PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION **(Taught Postgraduate)**		Newcastle University

1	**Awarding Institution**	Newcastle University
2	**Teaching Institution**	Newcastle University
3	**Final Award**	MSc
4	**Programme Title**	MSc Foundations in Clinical Psychology MSc Foundations in Clinical Psychology with Internship MSc Foundations in Clinical Psychology with Professional Skills Portfolio MSc Foundations in Clinical Psychology with Professional Skills Portfolio and Internship
5	**Programme Code**	5202F, 5288F, 5506F, 5507F
6	**Programme Accreditation**	N/A
7	**QAA Subject Benchmark(s)**	
8	**FHEQ Level**	7
9	**Last updated**	May 2024

10	**Programme Aims**

The general aims of the programmes are to furnish students with the knowledge, understanding and skills which will best equip them to be competitive in the marketplace for jobs in the clinical psychology sector. Ultimately, it is expected that graduates will find employment in this sector and will be equipped with the necessary skills to be able to succeed in their chosen profession. The programmes will enhance the prospects of those students who wish to go on to apply for graduate roles such as that of assistant psychologist or further study, for example a vocational Doctoral training in Clinical Psychology or IAPT training.

11	**Learning Outcomes**

The programmes provide opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, skills and other attributes in the area of Clinical Psychology as follows.

Knowledge and Understanding

On completing the programme students should be able to:

A1 demonstrate advanced knowledge and understanding of the theories, research methods, history, culture and professional issues of the broad area of Clinical Psychology.
A2 understand how to access and synthesise information and formulate subsequent argument.
A3 understand the professional context in which clinical psychologists and practitioners in related applied psychology roles work (The NHS, other contexts, ethical issues and the legislation under and in which clinical psychologists and related professions practice).
A4 demonstrate a knowledge of where and how to access the evidence base for the conditions, aetiology, maintaining factors, interventions and therapies associated with Clinical Psychology.
A5 demonstrate knowledge of clinical assessment, formulation and intervention in an NHS context. (Internship award only).

Teaching and Learning Methods
Students' learning will primarily be facilitated by lectures, workshops and small group work (A1, A4), problem based learning (PBL) exercises (A1, A3), coursework and discussion (A2). Students will be encouraged to supplement taught material with independent and guided reading. Knowledge and understanding are further supported by individual supervision of the dissertation in the third semester. For students enrolled on 5288F and 5507F, clinical assessment, formulation and intervention in an NHS context will be acquired during the internship through clinical supervision in an NHS context (A5).
Assessment Strategy
There will be a range of different assessments reflecting the range of expertise, knowledge and skills required of students, including essays, case studies, literature review, design of scientific posters, research report, presentations, clinical portfolio and a research dissertation. Feedback on form and content will be used to encourage reflection and improvement in students' communication skills. For students enrolled on 5288F and 5507F, during the internship, clinical supervisors will assess the competencies, which will be clearly defined by a set of criteria.

Intellectual Skills
On completing the programme students should be able to: B1 gather information from a variety of sources and synthesise it in an appropriate way. B2 evaluate and interpret theoretical and clinical concepts relevant to the practice of clinical psychology B3 critically evaluate the evidence for these ideas. B4 show respect to other students and professionals, understand different points of view.
Teaching and Learning Methods
Students will be introduced to the wide range of evidence and opinion by the programme instructors (B2). Cognitive and critical skills (B1-B3) will be nurtured through seminars, PBL exercises, essays, and the dissertation. Some coursework and teaching sessions will actively facilitate the development of critical thinking and reflective thinking through small group working and problem-based learning activities (B4). For students enrolled on 5288F and 5507F, B1 and B4 will be further developed during the Internship.
Assessment Strategy
Intellectual skills (B1-B4) will be assessed by essays, case study, literature review, design of scientific posters, presentations, clinical portfolio and a research dissertation Additionally, B1 will be assessed by a portfolio of evidence. B1 and B4 will also be assessed during the Internship by the NHS Internship Clinical Supervisor.
Practical Skills
On completing the programme students should be able to: C1 identify, locate and retrieve evidence and clinical resources relevant to clinical and health psychology. C2 plan and carry out a substantial piece of research and use appropriate research and analytic methods (5202F only) C3 effectively summarise research in the form of a scientific poster and written report (5202F and 5288F only) C4 apply knowledge gained to formulate and develop plans to treat common mental health problems. C5 apply psychological skills in assessment, formulation and intervention within an NHS setting. (5288F and 5507F Internship awards only) C6 effectively summarise a variety of clinical information through producing written clinical materials to a professional standard (5506F, 5507F and 5288F only) C7 plan and carry out a systematic review of clinical and research literature (5506F and 5507F only)

Teaching and Learning Methods
Students are supported in the development of these skills through: modelling and teaching provided by teaching and teaching support staff (C1, C3), module coursework (C1-C4), individual research supervision (C2-C3) and through discussion and team working with peers (C4). C5 will be acquired during the Internship through clinical supervision in an NHS setting. C6 and C7 will be acquired through participating in simulated placement activities and clinical administrative tasks involved in the completion of PSY8089 Professional Skills Portfolio.

