Welcome

The School of Psychology is home to a vibrant academic community that combines high-quality teaching with outstanding research.

The School’s courses are accredited by the British Psychology Society, enabling you to progress towards becoming a chartered psychologist. In the National Student Survey 2015, Psychology at Lincoln was placed first out of 111 institutions for overall student satisfaction.

The School of Psychology has a strong and growing reputation for excellent fundamental and applied research with international impact. Research is focused on four key themes: Perception, Action and Cognition; Forensic and Clinical Psychology; Identity and Community Psychology; and Evolution and Development. Our PhD students are fully engaged in the School’s research activities and present at national conferences around the UK.

Our students conduct their studies and research in state-of-the-art facilities at Lincoln. Specialist equipment includes a functional transcranial doppler ultrasonography scanner to analyse patterns of blood flow in the brain, a transcranial magnetic stimulation device to manipulate neuronal activities and a Sleep Laboratory and a Baby Laboratory for cognitive neuroscience research.

Professor Timothy Hodgson
Head of School of Psychology
News and Research

Research is central to the culture within the School of Psychology at the University of Lincoln. It contributes to knowledge, responds to problems, and feeds into and enhances teaching. Our students have the opportunity to engage in this research, informing their own study and gaining valuable transferable skills for future employment. Our research is organised under four groups which focus on specific areas of psychology:

Evolution and Development
Researching the evolution and development of motor, behavioural and cognitive processes in children and adults, non-human primates and other animals.

Forensic and Clinical Psychology
Research focused in applied settings and on clinical or forensic populations, concerned with psychological functioning related to clinical and forensic problems.

Identity and Social Relationships
Exploring identity as experienced, deployed and negotiated in diverse social contexts.

 Perception, Action and Cognition
Research in a broad range of issues including visual motion processes, emotion and memory, and the visual processing in dyslexic, autistic and neurological populations.

Find out more about our research here:
www.lincoln.ac.uk/home/psychology/research

The Barbary Macaque Project Features in National Geographic

Bonaventura Majolo, a reader in the School of Psychology, founded the Barbary Macaque Project in 2008. His research recently featured in an edition of the prestigious publication National Geographic.

The article focused on the human qualities of the macaque – the fierce yet shy monkey which resides in pockets of forest in Morocco.

Bonaventura Majolo said: “Unlike most primates, Barbary macaque males often tote babies around. They use the infants to establish friendly relations with other males. A male will set an infant between himself and another male, and the adults will sometimes groom each other and also attend to the baby, creating a ‘sandwich interaction’.”

Psychology Rated No 1

In the latest National Student Survey awards, Psychology at the University of Lincoln has ranked top in the country for overall satisfaction.

In the National Student Survey awards, which take place every year, 3rd year students are asked a series of questions in relation to their course. Out of 111 UK institutions, the University of Lincoln placed number 1 for overall student satisfaction for Psychology. Psychology also came top of 111 institutions for the average score across all 22 questions in the survey.

This is great news for the School of Psychology, which was also rated 1st in the UK for student satisfaction in The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2014.
Lucid Dreaming Research Captures World-wide Audience

Dr Patrick Bourke, Senior Lecturer in Lincoln’s School of Psychology, conducted research into the relationship between lucid dreaming and insight.

Dr Bourke’s research into ‘lucid dreaming’ – a phenomena where someone who is asleep can recognise that they are dreaming – found that ‘lucid dreamers’ can solve problems in the waking world better than those who remain unaware of their dream until they wake up.

Dr Bourke’s publication has been featured widely in media around the world and reported in 74 articles both online, in print and on the radio.

Lincoln Professors Make an Impact at National Summer Science Exhibition

Dr Emile van der Zee from the School of Psychology has conducted research into dog-friendly interactive technology used to support or enhance the performance of working dogs.

Dr van der Zee’s research, combined with Professor Daniel Mills and Helen Zulch from the School of Life Sciences, was featured at The Royal Society’s prestigious annual Summer Science Exhibition, which showcases cutting-edge science and technology research.

