



CERTIFICATE OF VALIDATION

Provider name	National College of Ireland
Date of validation	28-September-17

	First intake	Last intake
Enrolment interval	01-September-17	01-September-21

	Code	Title	Award	Duration	Annual intakes
Principal programme	PG23507	Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Psychology	Bachelor of Arts (Honours)	3 years FT 4 years PT	2
Embedded Programme	N/A				

Principal Programme

	Name	Minimum number of learners	Maximum number of learners
Approved centre	National College of Ireland, Mayor Square, IFSC, Dublin 1	20	90

Proposed first year (i.e. new learner) enrolment over five years – Full time					
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Minimum intake into first year	50	50	50	50	50
Maximum intake into first year	90	90	90	90	90

Proposed first year (i.e. new learner) enrolment over five years – part-time					
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Minimum intake into first year	20	25	25	25	25
Maximum intake into first year	35	35	40	40	40



Detail any articulation arrangements involving advanced entry	Maximum number of learners involved	Stage of entry
Students may be considered for exemptions for certain modules or stages if they have completed analogous programmes or modules in other institutions. In these cases, learners would be evaluated on case-by case basis taking into account existing qualifications or using the RPL criteria.	5	1/2

Target learner groups	School leavers, mature learners returning to education, and/or international students.	
Total number of learners per intake (Maximum and Minimum)	Max	Min
	90	20
Approved countries for provision (i.e. where enrolled learners will be based)	Ireland	
Delivery mode: Full-time/part-time	Full-time (weekdays 9-5pm) and part-time (weekday evenings and/or Saturdays)	
List the teaching and learning modes¹	A broad range of teaching and learning approaches will take place including traditional classroom teaching (lectures, tutorials), practical computerbased sessions, and experimental lab work. Please refer to section 5.6 for an overview of the Programme Teaching and Learning Strategy, as well as individual module descriptors.	
Does the blend of modalities predominantly involve remote e-learning (Yes/No)	No	
Brief synopsis of the programme (e.g. who it is for, what is it for, what is involved for learners, what it leads to.)	This programme is a 3 year degree in psychology (4 year part-time) which is designed to provide students with a solid grounding in the core aspects of the discipline in addition to providing exposure to more specialist areas within psychology. There are two modes of delivery for the programme. The full-time mode is generally taken by school leavers (that can apply through the CAO system) and a small number of international students, while the part-time mode is generally taken by mature students or those returning to education. In addition to leading to a Level 8 award, the programme was specifically designed to meet the requirements for PSI accreditation thereby enabling graduates to pursue further training in psychology at postgraduate level.	
	WTE ²	Qualifications and experience

¹ Defined later in this document.

² WTE is the whole-time equivalent number. The number 1 indicates a fulltime person fully dedicated to the programme.



Summary of staffing requirements (the details are provided in the module descriptors)	8	Lecturing staff which should normally hold a PhD in Psychology
	1	Psychology technician qualified in psychology and proficient in the use of psychological technical equipment
	1	Programme coordinator to provide administrative support
Outline the physical resource requirements (the details are provided in the module descriptors)	The programme requires appropriate learning spaces to facilitate the teaching, learning and assessment strategy of the programme. Learning spaces should accommodate traditional classrooms, spaces for collaborative learning, and access to appropriate technologies and equipment. Specific to the psychology programme, learners need access to appropriate facilities for carrying out experimental work, including computer laboratories and experimental testing rooms. Learners must have access to appropriate personal study space (e.g. within the library). Access to appropriate recreation and dining spaces and functions are also required.	
Outline specifications for the ratio of learners to teaching staff	Staff to learner ratio	Learning activity type
	1:90	Large group/lectures should not exceed this ratio, but will typically fall below this
	1:40	Elective modules
	1:30	Smaller group settings for tutorials should not exceed this
	1:1	Final project supervision

Programmes being replaced		
Code	Title	Estimated closure date
PG2002	Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Psychology	September 2016



Conditions of Validation of the Programmes Covered by this Certificate of Validation

Part 1: Statutory Conditions of validation

The statutory (section 45(3) of the 2012 Act) conditions of validation are that the provider of the programme shall:

1. co-operate with and assist QQI in the performance of QQI's functions in so far as those functions relate to the functions of the provider,
2. establish procedures which are fair and consistent for the assessment of enrolled learners to ensure the standards of knowledge, skill or competence determined by QQI under section 49 (1) are acquired, and where appropriate, demonstrated, by enrolled learners,
3. continue to comply with section 65 of the 2012 Act in respect of arrangements for the protection of enrolled learners, if applicable, and
4. provide to QQI such information as QQI may from time to time require for the purposes of the performance of its functions, including information in respect of completion rates.

