

| Course brochure

100% online

PSYCHOLOGY & NEUROSCIENCE OF MENTAL HEALTH

MSc | PG Dip | PG Cert

“My life goal has always been to **make a difference. I knew I would make my difference in psychology, and I have followed that pathway ever since.”**

Ella Mitchell
Psychology & Neuroscience of Mental Health Alumni

Top 10 UK university

(Times Higher Education World University Rankings, 2022).



Study with a world-leading university

Founded in 1829, King's College London is one of the top 10 universities in the UK (Times Higher Education World University Rankings, 2022) and is recognised internationally for excellence. Attracting some of the best students from across the globe, King's has a distinguished reputation in neuroscience, psychiatry and psychology.

Psychology & Neuroscience of Mental Health MSc/PG Dip/PG Cert provides a comprehensive and integrated exploration of our current understanding of the psychological and neuroscientific basis of mental health. It draws upon the wealth of research, education, clinical expertise and experience across the world-renowned Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology & Neuroscience (IoPPN) at King's College London.

This online master's programme considers the biological, psychological and socio-environmental factors important for the development and maintenance of mental health.

IoPPN teaching staff are senior scientists, clinicians and educators. Scientists will showcase cutting-edge research into the causes and treatment of mental health problems; clinicians will be presenting current best practice in treatment approaches, and you'll be supported by a team of educators with vast experience of designing and delivering scientific, clinical and applied education and training.

Who's the course for?

This course will suit you if you're interested in understanding the complexities of mental health and have a desire to help find solutions and treatment. Knowledge gained from the course will benefit you if you're looking to become a graduate research worker or wish to go into further education at PhD level. For those already working clinically in the field of mental health, this course will deepen your understanding in the area.

The knowledge and skills developed on this course are valuable for several career paths, including mental health service, education and research.

Learning online with King's allows you to:

- Access the same exceptional teaching as students on campus, delivered by the same internationally renowned academics.
- Get the support you need from your teaching fellow who'll work closely with you.
- Build a strong online community alongside your fellow students.
- Benefit from the flexibility offered by online learning, so you can advance your education without taking a break from work or other commitments.

Time commitment

Whilst your academic background and familiarity with the topic of each module will have a bearing on your total study time, you should expect to commit roughly 21-25 hours a week to your studies.

Careers service

At King's, we're dedicated to providing you with the tools and platforms you need to step into flourishing careers. Our Careers Service is open to all students, offering careers guidance and industry connections via our CareerConnect portal. Search for jobs, connect with employers and get inside-industry advice from our top-tier research staff.

Career outcomes

This course will develop your understanding of both psychology and neuroscience and their connection to mental health. It'll give you the opportunity to develop a career in several sectors.

Together with other qualifications and experience, it will help you succeed in a range of careers, including:

- Community Care Worker
- Counsellor
- Mental Health Worker
- Occupational Therapist
- Special Education Needs Teacher



Study with a world-leading faculty, 100% online

The Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology & Neuroscience (IoPPN) is the largest academic community in Europe devoted to the study and prevention of mental health problems. The IoPPN attracts the very best candidates from around the world, and you'll benefit from unrivalled learning opportunities underpinned by strong partnerships with industry and healthcare organisations such as NHS Trusts.

2nd

in the world for
Psychology & Psychiatry
(US News, Best Global Universities 2023).

4th

in the world for highly
cited neuroscience outputs
(SciVal 2021).



Learn from world-leading academics

Dr Mark Kennedy
Programme Director

Dr Mark Kennedy is a Senior Lecturer and the Programme Lead of the Psychology & Neuroscience of Mental Health MSc. He leads modules on Psychological Foundations of Mental Health, Child and Adolescent Mental Health and Mindfulness. His main areas of research are developmental psychology and mental health. His PhD was in attachment theory; specifically the role of fathers, siblings and shared parenting. Since then, he has worked on the English and Romanian Adoptees study; investigating the long term impact of early institutional deprivation. Core areas of interest include early adversity, neurodevelopmental conditions (ADHD, autistic symptoms and disinhibited social engagement disorder), mental health (e.g., depression and anxiety), cognition, and personality functioning. He has published in top academic journals such as The Lancet, The Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry, The British Journal of Psychiatry, and Computers and Education. Methodologically, he specialises in mixed methods research and the integration of qualitative and quantitative analysis techniques.

