Ollscoil na Gaillimhe
University of Galway

Coláiste na nDán, na nEolaíochtaí Sóisialta & an Léinn Cheiltigh

College of Arts, Social Sciences & Celtic Studies

# *Psychology*

University of Galway.ie

# Subject Overview

Psychology is the scientific study of behaviour and mental processes, and includes individual and social, human and animal, basic and applied aspects. Most people find psychology intrinsically interesting. Even a little knowledge of psychology is useful in most career paths. Students might consider studying for a psychology degree if interested in becoming a professional psychologist in applied areas such as clinical psychology, the health services, education or industry; teaching and carrying out psychological research in a university or other research centre; or improving their general education by studying an interesting and useful discipline with careers of a more general type in mind, for example, the media, information technology or management.

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| **Subject Name:** | Psychology |
| **Course Code:** | GY101 |
| **CAO Entry Points 2026:** | 337 |
| **Duration:** | 3 Years BA / 4 Years BA (International) |
| **Entry Requirements:** | Minimum Grade H5 in two subjects and passes in four other subjects at O6/H7 in the Leaving Certificate, including Irish, English, another language and three other subjects recognised for entry purposes. |

# Course Outline

## First Year

During the First Year of the course, you will be introduced to several core areas of Psychology, including, for example:

- Cognitive Psychology (the study of mental processes)
- Developmental Psychology (how our psychology changes across the lifespan)
- Social Psychology (the influence of other people on our behaviour)
- Methods of Psychological Research (used to study human behaviour systematically)

## Second and Final Year

In **Second and Final Year** you will complete further study in the pure and applied fields of psychology, including:

- Abnormal, Forensic and Clinical Psychology • Cognitive Psychology
- Developmental Psychology • Biological Psychology
- Health and Social Psychology • Research Methods in Psychology

## Note

There are 15 places available for eligible students on GY101 BA (Joint Honours) and GY129 BA (Global Experience) inclusive to transfer into the second year of the BSc (Psychology) programme. There are 100 places for students entering Psychological Studies in Second Year i.e. continuing with Psychological Studies as one of their subjects to degree level. All places will be decided on academic merit in that discipline, based on the results of the first sitting (Semester 1 and Semester 2) of the First Arts Examination in the student's first year of attendance, where the student must have passed the First Arts examination outright by achieving an average of 40% or higher in each of their subjects.

## Career Opportunities

Apart from further training in psychology, our past graduates have taken up posts in a range of settings including information technology (IT) (e.g., cyber security), marketing, public relations, human resources, journalism, social work and occupational therapy.

## Study Abroad

Students will have the option (subject to academic performance and availability of places) to spend up to a year abroad studying Psychology, as part of the joint-honours degree programme, in another university.

## Further Study

The completion of the one-year Higher Diploma in Arts (Psychology Conversion) following the BA (Joint Honours) brings you to the same level as those completing the denominated BSc (Psychology) (GY104). Entry to the Higher Diploma in Psychology
(Conversion) is by competitive selection. This qualification is accredited by the professional body and enables you to pursue training that can allow you to practise as a psychologist in the future—for example, as a clinical, educational or health psychologist.

You will have an opportunity to develop insights into both yourself and those around you. This will promote your personal development and your understanding of the human condition.

The systematic approach to problem-solving that you acquire during the training will stand to you in your chosen career and means that graduates of Psychology are highly sought after across a range of sectors.

Graduates of our Joint-Honours offering can apply to complete the Higher Diploma in Psychology (Conversion), which confers eligibility for graduate membership of the Psychological Society of Ireland, the professional body for psychologists in Ireland.

## What our students say:

*"I thoroughly enjoyed my experience studying Psychology as part of the joint-honours programme. It has opened doors for me and allowed me to continue on and complete the HDip in Psychology (Conversion) and the MSc in Health Psychology. I look forward to a rewarding career in the field thanks to this programme."*

Louise O'Grady, University of Galway BA Graduate

### Find Out More

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