



**UNIVERSITY  
OF LONDON**

Postgraduate programmes in

# Organizational Psychology and Human Resource Management

Fully supported online learning

**2020**



Academic direction by



[london.ac.uk/ophrm](https://london.ac.uk/ophrm)

# Join the World Class



## 1 **A mark of excellence**

Gain a University of London degree and increase your potential career development.

## 2 **Quality of learning**

The programmes in this leaflet are developed by academics in the Department of Organizational Psychology at Birkbeck, the oldest and largest department of its kind in the UK, so you can rely on the quality of the degree content.

## 3 **Worldwide relevance**

The programmes are designed to be of worldwide relevance. Graduates have gone on to become careers advisors, managers and consultants in large multi-national companies and government departments.

## 4 **Access a wealth of online resources**

You are fully supported online and participate in tutor-led virtual seminars for each module. You are also assigned a personal tutor to provide general guidance throughout your studies.

## 5 **Flexible learning**

With no relocation or accommodation costs, studying online through the University of London is much more affordable than coming to London to study on campus. What's more, you can continue working full time.

A photograph of the London Bridge at sunset. The bridge's iconic blue and white structure is silhouetted against a sky filled with vibrant orange, yellow, and blue clouds. In the background, the city skyline is visible. A purple semi-transparent box is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing a quote and the name of Professor Wendy Thomson.

“In a fast changing environment of worldwide access to higher education, a University of London degree continues to offer a guarantee of quality, value and intellectual rigour.”

**Professor Wendy Thomson**  
Vice-Chancellor,  
University of London

# Your prestigious University of London qualification

## About your qualification

When you graduate with a degree from the University of London you will receive two important documents – your Final Diploma (the parchment you receive on graduation) and a Diploma Supplement.

## The Final Diploma

- Indicates that you were registered with the University of London and awarded a University of London degree, diploma or certificate.
- Gives the name of the University of London member institution that developed the syllabus and provided assessment.
- Features the University of London crest and the Vice-Chancellor's signature.

## The Diploma Supplement

- Describes the nature, level and content of the degree you successfully completed.
- Includes the transcript of all courses taken, marks achieved and overall classification.
- States the role of Birkbeck and the method of study.

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# Outstanding distance learning opportunities



**Mark Stringer**

**Programme Director**

Organizational Psychology and  
Human Resource Management

## Introduction

Many people wish for a better understanding of the organization they work for. They know how to do their job, but would like a set of ideas and a way of thinking to help them understand and improve the way things are done organizationally. With such understanding, they may be more successful, and help to create more productive and satisfying workplaces for others. It is for people like this that our programmes in Organizational Psychology and Human Resource Management have been designed.

The programmes are concerned with the social and psychological processes operating in organizations, and how these processes relate to organizational systems and structures.

Both programmes use current and classic theory and research to enable you to understand organizations and to develop ways of improving them. Such improvements come in many forms, from selecting, training and motivating people, to maintaining and enhancing their well-being.

You will receive small group tuition by experts, extensive high quality and purpose-written study materials, and access to world-class library facilities. Because tuition takes place online, you can study at the times you choose, and do so anywhere in the world that internet access is available. You will also have the opportunity to interact with tutors and other students during the modules and in other learning forums.

## Key objectives:

- Build extensive knowledge of a wide array of psychological theories that can be applied to work settings (in areas including motivation, selection and assessment, well-being, learning and development, organizational change and leadership).
- Critically evaluate peer-reviewed research that has examined individual, group and organizational level outcomes.
- Acquire a thorough grounding of research methods, ethics and statistics.
- Undertake an applied qualitative or quantitative research dissertation under the guidance of a supervisor who specialises in your chosen methodology.





## Academic direction: Birkbeck

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The Department of Organizational Psychology is the oldest and largest of its kind in the UK and makes a major contribution to research in the field of behaviour at work. It is a major provider of academic and professional training in organizational psychology (also known as occupational psychology or organizational behaviour) coaching, career management and HRM studies.

As well as providing established and innovative teaching programmes, members of the department are dedicated to conducting internationally renowned research in their specialist fields, and have papers published worldwide in top academic journals.

The authors of the study materials you will receive are all highly

respected in the field. The department maintains good relationships with industrial research partners.

## BPS Accreditation

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The British Psychological Society (BPS) is the representative body for psychology and psychologists in the UK and is responsible for the promotion of excellence and ethical practice in the science, education and practical applications of the discipline.