Increasingly, dogs are humans’ trusted working partners in a wide range of important jobs, such as assisting disabled people, playing crucial roles in military operations and detecting and managing life-threatening medical conditions.

Our Professors’ research, in conjunction with the Open University’s Animal-Computer Interaction Lab, is currently focused on designing interactive technologies from a canine perspective. The exhibit showcased prototypes of technologies such as an electronic light-switch designed for assistance dogs, an interface allowing cancer detection dogs to express levels of confidence when assessing biological samples, and an alarm system allowing medical alert dogs to summon help for their assisted humans.

Professor Mills said: “This exhibit is a great example of truly interdisciplinary science that has a real impact on society. Dogs were the first species to be domesticated and their partnership with humans is unique. Our work shows how we can use modern technology to help maximise the potential of the partnership and the value that dogs can bring to society.”

New Research Links Anxiety to Seizures

New research by clinical psychologists from the UK and US has revealed psychogenic seizures, which could be mistaken for epilepsy, are linked to feelings of anxiety.

A team of researchers from the University of Lincoln, University of Nottingham, University of Sheffield and Arizona State University in the USA, devised a new set of tests to determine whether there is a link between how people interpret and respond to anxiety, and incidences of psychogenic nonepileptic seizures (PNESs) – seizures that can be brought on by threatening situations, sensations, emotions, thoughts or memories.

Participants completed questionnaires to determine the level to which they suffered from anxiety, their awareness of their experiences, and if they would avoid situations which could make them feel anxious. The test subjects comprised of 30 adults with PNES, 25 with epilepsy, and a further 31 adults with no reported history of seizures who served as a nonclinical control group.

The group with PNES also scored significantly higher on a measure of how aware they were of their anxiety compared with the control group. The tests correctly predicted whether a patient had epilepsy or PNESs in 83% of study participants. Such seizures appear on the surface to be similar to epileptic fits, which are caused by abnormal brain activity.

Dr David Dawson, Research Clinical Psychologist from the University of Lincoln, said: “Epileptic seizures are caused by abnormal electrical activity in the brain, while most PNESs are thought to be a consequence of complex psychological processes that manifest in physical attacks.”

“It is believed that people suffering with PNES may have difficulty actively engaging with anxiety – a coping style known as experiential avoidance. We wanted to examine whether it was possible to make a clear link between seizure frequency and how people experience and manage anxiety. Our study is another step in understanding PNES, which could ultimately lead to better treatment for patients in the future.”

The findings were published in the journal Epilepsy & Behaviour.
The School of Psychology’s undergraduate programmes are designed to prepare you for work in industry or the rigours of postgraduate study. Whatever your discipline, you will benefit from opportunities to take part in collaborative projects both on and off campus. All of our courses are accredited by the British Psychology Society enabling you to progress towards becoming a chartered psychologist.

**BSc (Hons) Psychology**

Psychology at Lincoln offers students a broad and thorough foundation in the subject, exploring the science behind how we think, act and respond to others through a range of elective modules and topics. You are encouraged to participate in original research projects with staff throughout your course, with the opportunity to publish and present your own findings.

You learn through a combination of theoretical, lecture-based teaching, small group seminar discussion and practical experimentation. The course aims to develop your knowledge of psychology and your ability to design, conduct and assess independent research projects.

In the first year you are introduced to fundamental concepts in psychology, exploring the key themes and debates that span the subject. In your second year you will develop and refine your research skills, preparing you for a final year project of independent study.

This course is accredited by the British Psychological Society as conferring eligibility for the Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership, which is the first step towards becoming a chartered psychologist.

**BSc (Hons) Psychology with Clinical Psychology**

Clinical Psychology is the practice of using psychological theories, treatments and therapies to assess the needs of clients to improve their health and well-being.

This degree allows you to develop a solid foundation in the concepts and practices of applied psychology, while developing a specialism in clinical psychology.

