Liverpool Life

One of the most affordable and safest student cities in the UK, Liverpool is packed with attractions. There’s a legendary music scene that’s bigger than the Beatles; a city centre brimming with clubs, pubs, bars, restaurants and cafes; award-winning shopping facilities, museums, galleries and theatres; not to mention two Premier League football clubs, golf courses, beautiful parks and outstanding countryside just a short drive away.

Come to study in this magnificent city and you are guaranteed a second home for life.

And when it comes to exploring Liverpool, thanks to our numerous cultural partnerships, you’ll have a host of opportunities to get involved with the city’s arts scene during your studies. Whether it’s listening to a classical concert in the newly refurbished Philharmonic Hall, watching a performance in the award-winning Everyman, or visiting Tate Liverpool in the Albert Dock, as an LJMU student you will have unprecedented access to world-class attractions.
Welcome to LJMU's School of Natural Sciences and Psychology

The School of Natural Sciences and Psychology delivers postgraduate courses in psychology and an extensive choice of research opportunities across established and emerging fields. We have an excellent research reputation and are highly rated by our postgraduate students. In the REF 2014, 96% of the work we submitted for the Psychology, Psychiatry and Neuroscience category was considered world-leading or internationally important.

Our academic team includes world leading experts and we allocate experienced supervisors to all of our postgraduate students to provide the academic and pastoral support you need to achieve your full potential. Our thriving postgraduate research community is fully integrated into wider School activities.
In 2016, LJMU became the first university to receive two commended judgements in the Higher Education Review by the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA).

All UK universities undergo a rigorous independent review by the QAA to check that they meet set standards. Our review saw us far exceeding the criteria, being commended for the quality and enhancement of our student learning opportunities and being praised for nine other areas of good practice.

The benefits of studying at LJMU were clearly outlined by the QAA. The report commented on our:

- provision of clear expectations for students
- curriculum enhancing placements
- continual development of teaching staff
- work, enabling students to reach their graduate potential
- programme monitoring and improvement processes
- ability to collect and act on student feedback
- identification of enhancement opportunities for students
- strengthening collaborative partnerships
- partnerships with postgraduate research students

This ground-breaking result means that, as a future student, you can have total confidence that LJMU delivers an exceptional learning experience and ranks amongst the very best in the UK.

Leading the way in education

Postgraduate study options

QUALIFICATIONS AVAILABLE

LJMU offers a wide range of taught and research programmes delivered by academics actively involved in innovative research and ground-breaking consultancy projects. Indeed, it is this combination of academic expertise and ‘real world’ experience that helps ensure our programmes are up-to-date, accredited by key professional bodies and deliver the knowledge, skills and experience required to achieve your professional ambitions.

Postgraduate Certificates (PgCert) and Diplomas (PgDip)
- can act as stand-alone professional qualifications
- can mark interim achievements en route to a full (taught) masters qualification

The Postgraduate Certificate or Diploma in Education (PGDE or PGCE)
- offers a route into teaching for those with an undergraduate degree
- focuses on developing teaching skills

Taught Masters (MA, MSc, MBA)
- builds on undergraduate knowledge and skills
- can be studied 12 months full-time, with a two year part-time option often available
- often enables you to select specialist optional modules based on your own interests
- involves a dissertation
- sometimes available for those with little/no academic experience in the subject area

Master of Research (MRes)
- focuses on individual research project work
- ideal if you want to pursue a research career
- provides you with an academic mentor who will become your Director of Studies should you progress to a PhD programme

MPhil
- focuses on using appropriate research methods and techniques to conduct an independent enquiry
- can be completed in one to four years, depending if you are a full or part-time student

Doctorate or PhD
- focuses on making an original, personal contribution to the understanding of a problem, the advancement of knowledge or the generation of new ideas
- takes between three and six years to complete, depending on your mode of study

Professional Doctorate
- involves making a significant contribution to the enhancement of an occupational or professional area through the application, development and testing of theoretical frameworks
Why study at LJMU?
A global university

LJMU is a global university, welcoming students and staff from over 100 different countries and working in collaboration with businesses, professional bodies and educational institutions from all over the world.

We offer students and staff exciting opportunities to work, train or study overseas, encouraging them to embrace international employment opportunities. Our appetite for collaboration has created huge success and inspired our graduates to see beyond national boundaries and cultural traditions.