Assessment Strategy
Summative assessment across modules is conducted via essays, case study, literature review, scientific posters, presentations, research report, clinical portfolio and a research dissertation (C1, C2, C3, C4 & C5). Professional skills will be assessed during the internship by the NHS Internship Clinical Supervisor (C5).

Transferable/Key Skills
On completing the programme students should be able to: D1 use information technology (e.g. word processing, statistical packages, Internet search engines). D2 act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional level. D3 formulate research questions and hypotheses and apply research skills in order to create new knowledge. D4 communicate effectively orally and in written formats. D5 work both as a member of a team and autonomously D6 work both as a member of a team and autonomously in relation to clinical assessment, formulation and intervention in an NHS context (Internship award only).

Teaching and Learning Methods
The use of information technology (D1) will be developed in coursework, PBL and dissertation work. Communication skills (D4) will be developed in workshops/seminars, small group work and presentations. Time management and teamwork (D2, D3 and D5) will be developed by engagement in the completion of the dissertation and research apprenticeship. These skills will be further developed during the Internship in an NHS context (D6).

Assessment Strategy
Skills D1-D5 will be assessed by essays and written coursework, oral presentation and dissertation work. D6 will be assessed during the internship, by clinical supervisors.

12   Programme Curriculum, Structure and Features
Basic structure of the programme
The MSc Foundations in Clinical Psychology is a one-year full time programme. It consists of a body of taught modules, including an e-learning module, and a supervised dissertation. To be awarded an MSc, students must successfully complete 180 credits: taught modules account for 120 credits, while the dissertation accounts for 60 credits. The taught modules are situated in semesters one and two, and the dissertation in semester three. The taught material in semesters one and two build on existing knowledge and feed forward into the dissertation in semester three. A limited number of students on the above programme may be able to apply for selection to continue onto the MSc Foundations in Clinical Psychology with Internship or MSc Foundations in Clinical Psychology with Professional Skills Portfolio and Internship (depending upon their programme of study). This includes a second year with a single module (180 credits) involving an NHS internship with clinical supervision from a Clinical Psychologist in an NHS context. This award is not available to international students.

Key features of the programme (including what makes the programme distinctive)
These programmes provide a non-vocational Masters level qualification to allow university graduates who have had little exposure to Clinical Psychology in their first degree to build their knowledge base in these areas preparatory to applying for vocational training and/or work experience. The programme is located in the School of Psychology which has a strong background in clinically related applied psychology training and houses a Clinical Psychology Doctoral training Course. The academic content of the programmes arecoherent with the central themes relating to wellbeing and psychopathology and is provided by members of staff with teaching and research interests in these areas. The research component of the degree will also be rooted in psychological methodology. Across each programme, students will have the opportunity to develop knowledge, skills and competencies relevant to a variety of applied psychology roles. The MSc Foundations in Clinical Psychology and MSc Foundations in Clinical Psychology with Professional Skills Portfolio are distinctive because students who complete these programmes successfully may have the opportunity to continue on to undertake an Internship year in the NHS (limited Internship places are available).

Programme regulations (link to on-line version)
R5202F, 5288F, 5506F, 5507F_2425_vFinal.pdf

13 Support for Student Learning
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14 Methods for evaluating and improving the quality and standards of teaching and learning.
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15 Regulation of assessment
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In addition, information relating to the programme is provided in:
The University Prospectus: Find a Degree | Postgraduate | Newcastle University (ncl.ac.uk) Degree Programme and University Regulations: http://www.ncl.ac.uk/regulations/docs/

Please note. This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and of the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if she/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities provided.

Mapping of Intended Learning Outcomes onto Curriculum/Modules
Master of Science Foundations in Clinical Psychology Code: 5202F
Master of Science Foundations in Clinical Psychology with Internship Code: 5288F