The course covers broad concepts of general psychology alongside specialised modules that help you to understand what is involved in working with a range of client groups in clinical settings. You will cover topics such as approaches to treatment and therapy, mental health and counseling skills which will enable you to embark on postgraduate study in clinical psychology or to work in therapeutic areas.

This course is accredited by the British Psychological Society as conferring eligibility for the Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership, which is the first step towards becoming a chartered psychologist.

**BSc (Hons) Psychology with Forensic Psychology**

Forensic Psychology is concerned with understanding the patterns, motives, mindsets and behaviours of people who commit crime. This relates to the processes of investigation, understanding different types of criminal behaviour, and the impact this has on victims and witnesses. In addition, this programme will focus on the criminal justice system in relation to the courts and post-conviction forensic settings, such as prison, probation and forensic mental health.

The course content is informed by the latest theory and research in the field, helping you to develop a holistic understanding of the subject and gain knowledge of the range of skills required to work in forensic settings.

This course is accredited by the British Psychological Society as conferring eligibility for the Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership, which is the first step towards becoming a chartered psychologist.
Benefit from a Vibrant City Campus

Lincoln is a safe and friendly city and a fabulous place for students. Our main campus is located next to the picturesque Brayford Pool marina in the heart of the thriving city centre. The combination of a vibrant atmosphere and safe, student-centred community makes historic Lincoln a fantastic place in which to live and study.

Our city centre campus offers a unique student experience, with everything within walking distance. The library, students bars, student services and accommodation, student health centre and the University’s academic buildings are all found on one campus. More than £170m has been invested in our award-winning campus, with a further £100 million planned as major investment in building and facilities continues.

“We are delighted to see such an overwhelming positive response from our students on the latest National Student Survey, which places Psychology number 1 nationally for our subject area.”

Tim Hodgson Head of School of Psychology
Students Engage in Research

Both undergraduate and postgraduate students are involved in research at Lincoln. They conduct research into areas that interest them, publish their work in major journals and present at conferences.

Students Volunteer at Lincoln’s Summer Scientist Week

Researchers and students from the School of Psychology organised yet another successful Summer Scientist Week at the University of Lincoln. Dr Fenja Ziegler, Development Psychologist from Lincoln’s School of Psychology, first organised the annual event in 2010. Now in its fifth year, Summer Scientist Week is designed to engage children in educational activity to help researchers understand more about how they acquire cognitive abilities. Approximately 250 children from the local area attended the event, and took part in research games ranging from testing visual acuity, impulsive behaviour and coordination to help recognise emotion, altruistic behaviour and risk taking.

Dr Fenja Ziegler said: “This is a really fun way for children to engage with science, while also helping us to better understand the way that children develop. It’s also great for our students to be involved in psychological research that is set for publication. It gives them a great insight into life post-graduation.”

“The games are all designed to appeal to young children, while also providing a strong foundation for gathering data. Our findings across all 10 research games will form the basis for publications in scientific journals and presentations at academic conferences across a wide range of topics linked to child development.”

Daniel Richardson

BSc (Hons) Psychology

“My research has investigated the links between handedness and speech lateralisation. Speech can develop on the right or left side of the brain, or both. Currently the tests to find out which side of the brain someone’s speech is on are expensive and invasive procedures, and so they are not given to everyone who may benefit from them. It would be beneficial for stroke and brain injury survivors and individuals with epilepsy to have this information in order to manage their expectations of rehabilitation. From my research, I’ve concluded that there is a link between speech lateralisation and coordination for some tasks.

“Lincoln puts students in the driving seat. Through optional modules, I’ve had the opportunity to tailor my course to suit my interests and career aspirations. As a Student Representative I’ve been able to influence and shape my course, for example, making changes to the feedback form students receive and the marking scheme used by academics.

“The fact that Lincoln’s psychology courses are science based (BSc) means that careers in medicine and counselling are open to graduates. Courses at other universities can be BA (Hons) and that means graduates can’t go on to work in some areas straight away.”