Excellent facilities

The School of Natural Sciences and Psychology, in the Byrom Street site of the City Campus, offers excellent research facilities. Psychology is based in the purpose built, £26 million Tom Reilly Building which features: appetite laboratories, psychology testing labs and neuroscience labs. Byrom Street also has high quality lecture theatres, meeting and seminar rooms, IT facilities plus a large Starbucks café and social spaces. The Avril Robarts Library, open 24/7 during semesters, is just minutes away on Tithebarn Street.

Employment opportunities

The School of Natural Sciences and Psychology has an excellent employability record. Indeed, in 2015, 100% of those in employment six months after graduation were in professional or management roles.

Postgraduates from the School of Natural Sciences and Psychology go on to a variety of careers. Recent alumni are working in roles including: Researcher, Forensic Anthropologist, Health Psychologist, Health Trainer, Health and Migration Consultant and Assistant Psychologist.

Potential employers in this area include: museums, universities, the Police, the Serious Organised Crime Agency, MI5, the National Government Development Programme, the Civil Service, health promotion organisations, the NHS, pharmaceutical companies, national and international wildlife conservation NGOs, national and international environmental consultancy agencies, zoos, wildlife parks, animal sanctuaries and reserves.

First class learning resources

LJMU has three libraries: the Aldham Robarts library at the Mount Pleasant Campus, the Avril Robarts library in the City Centre and the IM Marsh library.

A hub for all front-line student services, our libraries are the place to: register and enrol, hand in your coursework, pay fees and get guidance on anything related to the student experience. All libraries have WiFi so you can work on your own device, borrow a laptop or book a PC. You can also book a space to work quietly with friends and can print, copy and scan items here too.

In essence, our libraries offer:

- 2,000 study spaces - including designated postgraduate areas for when you need some quiet time to focus and meeting areas so you can collaborate in groups
- helpful and friendly academic liaison librarians for each Department/Faculty
- Wi-Fi access
- networked PCs and access to 2000+ applications
- laptops you can borrow when you need to be out and about
- helpdesk and induction sessions to familiarise yourself with the resources and facilities available
- a user-friendly search engine to search more than 820,000 items including 650,000 printed resources, 129,000 e-Books, 45,000 electronic journal titles, online newspapers, legal databases, company journals and special collections

World-leading research

The Research Centre in Brain and Behaviour acts as a multidisciplinary meeting point for all researchers who share an interest in, and a passion for, research into the brain/mind. The Centre acts as a catalyst for growing collaborations, bringing together researchers from:

- the School of Natural Sciences and Psychology
- the School of Sports and Exercise Science
- the School of Psychology at the University of Liverpool
- Liverpool Neuroscience Group
- the Neuroscience Research Unit

Staff conduct high quality research in areas including:

- health psychology
- behavioural medicine
- neuroscience
- appetite
- pain
- psychophysiology
- emotional computing
- cognition
- meditation, mindfulness and wellbeing
- substance abuse
- health prevention

Our students are supervised by experts working at the leading edge of developments in their field and our work is funded by bodies such as: EU FP7, ERDF, the Leverhulme Trust and BBSRC.

For more information about Natural Sciences and Psychology see the School web pages at ljmu.ac.uk

“I would encourage anyone to come to LJMU to study at postgraduate level.” Mature student, Catherine Gadd
Our people

Our academics have the specialist knowledge and industry insight to make a real difference to your future. Here are just some of the tutors based in the School of Natural Sciences and Psychology.

**DR LISA NEWSON**

Health Psychologist

“As a practitioner psychologist I work closely with health professionals and offer support to patients with specific health conditions.”

Lisa’s career began in the NHS as a programme and commissioning manager within public health. She moved into academia in 2011 to develop her interest in healthcare research and to promote the field of health psychology.

Lisa is an HCPC Practitioner Psychologist; a BPS Chartered Health Psychologist and a BPS Health Psychology Stage Two professional supervisor and assessor. She is currently carrying out: public health research in smoking cessation, physical activity and obesity plus healthcare research in Type 2 diabetes, the treatment of obesity, improving patient adherence to clinical advice and experiences of care.

Living in North Wales, Lisa likes the outdoor life and particularly enjoys cycling with her family.

