCS Credits

Total = 200 LCCS Credits

7 Assessment and Deadlines

Each module can either be taught in one semester only (semester module) or throughout the two semesters (yearly module).

Each module will be assessed over 100 marks with details as follows (unless otherwise specified)

Assessment will be based on a written examination of 2 to 3-hour duration (normally a paper of 2 hour duration for modules carrying less or equal to 6 LCCS credits, and 3 hour paper for modules carrying 12 LCCS credits) and on continuous assessment done during the semester or year.

The examination duration for modules assessed by 50% continuous assessment may differ from the above.

Written examinations for all modules will be carried out at the end of the academic year except for semester modules (unless otherwise stated). Relevant information will be provided to the students prior to delivery of the modules.

The continuous assessment will count for 40 - 50% of the overall percentage mark of the module, except for a Programme where the structure makes for other specific provision(s).

Continuous assessment may be based on laboratory work, seminars and/or assignments and should include at least 1 class test. Special examinations (e.g. class tests) will be arranged at the end of semester 1 or semester 2 for exchange students who have registered only for one semester. In case of yearly modules, credits will be assigned on a pro-rata basis.

8 List of Modules

LIST OF MODULES Code Core	Module NAME	Hrs/ WK L + P	LCCS Credits
PSYC 1003Y(3)	Cognitive Psychology	3+0	12
PSYC 1004Y(3)	Developmental Psychology	3+0	12
PSYC 1007Y(3)	Biological Bases of Behaviour	3+0	12
PSYC 1102(1)	Approaches to Psychology	3+0	6
PSYC 1009Y(1)	Introduction to Counselling	3+0	6
STAT 1101(1)	Statistics for Social Science	3+0	6
ILT 1010e(1)	Digital Literacy	DE	6
PSYC 2001Y(3)R	Research Methods*	3+0	12
PSYC 2002Y(3)	Social Psychology	3+0	12
PSYC 2003Y(3)	Personality Theories	1½+0	6
PSYC 2106(3)	Advanced Developmental Psychology	3+0	6
PSYC 2112(3)	Advanced Cognitive Psychology	3+0	6
STAT 2201(3)	Inferential Statistics in Psychology	3+0	6
PSYC 2007Y(3)	Advanced Counselling	1½+0	6
PSYC 2108(3)	Psychological Testing	3+0	6
PSYC 2004Y(3)	Industrial/Organisational Psychology	3+0	12
PSYC 3001Y(5)	Educational Psychology	3+0	12
PSYC 3006Y(5)	Clinical Psychology	3+0	12
PSYC 3203(5)	Identity and inter-group relations	3+0	6
PSYC 3000(5)	Dissertation	-	20
ELECTIVES			
SOCI 1101(1)	Understanding Society	DE	6
COMS 1010	Communication Skills	DE	6
PSYC 2109(3)	Health Psychology	3+0	6
LAW4103 (1)	Criminology	3+0	6
PSYC 2111(3)	Children with special needs	3+0	6
PSYC 3106(5)	Family therapy	3+0	6
PSYC 3107(5)	Forensic psychology	3+0	6

9 Programme Plan

YEAR 1

Core Modules	Module Name	Hrs/ Wk L + P	LCCS credits
PSYC 1003Y(3)	Cognitive Psychology	3+0	12
PSYC 1004Y(3)	Developmental Psychology	3+0	12
PSYC 1007Y(3)	Biological Bases of Behaviour	3+0	12
PSYC 1102(1)	Approaches to Psychology ¹	3+0	6
PSYC 1009Y(1)	Introduction to Counselling	3+0	6
STAT 1101(1)	Statistics for Social Science ¹	3+0	6
ILT 1010e(1)	Digital Literacy ²	DE	6
ELECTIVES (SELECT ANY ONE)			
LAW 4103 (1)	Criminology ¹	3+0	6
SOCI 1101(1)	Understanding Society ¹	DE	6
COMS 1010(1)	Communication Skills ¹	DE	6
Sub Total = 66			

YEAR 2

Core Modules	Module Name	Hrs/ Wk L + P	LCCS credits
PSYC 2001Y(3)R	Research Methods*	3+0	12
PSYC 2002Y(3)	Social Psychology	3+0	12
PSYC 2003Y(3)	Personality Theories	1½+0	6
PSYC 2007Y(3)	Advanced Counselling	1½+0	6
PSYC 2108(3)	Psychological Testing ¹	3+0	6
PSYC 2107(3)	Advanced Developmental Psychology ¹	3+0	6
PSYC 2112(3)	Advanced Cognitive Psychology ¹	3+0	6
STAT 2201(3)	Inferential Statistics in Psychology ²	3+0	6
ELECTIVES (SELECT ANY ONE)			
PSYC 2109(3)	Health Psychology ¹	3+0	6
PSYC 2111(3)	Children with special needs ¹	3+0	6
Sub Total = 66			

YEAR 3

Core Modules	Module Name	Hrs/ Wk L + P	LCCS credits
PSYC 3001Y(5)	Educational Psychology	3+0	12
PSYC 3006Y(5)	Clinical Psychology	3+0	12
PSYC 2004Y(5)	Industrial/Organizational Psychology	3+0	12
PSYC 3203(5)	Identity and inter-group relations ²	3+0	6
PSYC 3000(5)	Dissertation	-	20
ELECTIVES (SELECT ANY ONE)			
PSYC 3106(5)	Family therapy ¹	3+0	6
PSYC 3107(5)	Forensic psychology ¹	3+0	6
		Sub Total = 68	
		Grand Total = 200	

Note:

(1) ¹ - to be run and examined in semester 1

(2) ² - to be run and examined in semester 2

(3) * - Module assessed 50% by continuous assessment.

(4) An elective will only be offered subject to availability of resources and critical mass.

The Department reserves the right to offer additional electives.