“I have been working with Professor Tim Hodgson, alongside my studies, developing eye movement tracking technology for the early diagnosis of neurodegenerative diseases such as dementia or Parkinson’s disease. Getting involved in research means that I am contributing something real and relevant to the field alongside already established academics.”

Jade Pickering Psychology student

Many University of Lincoln graduates go on to successful careers around the world. Nine out of ten of our most recent graduates were in work or further study six months after finishing their course.

Our team of employment professionals are here to support you to develop the knowledge, skills and confidence necessary for your future career.

Career Opportunities

Psychology courses at the University of Lincoln are accredited by the British Psychological Society as conferring eligibility for the Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership, which is the first step towards becoming chartered psychologist.

With a thorough grounding in academic theory and practical experimentation, graduates are equipped for a range of careers and have used their psychology degree as a basis for roles in management, marketing and education.

Careers and Employability Guidance

You will have access to careers information and guidance from our Careers & Employability Team, including advice and support on developing your CV, applying for jobs and obtaining paid and voluntary work experience while you study.

During your time at Lincoln, you will have the opportunity to complete the Lincoln Award, which enables you to develop transferable skills in addition to those learnt on your course, and to showcase your achievements to prospective employers. The Lincoln Award is achieved by completing a series of workshops alongside part-time employment, voluntary experience or extracurricular activities.

Sparkhouse, the University’s award-winning business incubator, is on hand to help those who have ideas for new enterprise and wish to set up their own businesses.

Support from the University does not end when you finish your studies. As a member of our global alumni community, you can receive free tailored careers support and guidance for up to three years after you graduate.

Tailored Service

A number of specialist services are available to ensure that you have access to relevant information about the many opportunities on offer to you upon graduation.

The School has a dedicated Careers & Employability Advisor who runs a drop-in clinic, providing personal guidance appointments. A programme of group workshops and course-specific presentations runs throughout the year.
Postgraduate Study

As a postgraduate student at Lincoln, you are an integral part of our academic community. On our Master of Philosophy (MPhil) and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) programmes you will engage with teaching, learning and research across the University, as well as with businesses and practitioners.

MSc Developmental Psychology
MSc Developmental Psychology focuses on the social, emotional and cognitive development of children and is designed for graduates and practising psychologists who wish to acquire a specialism in child development. Throughout this programme, you will explore issues in developmental psychology, critically evaluate them and submit your research to peer-reviewed journals.

You will have access to the state-of-the-art Lincoln Babylab, which is equipped with facilities for preferential looking, listening and eye-tracking as well as a motor lab, imagination lab and research facilities for looking at comparative cognitive development.

MSc Forensic Psychology
This Master’s focuses on the clinical and applied aspects of forensic psychology with an emphasis on working with children, adolescents and offenders with mental health concerns.

Our forensic psychology team draws on the expertise of a range of practitioners working in applied forensic psychology settings to provide specialist input into the programme.

The programme has a clear emphasis on practice-based topics in forensic psychology. You will develop your knowledge of police investigative processes and considerations for courts and sentencing, while gaining knowledge and skills that are beneficial for working with different client groups, considering their assessment, risk level and treatment.

Doctorate in Clinical Psychology (The Trent Programme)
This doctorate is a multi-agency collaboration between Derbyshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust, Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust and the Universities of Lincoln and Nottingham.

The Trent Programme is approved by the Health and Care Professions Council and accredited by the British and Psychological Society, meaning you graduate as an HCPC-registered and BPS-chartered clinical psychologist.

MSc Psychology Research/MPhil/PhD
As an MSc by Research, MPhil or PhD student, you will conduct independent research into an area of psychology of your choice and produce an extended thesis with guidance from two academic supervisors.

The School’s active research base ensures academic staff are involved in current debate and are up-to-date with emerging developments in psychology.