**DR MARK FORSHAW**

Health Psychologist

“The best part of my role is the fact that I get to work with some extremely interesting colleagues, students and trainees. Working alone in a laboratory is not something I would enjoy.”

Over his career, Mark has worked as editor for the International Journal of Health Promotion and Education, external examiner for numerous MSc and Professional Doctorates, HCPC Visitor and BPS Accreditation Visitor and reviewer for many journals and publishers. In 2011 he won the BPS DHP Award for Outstanding Contribution to Health Psychology.

Mark’s research interests include applications and interventions in health psychology, disability, coaching and mentoring.

Away from work, Mark loves to write, paint and enjoys music, film and travel. If he didn’t have to work he says he would visit every country on earth.

**DR PETER MALINOWSKI**

Positive Psychology and Wellbeing

“The most rewarding aspect of my work at LJMU is that my research into meditation and my positive psychology teaching contribute to the development of greater inner freedom for our students.”

Peter studied a PhD in Psychology at the University of Konstanz in Germany and then worked as a postdoctoral researcher in neuroscience at the University of Liverpool.

He joined LJMU in 2003 and is now a Reader in Cognitive Neuroscience and Director of the Meditation Research Lab at LJMU’s Research Centre for Brain and Behaviour. He serves on the Board of Directors for the international association Consciousness Mindfulness Compassion and is an Associate Editor for the scientific journal Mindfulness.

Peter’s research is primarily focused on investigating the psychological and neuroscientific processes involved in meditation practice and how they lead to mental and physical effects. The aim, he says, is to use this understanding to develop and fine-tune meditation and mindfulness programmes.

In his free time, Peter enjoys teaching Buddhist meditation, which he says allows him to “enjoy the world’s richness through meeting many inspiring people and visiting exciting places”.

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Our people

Our academics have the specialist knowledge and industry insight to make a real difference to your future. Here are just some of the tutors based in the School of Natural Sciences and Psychology.
Following her undergraduate degree in Psychology, Esther Gabriel joined LJMU to study for a masters in Health Psychology.

“I chose to study at masters level because I want to be a psychologist and therefore need a postgraduate qualification. I liked the fact that UK courses were just a year long and also that the standard of education is very good. I looked into a list of schools and discovered that LJMU was one of the best.

LJMU has good, innovative courses and my personal tutor and academic support group are always there to help whenever I need them. PG study is exactly what I was expecting: challenging, satisfying and fulfilling.

I am really keen to learn about holistic healing. Sustaining a patient’s psychological wellbeing is an essential part of recovery. Mortality rates in a large number of long term conditions can often be attributed to depression or a sense of hopelessness which, in many cases, could be resolved.

My studies have given me a sense of empowerment, showing me that I can be what I want to be, they have expanded my research capacity and shown me that I can make a difference to those whose mental health issues are all too often ignored.

My personal tutor is a real source of motivation, encouraging me and showing me the way. I have never been made to feel uncomfortable when I have asked questions and no-one has given me the impression that my questions were foolish.

I feel a sense of safety in Liverpool and that, to me, is essential to my productivity. Liverpool is a friendly, serene city offering good value for money. I will certainly recommend it and LJMU to my friends.

On graduation I want to do a PhD in Psychology and, long term, I want to become a leader in the field of health psychology for chronic conditions, including addictions.”
This MSc in Health Psychology meets the Stage One training requirement for BPS accreditation. The course has a strong emphasis on psychological investigation and exploring ethical issues.

**Why study this course at LJMU?**

Fully accredited by the British Psychological Society for Stage One Training in Health Psychology, this MSc is ideal if you have an interest in how psychology affects health and illness behaviour, and how it can be used to enhance wellbeing and encourage healthier lifestyles.

To meet the basis for Chartered Membership from the British Psychological Society, you must fulfil a number of requirements:

- Stage One training involving the successful completion of a BPS accredited Masters programme in Health Psychology (provided by this programme)
- Stage Two training involving a minimum of two years spent acquiring a range of supervised competences

You will benefit from this course if you are intending to, or currently work with clients with long term conditions, as the programme examines issues of coping and adjustment as well as relationships with caregivers. The curriculum draws on a multidisciplinary approach to health and covers the entire lifespan, making it suitable for those working with children and/or adults.