Part 2 Conditions of Validation Established by QQI Under section 45(4)(b) of the 2012 Act

Part 2.1 Condition of Validation Concerning a Change in the QQI Award or Award Standard

1. Where QQI changes an award title, an award specification or an award standard that a programme depends upon, the provider shall not enrol any further learners on the affected programmes unless informed otherwise in writing by QQI (e.g. by the issue of a revised certificate of validation). The programme is considered validated for learners already enrolled on the affected programme.

Part 2.2 Condition of Validation Concerning the Duration of Enrolment

1. The duration of enrolment is the interval during which learners may be enrolled on the validated programme.

Validation is determined by QQI for a specified number of years of enrolment appropriate to the particular programme as indicated on the certificate on validation subject to unit 9.2.1. It is a condition of validation that the programme does not enrol any new learners outside this interval. A typical duration would be five years.

If a provider wishes to continue to enrol learners to the programme beyond this interval the provider must arrange in good time for it to be validated again by QQI, or exceptionally the provider may apply for extension of the duration of enrolment (unit (14)). In this context the provider may apply for validation of the programme from first principles or, alternatively, the provider may avail of the process for revalidation (unit (13)) by QQI.

Part 2.3 General Condition of Validation

The provider of the programme shall:

1. Ensure that the programme as implemented does not differ in a material way from the programme as validated; differing in a material way is defined as differing in any aspect of the programme or its implementation that was material to QQI's validation criteria.
2. Ensure that the programme is provided with the appropriate staff and physical resources as validated.



3. Implement in respect of the programme its written quality assurance procedures (as approved by QQI).
4. Make no significant change to the programme without the prior approval of QQI. (See unit (8)).
5. Unless otherwise agreed by QQI in writing, start implementing the programme as validated and enrol learners within 18 months of validation.
6. Continue in respect of the validated programme to comply with section 56 of the 2012 Act in respect of procedures for access, transfer and progression.
7. Implement the programme and procedures for assessment of learners in accordance with the Approved Programme Schedule and notify QQI in writing of any amendments to this arising from changes to the programme; see unit (9).
8. When advertising and promoting the programme and awards, use the programme title as validated, and the correct QQI award title(s), award type(s) and award class(es) indicating the level of the award(s) on the National Framework of Qualifications.
9. Adhere to QQI regulations and procedures for certification.
10. Notify QQI in writing without delay of:
 - a. any material change to the programme;
 - a. anything that impacts on the integrity or reputation of the programme or the corresponding QQI awards;
 - b. anything that infringes the conditions of validation; or
 - c. anything that would be likely to cause QQI to consider reviewing the validation.
11. Notify QQI in writing to determine the implications for the provider's validated programmes, where the provider is likely to, or planning to, merge (amalgamate) with another entity or to acquire, or be acquired by, another entity (see unit (12.5)).
12. Report to QQI, when required or requested, on its implementation of the programme and compliance with the conditions of validation.

Part 2.4 General Condition of Validation Arising from Specialised Validation Policy and Criteria

1. N/A.

Part 2.5 Special Condition of Validation

1. There are no Special Conditions of Validation.



Approved Programme Schedule(s)

Name of Provider:		National College of Ireland										
Programme Title		BA (Hons) in Psychology										
Award Title		Bachelor of Arts (Hons)										
Stage Exit Award Title												
Modes of Delivery (FT/PT):		FT										
Teaching and learning modalities		FT										
Award Class	Award NFQ level	Award EQF Level	Stage (1, 2, 3, 4, ..., or Award Stage):	Stage NFQ Level	Stage EQF Level	Stage Credit (ECTS)	Date Effective	ISCED Subject code				
MAJOR	8	6	1	6	5	60	01/09/17	0311				
Module Title (Up to 70 characters including spaces)	Semester no where applicable. (Semester 1 or Semester 2)	Module		Credit Number	Total Student Effort Module (hours)					Allocation Of Marks (from the module assessment strategy)		
		Status	NFQ Level where specified	Credit Units ECTS	Total Hours	Class (or equiv) Contact Hours	Directed e-learning	Hours of Independent Learning	Work-based learning effort	C.A. %	Supervised Project %	Proctored practical demonstration
Applied Introduction and History of psych.	1	M	6	10	250	60		190		100		
Introduction to Research Methods	1	M	6	10	250	60		190		50		50
Social Psychology	1	M	6	10	250	60		190		50		50
Lifespan Development	2	M	6	10	250	60		190		50		50
Cognitive Psychology	2	M	6	10	250	60		190		50		50
Introduction to Statistics	2	M	6	10	250	60		190		100		
Special regulations												
NA												