Studying Psychology & Neuroscience of Mental Health

The course

Our leading academics bring practical insights and real research to our online modules to help you understand theory in the context of real-world scenarios. Benefit from the flexibility of a rotating module system and six enrolment entry points throughout the year. Our online learning experience has been specifically designed so you can fit your studies around your work and home life without taking a career break.

Duration:

MSc:

Minimum 2 years, maximum 6 years

PG Dip:

Minimum 16 months, maximum 4 years

PG Cert:

Minimum 8 months, maximum 3 years

King’s College London reviews the modules offered on a regular basis. As a result, modules offered may change. We suggest you keep an eye on the course finder on our website for updates.

MSc - (11 modules, 180 credits)

You're required to take:
Biological Foundations of Mental Health (15 credits)
Techniques in Neuroscience (15 credits)
Psychological Foundations of Mental Health (15 credits)
Mental Health in the Community (15 credits)
Research Skills: From Reviewing and Critical Analysis to Research Ethics (15 credits)
Research Skills: From Methods and Procedures to Analysis and Reporting (15 credits)
Independent Synoptic Project (30 credits)
You're also required to take four of the following modules:
Social, Genetic and Environmental Basis of Mental Health (15 credits)
Psychology & Neuroscience of Affective Disorders (15 credits)
Psychology & Neuroscience of Psychosis (15 credits)
Pharmacotherapies in Mental Health (15 credits)
Neuroimaging in Mental Health (15 credits)
Neuroscience in Society (15 credits)
Psychology & Neuroscience of Addiction (15 credits)
Global Mental Health (15 credits)
Mindfulness: Neuroscience & Application (15 credits)
Child & Adolescent Mental Health: Child Development (15 credits)

PG Dip - (eight modules, 120 credits)

You're required to take:
Biological Foundations of Mental Health (15 credits)
Techniques in Neuroscience (15 credits)
Psychological Foundations of Mental Health (15 credits)
Mental Health in the Community (15 credits)
You're also required to take four of the following modules:
Social, Genetic and Environmental Basis of Mental Health (15 credits)
Psychology & Neuroscience of Affective Disorders (15 credits)
Psychology & Neuroscience of Psychosis (15 credits)
Pharmacotherapies in Mental Health (15 credits)
Neuroimaging in Mental Health (15 credits)
Neuroscience in Society (15 credits)
Psychology & Neuroscience of Addiction (15 credits)
Global Mental Health (15 credits)
Mindfulness: Neuroscience & Application (15 credits)
Child & Adolescent Mental Health: Child Development (15 credits)

PG Cert - (four modules, 60 credits)

You're required to take:
Biological Foundations of Mental Health (15 credits)
Techniques in Neuroscience (15 credits)
Psychological Foundations of Mental Health (15 credits)
Mental Health in the Community (15 credits)

Accreditation

We’ve carefully made the decision to not seek British Psychological Society (BPS) accreditation for this online programme. Without it, we can provide a diverse and varied programme that incorporates a range of unique modules suitable for a variety of job outcomes.

Please note

Students are not allowed to take more than one module at any given time, and coursework extensions, assessments deferrals and reassessments may incur a delay in progression.

Entry dates

There are six intakes per year: **January, March, May, June, September and October**. Please visit our website or speak to an Enrolment Advisor for application deadlines.

Entry requirements

Standard

A 2:2 honours degree (or above) in any subject area or international equivalent. Degree certificates or transcripts will be required when submitting the application. Those with a 2:2 will also need to submit a personal statement.