Particular areas of research expertise in the School include cognitive and behavioural development, applied clinical and forensic psychology, the experience and negotiation of identity, cognitive neuroscience, visual perception and memory.

To apply for a postgraduate course, please visit www.lincoln.ac.uk/pg For more information, telephone our Postgraduate Team on +44 (0)1522 886644 or email pgenquiries@lincoln.ac.uk
it was easier to forget neutral words than positive, some negative and some neutral. words. Some of the words were emotionally surprise test and asked to recall all of the or forget them. They were then given a

The study comprised two groups: one

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the first student from the University to

forgetting of emotional words. Amy is

Amy's study aimed to discover whether

development within the Lincoln Babylab, under the supervision of Professor Kerstin Meints.

Janine, who gained a fully funded PhD studentship from the University in 2014, explains her research: "For my PhD project, I follow up the language development of 100 children from their first until their third birthdays. The aim is to find out if their early words or any others factors (e.g. child's health, number of siblings) in any way predict their later vocabulary. In order to find out, I ask parents to complete questionnaires about the child's language and general development and invite them and their child to take part in psychological assessments at several stages during development, which are set up as games. "My PhD topic links well with my previous work as a Research Assistant at the Babylab where I helped to create the first language norms for UK children aged between 8 and 18 months of age (UK-CDI project joint research with the Universities of Lincoln, Liverpool and Lancaster funded by the ESR)."

"I enjoy being part of the School of Psychology. The Babylab has great facilities and is a very welcoming place for parents, children and students. The lab provides equipment for a variety of methods such as a mobile eye-tracker, act-out facilities, two booths offering intermodal preferential looking (IPL), preferential listening, habituation and joint research with the EEG Lab."

depending on the participant sleeping between learning and the test. This was the first piece of research examining whether emotional memories could be forgotten. Research like this is important as it suggests that memories can be “selectively” forgotten over sleep, which could prove useful in therapies for memory disorders.

Amy’s supervisor Dr Simon Durant said: “Amy is one of the most talented students we have had in recent years, and she was an obvious candidate for the British Psychological Society’s summer scheme. Her findings will help us to refine our model of exactly how sleep interacts with memory. We are proud of Amy’s achievement, which highlights the importance and benefit of student involvement in research.”

Amy is now studying for a PhD in Psychology and Neuroscience.

A psychologist who developed her research specialism at the University of Lincoln is now working to improve understanding of disorders that affect the way the brain interprets sounds.

Dr Hettie Roebuck, who studied for both an undergraduate degree and a PhD at Lincoln’s School of Psychology, is researching Auditory Processing Disorder (APD) at the Medical Research Council’s Institute for Hearing Research (IHR). APD could affect as many as one in ten school-aged children, yet it is a notoriously difficult disorder to detect and diagnose. Sufferers are unable to process auditory information in the same way as others, which leads to difficulties in recognising and interpreting sounds, particularly speech.

Dr Roebuck’s work, based in the IHR’s section at Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust, aims to fill gaps in our knowledge about the disorder. Her research to date has been focused on exploring whether problems in understanding speech that are associated with APD may be exacerbated by attention difficulties. Her findings could prove vital in developing effective diagnostic tests and improving treatment outcomes.

Dr Roebuck said: “In my job, no day is the same. As a post-doctoral researcher, I am trying to address unanswered questions, and to do this I must start by recognising what is missing from our understanding. Sometimes we are interested in behavioural responses and reaction times, and other experiments involve trying to understand how these relate to what is happening in the brain, but each day I am solving different problems and I find this extremely satisfying. Whatever the outcome, I am finding out the answer to a question that nobody has asked before!”

Dr Patrick Bourke, Senior Lecturer at the University of Lincoln’s School of Psychology, supervised Dr Roebuck throughout her PhD. He said: “It is particularly gratifying to see that Hettie has been asked to develop some of the sorts of tasks she worked on here at Lincoln to further our understanding of complex auditory and linguistic disorders.”

