

Programme Specification

1	Awarding body	University of London					
2	Teaching Institution	Birkbeck College					
3	Programme Title(s)	Professional Doctorate in Occupational Health, Psychology, and Management; (initial enrolment on MRes in Occupational Health, Psychology, and Management)					
4	Programme Code(s)	RDPOHPSM (Professional Doctorate)					
5	UCAS code (if applicable)	N/A					
6	Home Department	Organizational Psychology					
7	Exit Award(s)	MRes in Occupational Health, Psychology, and Management					
8	Duration of Study (number of years)	up to 7 years part-time					
9	Mode of Study	FT		PT	x	DL	
10	Level of Award (FHEQ)	8					

11	Other teaching depts or institution (or not applicable)	None					
12	Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body(PSRB) details (or not applicable) (include URL to PSRB)	N/A					
13	QAA Benchmark Statement (or not applicable)	N/A					

14	Programme Rationale & Aims	<p>The psychology and management of occupational health is a fast-developing trans-disciplinary area of practical merit and, at present, it is under-represented in the UK.</p> <p>The programme will attract both those already working in a relevant professional area and those aspiring to move into such an area (for knowledge and skill gain and career development, advancement or change). Its professional focus should overcome many of the reservations that this constituency has concerning registration for a more academic and exclusively research orientated PhD.</p> <p>Its aims are to develop:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students' understanding of the nature and background to occupational health and psychology. • Their knowledge of the relationships among employees' health, their work participation, and the management of their health and safety at work in the context of their working lives, • Their applied research competence for real world situations, and • Their professional development in the area of psychology and management of occupational health 					
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15	Entry Criteria	<p>Students admitted to this course will have a good first degree or Masters degree in a cognate subject or the equivalent professional qualification and experience or some combination of both. They will be competent in their use of written and spoken English and have good social and communication skills.</p>					
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16	Learning Outcomes
	<p>As a result of participating in this programme, students will be able to critically discuss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The nature and development of occupational health psychology and the management of health and safety at work, • The contribution of occupational health psychology to policy and practice and the processes by which this contribution can be made, • The nature of applied research in this area and the issues arising from conducting such research in real world contexts, and • The strengths and weaknesses of the methodologies that can be applied to research in real world contexts. <p>Furthermore, in particular, students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate understanding of current issues in occupational health psychology with an adequate knowledge of a range of possible concerns from the effects of ill health on work participation and working life to the role of safety culture in high hazard situations, and • Demonstrate understanding of the nature and roles of systematic reviews, empirical studies and translation studies in applied research and of the utility of concepts such as “fit for purpose” and “solution-based problem solving” in real world research. <p>Finally, students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate their ability to conduct and interpret applied research of doctoral-level quality and their ability to describe and publish such research.
17	Learning, teaching and assessment methods
	<p>The programme will be based on seminars with student participation, tutorials and individual supervisions, and self-learning as appropriate to a research-focused degree. The aim is for these different methods to complement one another in a managed fashion with a balance between teaching and learning. Students will be expected to take ownership of their development and work in partnership with the academic staff and others supporting the programme.</p> <p>Assessment will be based in the first year on course work: essays, presentations with Q&A, progress reports and a systematic review submitted as if for publication in a named journal. This systematic review with an empirical study (second year) and a translation study (third year) will form the basis of the Doctoral thesis which will be assessed by viva voce examination.</p>
18	Programme Description
	<p>The Professional Doctorate in Occupational Health, Psychology, and Management is provided by the <i>Centre for Sustainable Working Life</i>. The programme will be available to part-time students only.</p> <p>The first two years of the programme will blend taught modules, providing professional education and research training with applied research. These two years establish the platform for the student’s research and provide its entry point through a systematic-style review to determine their research objectives and questions.</p>