Please note that although we welcome students without a scientific background to our programme, all students are expected to fully engage and evaluate scientific literature from the start of the programme. For some students, this may impact the time required for individual study.

Non-standard

Applications for candidates who fall outside of the standard entry requirements are still considered and are assessed on a case-by-case basis – this includes candidates applying for the course based on professional experience/qualifications (providing qualifications show evidence of higher learning). Non-standard applications will need to be supported by degree certificates or transcripts (where relevant), as well as a CV and personal statement. An academic or professional reference letter evidencing the student's ability to study at master's level will also be required.

Disability support

At King's, our Disability Support Team offers information, advice and guidance to prospective and current students with disabilities. When we refer to the term 'disability' we also include long-term medical or mental health conditions and Specific Learning Difficulties. If you require disability support, please [email us](#) as soon as possible. Further information can be found on our [website](#).

Course fees

Tuition fees are charged on a modular basis, details of which are available on the course page of our website. When you receive an offer for this course, you'll be required to pay a non-refundable deposit to secure your place, and the deposit will be credited towards your total fee payment. Fees are due prior to commencement of each module by specific deadlines. Tuition fees may be subject to an annual increase each academic year in line with King's College London's terms and conditions. Each increase comes into effect in September of each year. Please visit the Fees and funding section of our website for more information.

Regulating body

King's College is regulated by the Higher Education Funding Council for England.

Application process

Applications must be made online using King's online application portal and a fee applies. You'll need to submit degree certificates and all other documents required for your application before we can process it. International education documents will need to be translated to English by an official translator before submission. Once submitted, your application will be assessed by our admissions team. Please speak with an Enrolment Advisor for further information or help.

Further considerations

- **Active and engaged learning:** You'll need to be fully engaged during this programme by interacting, networking and actively learning through forums and discussions with peers.
- **Time commitment:** Whilst your academic background and familiarity with the topic of each module will have a bearing on your total study time, you should expect to commit roughly 21-25 hours a week to your studies.
- **Study intensity and workload:** Whilst this is a part-time course, you'll be studying in six-to-seven-week blocks on as many as six modules a year. Due to the fast-paced delivery of the course, you'll have to ensure you've accounted for the time needed to commit to studying.
- **Academically stimulating:** Be mindful that this course is academically rigorous, as well as mentally stimulating.
- **Self-directed and independent study:** Greater dedication, personal accountability and capacity for independent learning are required at postgraduate level. Much of your learning will be based on self-directed study.
- **Digital proficiency:** This is an online course, and, as such, you'll need sufficient digital skills to be able to effectively navigate and engage with course content and forums on the university's VLE (Virtual Learning Environment).



Online learning experience

With an innovative, contemporary curriculum developed by King's academics at the forefront of research, you'll receive a quality postgraduate education in a research-active, intellectually challenging environment.

King's online courses are taught using the King's E-Learning and Teaching Service (KEATS). On KEATS, a variety of multimedia tools and resources will be used throughout your modules to help you learn. Study material is comprised of web content, pre-recorded lectures, readings and discussion boards.

Get social on KEATS

Your virtual learning environment is equipped with a forum function that allows you to chat with other students. This is a fantastic source of support and learning – we recommend getting involved in the discussions as soon as possible. Your Teaching Fellow is there to assist you and help you get the most out of your studies with King's. You can contact them with any questions or concerns you may have about the course.

Assessments

You'll be assessed through a combination of written coursework and online examinations. The assessment methods may vary between modules, but each module will include one or more of these methods.

Student support

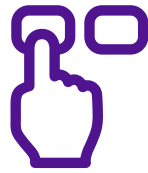
King's is dedicated to providing students with the tools and platforms they need to step into flourishing careers. Our Student Success Team has been designed around your specific needs as an online student. When you join one of our courses you'll be assigned a dedicated Student Success Progression Advisor and have access to a team of Information Advisors, who are responsible for providing you with support for the duration of your course.