As a student on this programme, you will have access to state-of-the-art facilities in the Tom Reilley building. You can expect a high level of academic and pastoral support set within a friendly and informal atmosphere. Our academic team includes Health Psychologists registered with the BPS and HCPC and RAPPS Approved Supervisors for trainees continuing onto the BPS Stage Two Qualification in Health Psychology or the LJMU Professional Doctorate in Health Psychology.

**You will study the following modules:**

- Empirical Project
- Long-Term Conditions
- Research Skills and Methodology for Health Psychology
- Analysis for Health Psychology
- Fundamental Issues in Health Psychology
- Health Psychology: Context and Applications
- Stress, Health and Coping
- Psychosocial Factors and Health

**Teaching and assessment**

The course provides a range of learning approaches. Assessment methods include: essays, conventional written exams (seen and unseen), critiques, case studies, workbooks, reports, reflective portfolios, presentations, the research proposal and dissertation.

Workshop activities provide opportunities for formative feedback from peers and tutors. Tutor support during the preparation of coursework also provides formative feedback.

**Graduate employment**

Health psychology graduates work in a variety of areas. Many go on to Stage Two training and subsequently achieve Chartered Psychologist status, becoming HCPC Registered Health Psychologists. Some work in research settings and go on to doctoral research (PhD), a growing number work in health education, health promotion, health administration and health audit and others are involved in the organisational aspects of delivering health care work within the health service.

Past graduates have secured roles including: PhD Researcher, Health Trainer, Health and Migration Consultant, Assistant Psychologist and Smoking Cessation Advisor at organisations including Ps4SE, The NHS, The Adelphi Group and mental health care groups.

**Entry Requirements:**

- Minimum 2:1 in Psychology plus eligibility for GBC. Applications from those who show that they have some experience of working in health are welcomed. Overseas students must satisfy BPS conditions for Graduate Basis for Chartership (GBC).
- IELTS score of 6.5 (minimum 5.5 in each component) or equivalent.

**Fees:**

See website for details.

**Programme Leader:**

Dr Lisa Newson L.M.Newson@ljmu.ac.uk

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“I found the course stimulating and the teaching outstanding. The course provides a current and relevant grounding for a career in health services.”

Katy Davis, recent graduate
Learn how to promote and preserve human virtues, strengths and skills that are at the heart of “happiness, wellbeing and a meaningful and socially engaged life”.

Why study this course at LJMU?
Positive psychology is a rapidly evolving field which enriches psychological work in a broad range of applied areas. Put yourselves at the forefront of these exciting developments by studying this programme, which is one of only a few available in the world. You will learn about happiness, wellbeing, flourishing and the different human traits, strengths and skills that contribute to a meaningful and fulfilled life. Topics taught will include positive neuroscience, happiness, character strengths, meditation, mindfulness and wellbeing across the lifespan, as well as the main theories of positive human development.

You will be taught by internationally leading, research-active academics in the fields of positive psychology, wellbeing, meditation, mindfulness and related fields. Our staff have a wealth of experience applying positive psychology principles with different target groups. Their research-led teaching will allow you to develop an evidence-based approach that builds on the latest scientific findings.

A unique feature of the programme is a focus on mindfulness-based strengths practice through the inclusion of a practice-based module. Building on the internationally leading expertise of our staff in these areas, you will have the opportunity to gain in-depth theoretical, practical and experiential insights, as well as learning how to translate the underlying principles into different applied contexts.

You will have access to state-of-the-art facilities in the Tom Reilly Building, while small group teaching will mean you can expect a high level of academic and pastoral support within a friendly and informal atmosphere.

Teaching and assessment
The programme is designed to develop knowledge and practical skills for applying positive psychology principles in different settings. Teaching in small groups is supported by strong online support through LJMU’s virtual learning environment. Workshops and tutor support during coursework preparation provide opportunities for formative feedback from peers and tutors.

Students looking to embark on a research career with a particular interest in positive human functioning will benefit from LJMU’s research-led teaching that builds on the extensive research expertise of our staff. Assessment methods include: essays, written exams, critiques, reports, reflective portfolios, presentations, practical demonstrations and an empirical dissertation.

