

Programme change proposals

At York each degree programme has its own, tailored set of distinctive learning outcomes. These won't change, no matter what your location or mode of delivery, and our academics are working hard to ensure your programmes and modules next year continue to inspire and motivate you.

Your health and safety is our number one priority and in light of the Covid-19 pandemic we have needed to make changes to some of your programmes of study for the coming academic year. This document summarises the changes that are proposed.

Programmes	Year 1 of the BSc in Psychology
	Year 1 of the MSci in Psychology

Summary of Overall Plans

In line with most universities, we have had to change how we teach in the coming year. All the lecture content for our courses will be online because of the restrictions of social distancing. We developed a new way to present the material that is suited to online learning. Each Module will have a set day within the week where the recordings of lecture content will be released at 9 am. The lecture content will be split into 10-15 min videos especially recorded for this year by the lecturers. We have found that students feel that they learn better with shorter blocks of information rather than long one-hour recordings. There will also be online activities based on the lecture material you'll need to work on during the day. The aim of the activity is to extend your knowledge and understanding of the material. Later each day there will be a recorded online live session with the lecturer which will be in your timetable. Within this session, the lecturer will go over the activity and then answer any questions about the other content on the module.

In Year 1 to support the lectures, you will have workshop classes with a member of staff. These classes will be held as in-class face to face sessions. The role of these classes is to extend and deepen your knowledge and understanding of the course material. There will also be in-class sessions in the research methods course to help you develop your research skills. Any face to face contact will be in line with the government guideline on social distancing.

We are aware that some of you will be learning at a distance for good reason and will not be able to come to class. So the main content of the face to face sessions will be recorded. You will also be able to discuss the content on online discussion boards with the tutors so that you can get answers to any questions and get your opinions across. We will also organise live online support sessions for the face to face session where you can ask questions live. We aim to make sure that next year is a great experience for all our students

In terms of assessment, you will do the same essays, reports and other assessments as you would have done before. The only change will be that your exams will be online, instead of in a large hall.

Programme Structures

There will be no major structural modifications to the BSc/MSci Psychology degree in year 1 for the academic term 2020-21. That is, no modules have been withdrawn and no modules have been altered such that credit loadings have been changed. Thus, the structure of the programme remains as specified (see here for BSc and here for MSci)

Further changes or information of note

It needs to be made clear that the changes above should have no impact on the accreditation of the degree by the British Psychological Society. The core material you will cover and skills that you develop over the next year are in line with the BPS guidelines.