This MSc has been accredited by the BPS as part of the Stage 1 requirements. If you want to apply to become a registered practitioner psychologist with the Health Care and Professions Council and become eligible for Chartered Status with the society, this MSc forms one part of Stage 1 and the route to Graduate membership.

To proceed to Stage 2 of accreditation, you must fulfil all the requirements for the Graduate Basis for Chartered (GBC) Membership of the BPS.

To join as a Graduate Member, you'll need to have achieved at least a 2:2 in an undergraduate psychology degree accredited by the society, or to have completed an accredited conversion course.

Details of how this accreditation fits within the overall BPS Chartered Qualification Framework route of Stages 1 and 2, is available on the BPS website. If you are unsure of your own eligibility or routes that may be available to you from the BPS, please take time to contact the BPS directly to clarify these.

# Organizational Psychology



## Heidi Driessen

MSc Organizational Psychology, Cyprus

‘The flexibility of the programme suited my international way of life well, as I studied and sat exams in five different countries. It has enriched me in many ways, brought me new knowledge, insights and skills for academic work and enabled me to fulfill a long-cherished wish.’

### MSc degree:

Eight compulsory modules plus the Research Project.

### Postgraduate Diploma:

Eight compulsory modules.

**Please note:** with the exception of the Research Project, all modules can be taken as individual modules. You can register for up to three modules at any one time. The anticipated number of study hours per module is 150 hours.

### Structure

#### Compulsory modules:

Employee relations and motivation

Leadership and performance management

Learning and development

Life career development

Research methods

Selection and assessment

Understanding organizations and change

Work and well-being

Research Project (**MSc only**)





# Human Resource Management

## MSc degree:

Eight compulsory modules plus the Research Project.

## Postgraduate Diploma:

Eight compulsory modules.

**Please note:** with the exception of the Research Project, all modules can be taken as individual modules. You can register for up to three modules at any one time. The anticipated number of study hours per module is 150 hours.

## Structure

### Compulsory modules:

Comparative employment relations

Human resource strategies

International human resource management

Leadership and performance management

Leading and developing people

Professional development and learning

Research methods

Selection and assessment

Research Project (MSc only)

“The programme is hugely engaging, challenging and relevant to anyone wanting to have a more evidenced-based practice. The way that the programme is set up virtually with students from around the globe is hugely effective.

The blended online learning of watching lectures in London, communicating with a community of peers every week in forum discussions, coupled with a high quality of tutors both supporting and challenging your thinking is a powerful combination. Loved this experience.”

**Cass Coulston**  
MSc Organizational  
Psychology, India



# Why study with us?



The programmes listed in this leaflet give you the opportunity to gain professional recognition and progress your career in the direction you choose.

Our students come from a variety of backgrounds. Many are already working in HR or management and wish to advance their career with a qualification. Others are looking to make a career change, or simply want to understand organisations better.

## Why distance learning?

There are many reasons to consider distance learning. Your job may involve extensive travel or long and

irregular hours, making it difficult to commit to regular classes and study times. Perhaps you would rather avoid the expense of relocating to London as a full-time student. Whatever your reasons, the flexibility of these programmes allows you to plan your studies to fit in with your home and work commitments.

## Employment routes

Graduates of these programmes go on to become trainers, motivators, careers advisors, managers and consultants within large multinational companies, government departments or in any organization where advanced knowledge of organizational psychology may be useful.

## Flexible study

You can study for a full MSc, a Postgraduate Diploma or choose to take a single module for your continuing professional development. If you do not want to commit to studying an MSc, you can register for an individual module or Postgraduate Diploma first. Having successfully completed these, you can then move on to gain the full MSc.

You have between one and five years to complete the MSc or the Postgraduate Diploma.

## Time commitment

The degree offers the flexibility to complete in one year, or up to five years depending on your desired study pace. For instance, you do not have to take examinations every year. As a rough guide, if you wish to complete in the minimum study period you should be prepared to study 25 hours per week during the academic session. The academic session runs from the beginning of October to the end of September.

## Assessment

'Professional development and learning' is assessed with written coursework. The Research Project (MSc only) is assessed by a 10,000-word scientific report. All other modules are examined by a two-hour unseen written paper. Examinations are held in overseas centres, as well as in London. You can sit them whenever you are ready.



## Continuing professional development (CPD)

Many professionals need to update their knowledge by focusing on a particular subject. As a result, our modules are also available on a stand-alone basis for the purposes of CPD (with the exception of the Research Project).

You can register for a maximum four modules without being registered for the MSc or Postgraduate Diploma, which can be studied simultaneously. On successful completion of each module you will receive a University of London certificate. The fee for studying an individual module is £1,350.