Graduate employment
This postgraduate qualification advances your ability to apply positive psychology principles in an effective, knowledgeable and evidence-based way. For psychology graduates it can be a route towards a career in applied psychological practice or a next step towards a career in Clinical Psychology or Talking Therapies. You may choose to continue in education or research, even taking your studies to doctoral level.

Professionals in fields such as health and wellbeing, coaching, health promotion, occupational psychology, education, counselling and psychotherapy or personnel development will be able to broaden their expertise and incorporate Positive Psychology approaches into their professional development.

The programme will support students in developing their personal, sustained mindfulness meditation practice. This will be particularly useful for students who wish to embark on a mindfulness teacher training programme.

By engaging with our growing network of external partners, you will gain insights into different fields of applied positive psychology and will learn how to translate your knowledge and skills into workplace settings. This will support you in building relationships with the professional world of positive psychology.

Entry Requirements:
Minimum 2:2 in Psychology or 2:1 in Social Sciences, Counselling, Educational Studies, Business Studies, Social Enterprise studies or similar. Non-standard applications are also welcome. IELTS score of 6.5 (minimum 5.5 in each component) or equivalent.

Fees:
See website for details.

Programme Leader:
Peter Malinowski  P.Malinowski@ljmu.ac.uk

You will study the following modules:
- Concepts in Positive Psychology
- Pathways to Wellbeing
- Promoting and Preserving Wellbeing
- Meditation and Mindfulness
- Research Skills for Positive Psychology
- Analysis for Positive Psychology
- Empirical Project

Study full-time over one year or part-time over two years

Open to international students
"I am really enjoying the Professional Doctorate in Health Psychology. Although it is very challenging, University lecturers and supervisors are always on hand to support me. I definitely think that I have made the right decision in choosing this course as it will inevitably prepare me for my career."

Rupy Kaur

The Professional Doctorate in Health Psychology is a BPS accredited and HCPC approved programme. It is designed to meet the requirements for BPS Stage 2 training in Health Psychology and eligibility for registration as a Health Psychologist with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC).

Why study this course at LJMU?

Taught in the award-winning Tom Reilly Building, this programme gives you the opportunity to work closely with Practitioner Health Psychologists who are leaders in their research fields and experts in training. These helpful and approachable staff provide a supportive and friendly environment in which to progress your training and career.

The programme is underpinned by a strong focus on equipping future Health Psychologists for a range of professional scenarios. Graduates can look forward to career opportunities in behaviour change, consultancy, teaching, research, health education, health promotion, health administration and health audit.

In-keeping with the nationally agreed curriculum competences for Health Psychologists, you will develop your skills in teaching and training, behaviour change interventions, research and consultancy, demonstrating that you have the professional skills needed to qualify as a Health Psychologist. This is achieved through your own job role, taught sessions on the programme and extensive supervision.

You will study the following modules:

- Planning Practice in Health Psychology
- Health Psychology Professional Practice
- Reflection in Health Psychology

Teaching and assessment

Course assessment methods include a log and diary of professional practice, case studies, reflections on each competence and a viva voce examination.

In terms of research, you will produce a number of publishable papers and submit them to peer-reviewed journals.

Graduate employment

A growing number of health psychology graduates work in health education, health promotion, health administration and health audit. There are also opportunities in the organisational aspects of delivering healthcare within the health service and in research/teaching.

Programme staff have previously supervised trainees working in: the health service, universities and private healthcare companies including occupational health, health and safety laboratories and pharmaceutical companies. They have also worked with staff from private practices offering health coaching and therapeutic interventions.

Entry Requirements:

A good honours degree in Psychology and GBC, BPS accredited MSC in Health Psychology normally at merit level or higher plus a suitable placement opportunity. IELTS score of 7.0 (minimum 6.5 in each component) or equivalent.

Fees:

See website for details.

Programme Leader:

Dr Mark Forshaw  m.j.forshaw@ljmu.ac.uk

Open to international students
Research opportunities

Conduct research alongside leading experts, using world class facilities. Study for an MPhil full-time over 12 months or part-time over up to 48 months or for a PhD full-time over 24 months or part-time over up to 84 months.

We offer expert supervision in psychology and neuroscience plus the opportunity to join a thriving and supportive research environment where students are viewed as a valued and integral part of our team.