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Teaching and learning modalities		FT											
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MAJOR	8	6	2	7	6	60	01/09/17	0311					
Module Title (Up to 70 characters including spaces)	Semester no where applicable. (Semester 1 or Semester 2)	Module		Credit Number	Total Student Effort Module (hours)					Allocation Of Marks (from the module assessment strategy)			
		Status	NFQ Level where specified	Credit Units ECTS	Total Hours	Class (or equiv) Contact Hours	Directed e-learning	Hours of Independent Learning	Work-based learning effort	C.A. %	Supervised Project %	% demonstration	Proctored practical
Personality & Intelligence	1	M	7	10	250	48		202		50			50
Biological Basis of Behaviour	1	M	7	10	250	48		202		50			50
Applied Statistics	1	M	7	10	250	48		202		100			
Psychology of Learning and Behaviour Analysis	2	M	8	10	250	48		202		50			50
Coaching Psychology	2	M	7	10	250	48		202		100			
Applied Research Methods	2	M	7	5	125	24		101		50			50
Psychology Labs	2	M	7	5	125	24		101			100		
Special Regulations (Up to 280 characters)													
Professional Body Requirement: pass by compensation is not permissible													

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Teaching and learning modalities		FT										
Award Class	Award NFQ level	Award EQF Level	Stage (1, 2, 3, 4, ..., or Award Stage):	Stage NFQ Level	Stage EQF Level	Stage Credit (ECTS)	Date Effective	ISCED Subject code				
MAJOR	8	6	Award Stage	8	7	60	01/09/17	0311				
Module Title (Up to 70 characters including spaces)	Semester no where applicable. (Semester 1 or Semester 2)	Module		Credit Number	Total Student Effort Module (hours)					Allocation Of Marks (from the module assessment strategy)		
		Status	NFQ Level where specified	Credit Units ECTS	Total Hours	Class (or equiv) Contact Hours	Directed e-learning	Hours of Independent Learning	Work-based learning effort	C.A. %	Supervised Project %	Proctored practical demonstration
Final Project	1&2	M	8	20	500	48		452		100		
Health Psychology	1	M	8	10	250	48		202		50		50
Abnormal Psychology	2	M	8	10	250	48		202		50		50
Applied Developmental Psychology*	1/2	E	8	5	125	24		101		100		
Evolutionary and cross-cultural psychology*	1/2	E	8	5	125	24		101		50		50
Psychology of thinking*	1/2	E	8	5	125	24		101		50		50
Criminal psychology*	1/2	E	8	5	125	24		101		100		
Cyberpsychology*	1/2	E	8	5	125	24		101		50		50
Workplace Psychology*	1/2	E	8	5	125	24		101		50		50
Educational psychology*	1/2	E	8	5	125	24		101		100		
Contemporary Neuroscience*	1/2	E	8	5	125	24		101		50		50
Financial Management Tools for the Enterprise*	1/2	E	8	5	125	36		89			50	50
Organisational Development*	1/2	E	8	5	125	36		89		40		60
Public Relations and Social Media*	1/2		8	5	125	36		89		75	25	
International HRM*	1/2	E	8	5	125	36		89		40		60
Contemporary Issues in Reward Management*	1/2	E	8	5	125	36		89		40		60

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Module Title (Up to 70 characters including spaces)	Semester no where applicable. (Semester 1 or Semester 2)	Module		Credit Number	Total Student Effort Module (hours)					Allocation Of Marks (from the module assessment strategy)			
		Status	NFQ Level where specified	Credit Units ECTS	Total Hours	Class (or equiv) Contact Hours	Directed e-learning	Hours of Independent Learning	Work-based learning effort	C.A. %	Supervised Project %	% demonstration	Proctored practical
Project Management*	1/2	E	8	5	125	36		89		50			50
Ethics and Social Responsibility*	1/2	E	8	5	125	36		89			100		100
Entrepreneurship*	1/2	E	8	5	125	36		89		50	50		
Special Regulations (Up to 280 characters)													
*Students take two electives each semester. Electives may be run in either semester but are subject to minimum numbers are resource constraints.													