

## Studying Experimental Psychology at Oxford

Psychology in Oxford concerns issues that can be tackled through empirical investigation. The department, widely regarded as one of the foremost psychology departments in the UK, is one of the world's leading centres for psychological research on human cognitive processes, neuroscience, vision, developmental and social psychology.

We see Psychology as an outward-looking subject, and so we draw on the outstanding strengths of Oxford in the neurosciences, psychiatry, genetics, linguistics, education, computation, social sciences and philosophy to help us in the enterprise of understanding human behaviour and mental life.

## Studying Experimental Psychology at St Anne's

Students studying psychology at St Anne's are encouraged to critically engage with primary research literature in typical Oxford tutorials and hone their analytical and scientific writing skills.

## Study durations

You can apply to study Experimental Psychology as a single subject or joint subject.

	Ext AY	AY	Fall Term	Hilary and Trinity terms	Studied with other subjects
<b>Experimental Psychology</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Only possible with another subject.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Only possible with another subject.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cannot be studied with another subject.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Only possible with another subject.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Classical Archaeology and Ancient History; Asian and Middle Eastern Studies; Classics; English; History of Art; Medical Humanities; Modern Languages; Music; History; Economics; Law; Politics; Philosophy; Maths.

If you would like to **study abroad for the Fall term (September and Michaelmas 2025)** you can select a [September course from those listed in the course catalogue](#) and you then need to study psychology as a sole subject during Michaelmas term.

If you would like to **study abroad for the extended academic year** you can select a [September course from those listed in the course catalogue](#) and you need to apply to study experimental psychology jointly with another subject, such as psychology and philosophy; psychology and medical humanities; psychology and economics or another humanities or social science.

If you would like to **study abroad for the academic year or Hilary and Trinity terms** you will need to apply to study experimental psychology jointly with another subject.

## Courses

For the 2025-26 academic year visiting students programme we are able to offer the following courses in Experimental Psychology: We cannot offer practicals (lab work), option courses, or research projects.

### Michaelmas term 2025:

#### ***Behavioural Neuroscience***

The Behavioural Neuroscience course provides an overview of research on Pavlovian conditioning,

neurotransmitters, memory systems, decision-making and choice behaviour systems, neural and synaptic plasticity and neuromodulation and other related topics. 16 lectures, 4 tutorials.

### ***Cognition***

The Cognition course provides an overview of research on human cognition, considering topics on language, reasoning and rationality, attention and cognitive control, short-term and working memory, and long-term memory. We will discuss research on these topics using a range of methodologies—experimental psychology, brain imaging, neurology, cognitive development, and computational modelling—and consider this work from its historical roots to today's cutting-edge developments. 16 lectures, 4 tutorials.

### ***Social Psychology***

This course provides an overview of research in the science of social psychology and covers broad topics such as Attitudes and Social Cognition, Interpersonal Relations, and Group Processes, as well as Social Neuroscience. 16 lectures, 4 tutorials.

### **Hilary term 2026:**

#### ***Individual Differences and Clinical Psychology***

This course provides an overview of research in the science of individual differences and covers topics such as social and emotional intelligence, depression, anxiety, psychological disorders, developmental psychopathology and other related topics. 16 lectures, 4 tutorials.

#### ***Development Psychology***

The Developmental Science course provides an overview of research in language learning, memory, attention, developmental language disorders and other related topics. 16 lectures, 4 tutorials.

#### ***Perception***

The Perception course will cover topics relating to how our perceptual experience is formed across the senses. This includes topics relating colour perception, psychophysics, spatial vision, motion detection, mental imagery, hearing, multisensory integration, and multisensory flavour perception. 16 lectures, 4 tutorials.

### **Trinity term 2026:**

There are unfortunately no experimental psychology courses able to be offered for Trinity Term 2026. If you would like to study during Trinity term you will need to apply to study Experimental Psychology jointly with another subject. You would study the additional subject during Trinity term.

### **Pre-requisites**

You will need to already be studying psychology at your home institution and probably have, or are intending to, declare a major or concentration in psychology. We would expect to see a minimum of introductory level psychology courses, and ideally intermediate level courses, on your transcript. Some maths would also be helpful.

In order to study joint subjects a visiting student needs to be studying both subjects at their home institution already. It is possible you may only be offered a place to study one subject, rather than both, if you are not deemed to have sufficient background in both subjects.

If you have any questions, please email [visiting.students@st-annes.ox.ac.uk](mailto:visiting.students@st-annes.ox.ac.uk)

### **Additional information**

Department of Experimental Psychology: <https://www.psy.ox.ac.uk/>