All students are invited to engage with leading-edge research and scholarship and receive excellent academic and pastoral support. Doctorate students are asked to contribute to the School’s extensive research seminar programme, which attracts speakers from LJMU and other higher education and research institutions across the UK and internationally.

For more information please visit: ljmu.ac.uk/research
All LJMU students have access to a wealth of support services to make your time with us as happy and fulfilling as possible.

Counselling and mental health
Our free service offers one-to-one and group counselling sessions, as well as mental health guidance and support.

Disability
We have disability co-ordinators in every academic School and an on-site assessment room for those with additional needs.

English language support for international students
We provide pre-sessional English courses for those whose language capability does not meet entry requirements. See ljmu.ac.uk/isc for more details.

Funding
Our team provide information on postgraduate funding including loans, grants and bursaries as well as offering guidance on budgeting and money management.

Spiritual support
Confidential, non-judgemental pastoral care and support is available for students of all beliefs and backgrounds. We have facilities for quiet meditation, prayer and contemplation on each campus, as well as dedicated space for Muslim prayers.

Student advice and wellbeing
Our team offer advice and guidance on issues ranging from health to accommodation and childcare.

Study skills
Workshops are available on various aspects of postgraduate study, including academic writing, effective reading skills, exam and revision skills, report writing and IT skills.

Support for international students
As well as a ‘meet and greet’ service when you arrive in the UK, our international team will help with issues such as your visa, setting up a UK bank account and an email address and registering with the police, contact: international@ljmu.ac.uk

“In my opinion the support on offer is one of the main benefits of studying at LJMU.”
Stephen Smith, LJMU student
Research shows that postgraduates earn, on average, 24% more than those with an undergraduate degree.

Postgraduate study at LJMU is geared towards meeting the needs of employers and an impressive 96% of our postgraduates are in work or further study six months after graduation."

Develop the skills you need
We offer an exceptional careers support service which enables you to demonstrate to potential employers that you have the skills and experience they are looking for.

Additional support
Our careers centre runs regular workshops and webinars covering topics such as CV writing, application forms, interviews, assessment centres, psychometric testing and more. Our Faculty careers zones at Byrom Street, IM Marsh and the Aldham Robarts library host regular employer visits where you can meet, network and discuss career opportunities.

Careers support for postgraduate researchers
Catering for the specific needs of Postgraduate researchers, our three month ‘Your Career, Your Choice’ programme enables you to complete up to 12 interactive workshops. You will receive one-to-one career coaching as well as developing practical skills in writing impactful CVs, job hunting, preparing for interviews and creating an online profile.

Entrepreneurship
If you have ambitions to be your own boss or work freelance, expert help is available from our Centre for Entrepreneurship. As well as providing mentoring services, the Centre helps entrepreneurs to achieve key milestones by offering advice on a wide range of topics including access to funding.

*HESA 2016

“My studies at LJMU and the help I have received from the careers team have given me the confidence to go out and work in industry, applying the knowledge and skills I have gained at LJMU.”

Omer Chiyoyo Kamwena, LJMU student
Accommodation

All new LJMU students are guaranteed a room endorsed by the University no matter what your level of study.

For further details of University endorsed accommodation, go to:
ljmu.ac.uk/postgraduate/accommodation

For details of private rental accommodation go to:
liverpoolstudenthomes.org.uk
Funding your studies

An annual tuition fee is payable for all postgraduate courses, either in full at the beginning of the academic year or in instalments throughout the year.

For details of full and part-time annual tuition fees, please see individual programme factfiles. You can search for your specific programme at ljmu.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate

For information about loans, scholarships and bursaries to fund your postgraduate study, go to: ljmu.ac.uk/postgraduate-funding

LJMU graduates will also find details of the 20% tuition fee reduction here.
The University offers the information contained in this brochure as a general guide only to prospective postgraduate students wishing to apply for a place at the University to start a course in 2018/19. It does not constitute or form part of any contract and is not binding on prospective students, students or the University. The information in this brochure is correct at the time of going to press (June 2018) and the University hopes to provide the programmes and facilities set out in this brochure. However, some changes will inevitably occur in the interval between publication and the academic year to which the brochure relates and the University reserves the right to withdraw or make alterations to courses and facilities if necessary. Applicants should not rely solely on this brochure and should use this brochure in conjunction with the University website.