Psychology: Useful Careers Resources

A degree in psychology can lead to many varied careers, some more obvious than others. About 20% of psychology graduates will become professional psychologists while the majority will work in other areas using their transferable skills. Listed below are the traditional psychology professions, all of which require the Graduate Basis for Chartership (GBC), plus training beyond an undergraduate degree (or MSc Psychology Conversion course), typically 3 years minimum of a combination of additional study and work experience. If you wish to enter one of these psychologist professions you will need to complete a postgraduate course which leads to Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) registration, see list of accredited courses on: The British Psychological Society website [http://www1.bps.org.uk/](http://www1.bps.org.uk/)

**Traditional Psychology Professions:**

Clinical psychologist, Counselling psychologist, Educational psychologist, Forensic psychologist, Health psychologist, Occupational psychologist, Sport and Exercise psychologist, Teaching and research.

Neuropsychologist – Qualified clinical or educational psychologists can do further training to qualify in this area.

More information on these careers is available at: [http://www1.bps.org.uk/](http://www1.bps.org.uk/)

*Did you know? You can access our full leaflet series online:* [www.surrey.ac.uk/careers/current/leaflets/](http://www.surrey.ac.uk/careers/current/leaflets/)
Other Psychology Specialisms: (do not fall under BPS accreditation):
Coaching psychology, Environmental psychology, Marketing/consumer psychology, Parapsychology, Animal and pet psychology, Human computer interaction (HCI) and Human factors/Ergonomics.

Related Health and Social Care Careers:
Psychological wellbeing practitioner, High intensity therapist, Assistant psychologist, Research assistant, Support worker, Counsellor, Social worker, Occupational therapist, Speech therapist, Mental health nurse, Community development worker, Special needs teacher/assistant, Social/Government researcher.

Other Popular Careers:
Teacher, Human resources manager, Equality and diversity officer, Careers adviser, Market researcher, Marketing executive, Advertising executive, Publishing and Public relations officer.
For other ideas see the destinations survey information on the Employability & Careers Centre website:
For information on any of the above careers see the Prospects website
https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles

Sources of Careers Information

- British Psychological Society, information on all the specialist options and details of accredited postgraduate courses.
  http://beta.bps.org.uk/public/become-psychologist

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• ‘Psychology Student Employability Guide’ – An excellent resource contains information on career planning, specialist career options and other health and social care options. https://www.heacademy.ac.uk/resources/detail/subjects/psychology/Employability-guide-0

• Health Careers NHS www.healthcareers.nhs.uk

• Prospects website for options with your degree subject www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree

• Prospects website: www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles look up all the careers that appeal to you.

• Improving access to psychological therapies includes Psychological Wellbeing Practitioner (PWP) IAPT https://www.england.nhs.uk/mental-health/adults/iapt/

• Oxford University Careers Service leaflet on Psychology www.careers.ox.ac.uk/psychology

• Book - ‘What to do with your Psychology Degree’ Matthew McDonald and Susmita Das, OU Press publication.

• A useful resource for prospective Clinical Psychologists www.psyclink.org.uk

• ClinPsy - www.clinpsy.org.uk - a site aimed at anyone with an interest in Clinical Psychology

• Psychminded - useful information for clinical psychology applicants www.psychminded.co.uk

• Teaching - https://getintoteaching.education.gov.uk/

**Professional Bodies and Societies**

• British Psychological Society http://beta.bps.org.uk/

• Applications for Educational Psychology (relevant work experience needed) Association of Educational Psychologists www.aep.org.uk

• British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy www.bacp.co.uk

• British Association of Behavioural and Cognitive Psychology www.babcp.com

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• Clearing House for Doctorate in Clinical Psychology (relevant work experience needed) applications: [www.leeds.ac.uk/chpccp](http://www.leeds.ac.uk/chpccp)
• Division of Health Psychology (BPS) [http://www.bps.org.uk/networks-and-communities/member-microsite/division-health-psychology](http://www.bps.org.uk/networks-and-communities/member-microsite/division-health-psychology)
• Health and Care Professions Council (regulates Psychologists) [www.hpc-uk.org](http://www.hpc-uk.org)
• The British Association of Sport and Exercise Sciences [www.bases.org.uk](http://www.bases.org.uk)
• HR -The Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development [www.cipd.co.uk](http://www.cipd.co.uk)
• The Home Office [www.homeoffice.gov.uk](http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk)
• The Royal College of Psychiatry [www.rcpsych.ac.uk](http://www.rcpsych.ac.uk)
• The Social Research Association [www.the-sra.org.uk](http://www.the-sra.org.uk)
• The UK Council for Psychotherapy [www.psychotherapy.org.uk](http://www.psychotherapy.org.uk)
• American Psychological Association (APA) [www.apa.org](http://www.apa.org)

**Job listings**

• BPS Jobs in Psychology (including assistant psychologist and trainee PWP) [https://www.jobsinpsychology.co.uk/](https://www.jobsinpsychology.co.uk/)
• The Guardian online (including assistant psychologist and other public sector) [http://jobs.guardian.co.uk](http://jobs.guardian.co.uk)
• NHS (including assistant psychologist, mental health support worker and trainee PWP) [www.jobs.nhs.uk](http://www.jobs.nhs.uk)
• Civil Service [https://www.civilservicejobs.service.gov.uk/csr/index.cgi](https://www.civilservicejobs.service.gov.uk/csr/index.cgi)
• Healthjobs UK [www.healthjobsuk.com](http://www.healthjobsuk.com)
• Surrey Jobs [www.surreyjobs.info](http://www.surreyjobs.info)
• Jobs in universities including research assistants [www.jobs.ac.uk](http://www.jobs.ac.uk)
• Career Jet [www.careerjet.co.uk/psychology-jobs.html](http://www.careerjet.co.uk/psychology-jobs.html)
• Employability and Careers Centre vacancy database click on ‘Job Vacancies’ [www.surrey.prospects.ac.uk/careers](http://www.surrey.prospects.ac.uk/careers)
• Public sector jobs [www.jobsgopublic.co.uk](http://www.jobsgopublic.co.uk)
• Charities [www.jobsincharities.co.uk](http://www.jobsincharities.co.uk) and [www.indeed.co.uk](http://www.indeed.co.uk)

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• Social care www.communitycare.co.uk
• New Scientist www.newscientistjobs.com
• HR www.cipd.co.uk
• Campaign live jobs (advertising, media and marketing) http://www.campaignlive.co.uk/jobs/
• The Social Research Association www.the-sra.org.uk
• Civil Service Fast Stream https://www.faststream.gov.uk/
• Graduate jobs in general: Prospects www.prospects.ac.uk and Targetjobs: www.targetjobs.co.uk

Postgraduate study
• BPS website lists all accredited specialist courses http://beta.bps.org.uk/public/become-psychologist
• http://www.prospects.ac.uk/postgraduate_study.htm General database of programmes and information on funding
• Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) www.esrc.ac.uk
• www.findamasters.com
• www.findaphd.com
• www.postgrad.com
• www.jobs.ac.uk
• www.postgraduatestudentships.co.uk/
• www.fullbright.org.uk - Postgraduate study in the USA
• Teaching - Applications through UCAS Teacher Training
  http://www.ucas.com/how-it-all-works/teacher-training

Volunteering Opportunities
• https://www.usu.co.uk/community/volunteering/Pages/home.aspx
  (University of Surrey Students’ Union, volunteering pages)

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Please note that this list is by no means definitive but features some of the more useful websites. For further information on job sectors and detailed occupational profiles please go to the Prospects website, www.prospects.ac.uk.