They will be your first point of contact with King's College London and will answer all student support enquiries. You can contact them regarding:

- Navigation around the learning platform
- Assessment deadline reminders
- Access to careers and employability advice
- Enrolment and progression to the next module
- Fee payment
- Interruption to study
- Administration
- Assistance with connecting you to specialist services and the Student Union

Your online learning journey

From the moment you decide to take a course with King's to the second you graduate – we'll be there to help you through your journey. Explore some of the steps you'll take as a student with King's.



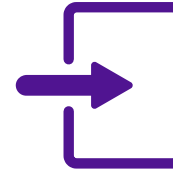
Make your choice

Discuss the best course option for you with our expert advisors



Apply

Submit your application



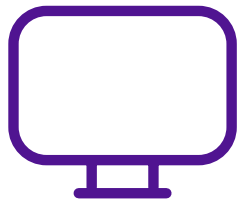
Log in to KEATS

Once accepted on the programme, you can access your virtual learning environment (24/7 access)



Get advice

Meet the Student Success Team who'll be there to support you through the course



Check out your Dashboard

View live and recorded lectures, module content and tasks



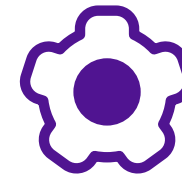
Network

Collaborate with your fellow students as you build your network



Gain insights

Interact with your tutor during dedicated sessions



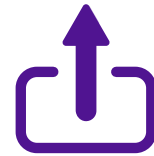
Develop

Build your skills through engagement with content, peers and teaching staff



Progress

Track your progress online



Submit

Upload your assessments online and learn from the feedback received



Graduation

Reflect and be proud - you've done it!

Example journal articles

To give you an idea of the kind of content you’ll be learning, here is a list of journal articles for the Psychology & Neuroscience of Mental Health course. These are not intended as prerequisite reading and they are not part of the programme, but they will outline the type of reading that is required as part of the programme.

Mental Health in the Community
DSM-5: a collection of psychiatrist views on the changes, controversies, and future directions The Global Burden of Mental, Neurological and Substance Use Disorders: An Analysis from the Global Burden of Disease Study 2010
Psychological Foundations of Mental Health
Control of goal-directed and stimulus-driven attention in the brain How to prove that your therapy is effective, even when it is not: a guideline
Biological Foundations of Mental Health
Reassessing Models of Basal Ganglia Function and Dysfunction
Techniques in Neuroscience
Estrogens Suppress a Behavioural Phenotype in Zebrafish Mutants of the Autism Risk Gene, CNTNAP2 Revealing neuronal function through microelectrode array recordings Autism-Associated SHANK3 Haploinsufficiency Causes Ih-Channelopathy in Human Neurons Predominant expression of Alzheimer’s disease-associated BIN1 in mature oligodendrocytes and localisation to white matter tracts



Get in touch

If you have any questions about studying online with King's, contact our Enrolment Advisors.

 @ioppn  @KingsloPPN  @kingsioppn  kingsioppn

This brochure was reviewed in October 2023. It contains information on the Psychology & Neuroscience of Mental Health MSc/PG Dip/PG Cert that King's College London ('King's') intends to run for students who are planning to start the course in 2022/23. King's has made every effort to ensure that this information is both helpful and accurate but some changes, for example to courses, facilities or fees, may become necessary due to legitimate staffing, financial, regulatory or academic reasons. King's will endeavour to keep changes to a minimum and to keep applicants informed appropriately. For this reason, it is important that you regularly check the website for updates or contact King's using the contact details contained within this document. www.kcl.ac.uk

At King's College London, we are proud to be delivering our online degrees to students in over 150 different countries across the world. The broad applicability of our qualifications means that our graduates move into a wide variety of different job roles and further study opportunities, some of which are governed by specific regional regulatory requirements. Before joining, we recommend that you seek advice from any relevant accrediting bodies in your intended country of domicile to ensure that this course is qualified to meet your intended career or further study outcomes.