The Medical Research Council (MRC) is the government agency responsible for co-ordinating and funding medical research in the UK. Focusing on high-impact investigations, the MRC aims to improve human health through world-class medical research. The council works closely with the NHS and UK health organisations to prioritise research that is likely to make a real difference to clinical practice and the wellbeing of the population.

Dr Roebuck began her work in summer 2013, after completing her PhD earlier the same year. She was introduced to the MRC when presenting some of her PhD research findings while studying at the University of Lincoln.

She explained how her studies encouraged her to pursue a research career: “While studying at Lincoln, I became immersed in reading about current research, and this highlighted how much we still don’t know! From that point, I knew I wanted to spend my career resolving these unanswered questions. “If I was to offer advice to other students hoping to follow a similar path, I would say it is important to make the most of volunteer placements and research assistant opportunities. They provide the opportunity to learn new skills, and for me this was key in reaching where I am today. I think the best thing you can do is be motivated, work hard, be open to new experiences and above all follow the things you enjoy.”

Postgraduate Psychology student Janine Just is conducting key research into child language development within the Lincoln Babylab, under the supervision of Professor Kerstin Meints.

Amy Holloway, obtained a highly sought after bursary award from the British Psychological Society. Amy Holloway was awarded a BPS Summer Research Assistantship bursary for her study on the role of sleep in the forgetting of emotional words. Amy is the first student from the University to obtain the award, which funds just 10 students nationally.

The study comprised two groups: one that slept and one that stayed awake. Participants were shown a list of words with an instruction to then either remember or forget them. They were then given a surprise test and asked to recall all of the words. Some of the words were emotionally positive, some negative and some neutral. Amy’s study aimed to discover whether it was easier to forget neutral words than emotional words and whether this changed depending on the participant sleeping between learning and the test. This was the first piece of research examining whether emotional memories could be forgotten. Research like this is important as it suggests that memories can be “selectively” forgotten over sleep, which could prove useful in therapies for memory disorders.

Amy’s supervisor Dr Simon Durant said: “Amy is one of the most talented psychology students we have had in recent years, and she was an obvious candidate for the British Psychological Society’s summer scheme. Her findings will help us to refine our model of exactly how sleep interacts with memory. We are proud of Amy’s achievement, which highlights the importance and benefit of student involvement in research.”

Amy is now studying for a PhD in Psychology and Neuroscience.

Lincoln Graduate Lands Role with Leading Medical Research Institute

Student Chosen for Coveted Scheme

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Discover More

There are many ways for you to engage with the School of Psychology at the University of Lincoln. Whether you want to visit us and take a look around, join our online community or simply find out more about the opportunities available, we are here to help.

Open Days
We hold Open Days throughout the year, which offer the perfect opportunity for you and your family to explore our campus, speak to lecturers and find out more about student life at Lincoln. To find out more and to book your place, please visit: www.lincoln.ac.uk/opendays

Postgraduate Masterclasses
At a postgraduate masterclass, you can take part in a lecture or workshop in a subject of your choice to develop your knowledge, as well as meet our academics and other prospective students. Check our website for the next available postgraduate masterclass or email pgevents@lincoln.ac.uk for more information.

Social Media
To keep up-to-date with the latest news and information from the University, follow us on Twitter @UniLincoln and like us on Facebook at facebook.com/universityoflincoln

For updates on the innovative work and achievements of the School of Psychology, follow @PsychLincoln on Twitter, like our facebook page at facebook.com/lincolnpsychology and follow the School’s blog at psychologynews.blogs.lincoln.ac.uk

International Students
The University of Lincoln provides a vibrant and dynamic atmosphere for international students who are looking to study in the UK. Lincoln is one of the safest and friendliest university cities in the UK with great transport links to London and other major cities. A wealth of information is available at: www.lincoln.ac.uk/international
A Life-changing Education.
Discover more at one of our Open Days, visit www.lincoln.ac.uk/opendays for details.