	<p>There will be five taught modules (a total of 90 credits) in the first year, using an appropriate variety of pedagogical methods and forms of assessment, and a module focused on the delivery of the student's systematic-style review (90 credits), in the second year.</p> <p>The student's research will follow a structured programme across their four to seven years of study (part time only): systematic-style review (second year), empirical study and translation study (third and fourth years, and beyond). The entry point is the student's specification of his or her research objectives and questions informed through their systematic-style review (second year). Their translation study will require the student to consider the implication of their empirical study for real world situations and then design and test the feasibility of an appropriate intervention.</p> <p>It is intended that the student's research will meet two criteria: relevance to their current or prospective career and complementary to the Centre's main research interests.</p> <p>Students will be supervised by appropriate Internal and External advisers to ensure the right blend of professional and research education.</p> <p>Given that the student satisfactorily completes their first year and then makes good progress, they can be upgraded to the professional doctorate at the end of their second year.</p> <p>Those students who choose not to progress to the professional doctorate can be awarded a MRes (Occupational Health, Psychology, and Management) if their performance justifies such an award. Students who have progressed to the Professional Doctorate will submit a thesis which will be assessed by viva voce examination as the basis for the award of the Doctorate in Occupational Health, Psychology, and Management.</p>
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19	Programme Structure			
Part Time programme				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
L7	BUBU060H7	Occupational Health Psychology: Research, Policy & Practice	15	COMPULSORY
L7	BUBU059H7	Managing Ill-Health & Working Life	15	COMPULSORY
L7	BUBU058H7	Applied Research Methods & Management	15	COMPULSORY
L7	BUBU061H7	Project Development	15	COMPULSORY
L7	BUBU062S7	Review Preparation	30	COMPULSORY
Year 2				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
L7	BUBU063T7	Systematic-Style Review	90	COMPULSORY

Status*

CORE – Module must be taken and passed by student

COMPULSORY – Module must be taken, mark can be reviewed at sub-exam board

OPTIONAL – Student can choose to take this module

20	Regulations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Admissions This programme adheres to the College Admissions Policy: http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/policies/documents/admissions-policy.pdf Credit Transfer Accredited Prior Learning will be considered in line with the College Policy on Accredited Prior Learning http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/policies/documents/accreditation-prior-learning.pdf Programme Regulations This programme adheres to the College Common Awards Scheme http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/policies/regulations Programme Specific Regulations (or not applicable) N/A
21	Student Attendance Framework – in brief <p>The full version of the ‘Student Attendance Framework’ is available http://www.bbk.ac.uk/mybirkbeck/services/rules/Attendance-Framework.pdf .</p> <p>Principle Consistent and regular student attendance in class (or equivalent) promotes and affords student success. Inconsistent and irregular attendance is less likely to result in student success and is consistent with lower marks and degree classifications being achieved and awarded.</p> <p>Attendance expectation Birkbeck, University of London expects you to consistently attend all timetabled sessions, including lectures, seminars, group and individual tutorials, learning support sessions, workshops, laboratories, field trips, inductions and demonstrations.</p> <p>E-Registers All Birkbeck students are issued with student cards. Students are expected to take them to classes and to assessment venues and to present them to a member of staff if requested. This is for the purpose of identifying Birkbeck students.</p>
22	Student Support and Guidance <p>All Birkbeck students have access to a range of student support services, details can be found on our website here: http://www.bbk.ac.uk/mybirkbeck/services/facilities</p>
23	Methods of Enhancing Quality and Standards <p>The College has rigorous procedures in place for the monitoring and enhancing its educational provision. This includes regular monitoring of programmes drawing on feedback from various sources including external examiner's reports, student feedback, student achievement and progression data. In addition, departments are reviewed every four to five years through the internal review process that includes external input.</p> <p>For more information please see the Academic Standards and Quality website http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/about-us/operations-and-quality .</p>

24	Programme Director	Professor Tom Cox
25	Start Date (<i>term/year</i>)	Spring 2017
26	Date approved by TQEC	Spring 2017
27	Date approved by Academic Board	Spring 2017
28	Date(s) updated/amended	January 2020