If you meet all the necessary entrance requirements you may later apply to register for the MSc and gain credits for the modules you have already passed.

# How do I study?

## The Virtual Learning Environment (VLE)

The dynamic element of the programme is provided through the VLE:

### Recorded lectures and dedicated audio recordings

Audio recordings are made of lectures for postgraduate students at Birkbeck, and these recordings are provided to you along with the PowerPoint slides. In this way you can enjoy and benefit from Birkbeck lectures and lecture material wherever you are in the world, and at a time convenient to you.

### Virtual seminars

You are placed in a group of about 15 students with a highly qualified online conferencing tutor. For each module, you discuss topics in this conferencing group. As these discussions are not in 'real time', you can ask questions, give your opinions, request clarification and read contributions made by others at whatever time suits you.

If you are away from home, even on the other side of the world, it makes no difference as long as you have internet access when you need to conference. At the end of the study period you can print this material off and read it whenever you want – giving

you a permanent copy of all that you, your tutor, and your fellow students have written. Conferencing takes place over three terms.

### Online discussions

Online discussions are an important part of the course, benefiting both you and your fellow students. You may find the prospect of joining in a discussion with people you have not met before slightly daunting, but once you have made one or two contributions you will probably feel more confident.

Although you are required to participate in the discussion, you will not be assessed on your contributions, so you can enjoy the opportunity to explore the subject with your fellow students.

### Online Library resources

You have online access to the University's world-class library resources. Here you can search for and obtain articles in the world's top academic journals (including those recommended by your tutor), read them on your computer or print them out at work or home.

With a portable device such as an iPhone or iPad and access to the internet, you can conference and read articles anywhere and at any time!

## Your study resources

For each module you study, you receive the following online resources:

- a dedicated virtual learning module area capturing all relevant learning and study materials
- textbooks for certain modules (either hard copy or electronic versions)
- recorded lectures or dedicated audio recordings, with associated PowerPoint slides
- links to recommended journal articles in the Online Library.

All study materials (articles and/or set texts) are included in the programme fee, with the exception of materials required to carry out the Research Project.

## Online study support

### Online teaching

At times of your own choosing you participate in tutor-led virtual seminars for each module.

### Personal tutor

You are assigned a personal tutor who you can contact for general guidance over the course of your studies.

### Programme administrator

Your first point of contact for all queries relating to your studies.

### Student forums

An informal virtual meeting place where students support and encourage one another – a very popular feature of our programmes.



# Further information

## Entrance requirements

### Academic

You will need either a bachelor's degree which is considered at least comparable to a UK second-class honours degree from an institution acceptable to the University or relevant education and work experience that comprises suitable training for the programme.

If you have an unconventional career path with diverse work experience and have completed 'The Manager's Toolkit: A Practical Guide to Managing People at Work' MOOC, we will consider your application on its own merits.

### English language

For all applicants an advanced level of English is required. Applicants may be required to pass, or to have passed within the last three years, at the appropriate level, a test of proficiency in English acceptable to the University of London (e.g. TOEFL, IELTS, GCSE/GCE O level in English).

### Computer

All students need a computer, regular access to the internet and a printer.

## How to apply

For further information on this programme, entrance requirements and details on how to apply, please visit: [london.ac.uk/ophrm](http://london.ac.uk/ophrm)

## Fees

The total fee payable to the University of London for 2020–2021 will be published on our website once confirmed. On average, fees incur a five per cent year-on-year increase. For the latest information on programme fees, please visit: [london.ac.uk/fees](http://london.ac.uk/fees)

**Please note:** student fees shown on our website are net of any local VAT,

Goods and Services Tax (GST) or any other sales tax payable by the student in their country of residence. Where the University is required to add VAT, GST or any other sales tax at the local statutory rate, this will be added to the fees shown during the payment process. For students resident in the UK, our fees are exempt from VAT.

## Spreading the cost

You are not expected to pay in full as soon as you start your first module, unless you choose to do so. Generally, students choose the pay-as-you-go option, spreading the cost by paying for each new module in turn. But it is up to you.





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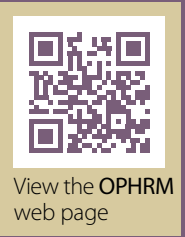
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For further information on the range of programmes we offer, please visit our website or contact us at:

The Student Advice Centre  
University of London  
Senate House  
Malet Street  
London WC1E 7HU  
United Kingdom

Telephone +44 (0)20 7862 8360  
[sid.london.ac.uk](http://sid.london.ac.uk)



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