Intended Learning Outcome	Module codes (Compulsory in Bold)
A1	PSY8038, **PSY8053**, PSY8044, PSY8079, **PSY8080**, **PSY8081**, **PSY8082**, PSY8088
A2	**PSY8037,** PSY8038, **PSY8040, PSY8044, PSY8079, PSY8080, PSY8081, PSY8082**, PSY8088
A3	PSY8038, PSY8040, PSY8046, **PSY8067**, **PSY8080**, PSY8088
A4	PSY8036, PSY8038, PSY8046, PSY8053, **PSY8067**, PSY8079, **PSY8080**, **PSY8081**, PSY8088
A5	**PSY8067**, **PSY8080**, PSY8088
B1	**PSY8037,** PSY8038, PSY8040, PSY8046, **PSY8067**, PSY8079, **PSY8080**, **PSY8081, PSY8082**, PSY8088
B2	PSY8038, **PSY8053**, PSY8088
B3	PSY8038, PSY8046, **PSY8081**, PSY8088
B4	PSY8038, **PSY8067,** PSY8079, **PSY8080**, **PSY8081**, PSY8088
C1	**PSY8037**, PSY8038, PSY8040, PSY8046, **PSY8053**, PSY8079, **PSY8080**, **PSY8081**, PSY8088
C2	**PSY8037.**
C3	**PSY8037**, PSY8038, PSY8079
C4	**PSY8037**, PSY8038, PSY8040, PSY8046, **PSY8053**, **PSY8067,** PSY8079, **PSY8080**, PSY8088
C5	**PSY8067**
C6	**PSY8067**
C7	**N/A**
D1	**PSY8037**, PSY8038, PSY8040, PSY8046, **PSY8053**, PSY8044, PSY8079, **PSY8080**, **PSY8081, PSY8082**
D2	**PSY8037**, PSY8038, PSY8040, PSY8046, **PSY8053**, PSY8044, **PSY8067**, PSY8079. **PSY8080**, **PSY8081, PSY8082**
D3	**PSY8037**, PSY8040, PSY8046, PSY8079, **PSY8082**
D4	**PSY8037,** PSY8038, PSY8040, **PSY8053**, PSY8046, PSY8044, **PSY8067**, PSY8079. **PSY8080**, **PSY8081, PSY8082**, PSY8088
D5	**PSY8037**, PSY8038, PSY8040, **PSY8053,** PSY8079. **PSY8067**, **PSY8080**, **PSY8081, PSY8082**
D6	**PSY8067**

Degree Master of Science Foundations in Clinical Psychology with Professional Skills Portfolio
Code: 5506F
Degree Master of Science Foundations in Clinical Psychology with Professional Skills Portfolio and Internship
Code: 5507F

Intended Learning Outcome	Module codes (Compulsory in Bold)
A1	PSY8038, **PSY8053**, PSY8044, PSY8079, **PSY8080**, **PSY8081**, **PSY8082**, PSY8088, **PSY8089**
A2	PSY8038, **PSY8040, PSY8044, PSY8079, PSY8080, PSY8081, PSY8082**, PSY8088, **PSY8089**
A3	PSY8038, PSY8040, PSY8046, **PSY8067**, **PSY8080**, PSY8088, **PSY8089**
A4	PSY8036, PSY8038, PSY8046, PSY8053, **PSY8067**, PSY8079, **PSY8080**, **PSY8081**, PSY8088, **PSY8089**
A5	**PSY8067, PSY8080**, PSY8088, **PSY8089**
B1	PSY8038, PSY8040, PSY8046, **PSY8067**, PSY8079, **PSY8080**, **PSY8081, PSY8082**, PSY8088, **PSY8089**
B2	PSY8038, **PSY8053**, PSY8088, **PSY8089**
B3	PSY8038, PSY8046, **PSY8081**, PSY8088, **PSY8089**
B4	PSY8038, **PSY8067**, PSY8079, **PSY8080**, **PSY8081**, PSY8088, **PSY8089**
C1	PSY8038, PSY8040, PSY8046, **PSY8053**, PSY8079, **PSY8080**, **PSY8081**, PSY8088, **PSY8089**
C2	N/A
C3	PSY8038, PSY8079
C4	PSY8038, PSY8040, PSY8046, **PSY8053**, **PSY8067**, PSY8079, **PSY8080**, PSY8088, **PSY8089**
C5	**PSY8067**
C6	**PSY8067, PSY8089**
C7	**PSY8089**
D1	, PSY8038, PSY8040, PSY8046, **PSY8053**, PSY8044, PSY8079, **PSY8080**, **PSY8081, PSY8082**
D2	PSY8038, PSY8040, PSY8046, **PSY8053**, PSY8044, **PSY8067**, PSY8079. **PSY8080**, **PSY8081, PSY8082**
D3	PSY8040, PSY8046, PSY8079, **PSY8082**
D4	PSY8038, PSY8040, **PSY8053**, PSY8046, PSY8044, **PSY8067**, PSY8079. **PSY8080**, **PSY8081, PSY8082**, PSY8088
D5	PSY8038, PSY8040, **PSY8053,** PSY8079. **PSY8067**, **PSY8080**, **PSY8081, PSY8082**
D6	**PSY8067**

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