

MSc Behavioural Science Structure				
Code	Name	Units	Term	Notes
PB400	Advances and Debates in Psychological and Behavioural Science	0	Compulsory – AT	Compulsory non-credit bearing lecture series.
PB405	Foundations in Behavioural Science	1	Compulsory – AT	These core courses form the crux of the programme. Each contains essential insights, both theoretical and methodological, that are fundamental in pursuing research anchored by behavioural science.
PB4A7	Quantitative Applications for Behavioural Science	0.5	Compulsory – AT	
PB413	Experimental Design and Methods for Behavioural Science	0.5	Compulsory – AT	
PB421	Happiness	0.5	Semi-compulsory – WT	There are eight behavioural science semi-compulsory courses, each offering insights and applications into a different field of study within the discipline. Students must choose at least one of these course codes at a minimum, or two as a maximum.
PB434	Behavioural Science in an Age of New Technology and AI	0.5	Semi-compulsory – WT	
PB435	Behavioural Science for Planetary Wellbeing	0.5	Semi-compulsory – WT	
PB436	The Science of Time at Work	0.5	Semi-compulsory – WT	
PB438	Behavioural Science of Cross-Cultural Cooperation and Conflict	0.5	Semi-compulsory – WT	
PB440	Modelling Minds in Society	0.5	Semi-compulsory – WT	
PB441	Wellbeing for Policy	0.5	Semi-compulsory – WT	
PB453	Corporate Behaviour and Decision Making	0.5	Semi-compulsory – WT	
PB417	Consumer Psychology for Sustainability	0.5	Optional – WT	If students only choose one course from the semi-compulsory list, they can choose another PBS 0.5-unit option where there is availability. Alternatively, students can choose another Winter Term option hosted by another department, subject to the approval of both PBS and the outside department.
PB418	Corporate Communications	0.5	Optional – WT	
PB428	Political Psychology	0.5	Optional – WT	
PB431	Societal Psychology of Economic Life	0.5	Optional – WT	
PB432	Social Representations: Social Knowledge and Contemporary	0.5	Optional – WT	
PB433	Theory and Practice of Organisational Development	0.5	Optional – WT	
PB439	Leadership in challenging times	0.5	Optional – WT	
PB457	Organisational Culture	0.5	Optional – WT	
PB458	Dialogue: Conflict & Negotiation	0.5	Optional – WT	
	Or: another Winter Term option from the list. Students are only able to take one course outside of PBS.	0.5	Optional – WT	
PB410	Dissertation	1	Compulsory – WT/ST	Students are required to write a dissertation on a subject of their choice that relates to the programme.

MSc programmes at LSE are made up of four units. Please take time to read the [programme regulations for MSc Behavioural Science](#) so you fully understand how these units are allocated across the year. The below table is an overview of the four components that make up MSc Behavioural Science.

LSE term dates can be found here: <https://info.lse.ac.uk/current-students/term-dates>.

Students are required to make two choices: one semi compulsory option to the value of 0.5 units; and one additional option (that can be another from the semi-comp list, or an alternative from within the department / School) at 0.5 units. Three sample possibilities:

Example 1:

- PB405: Foundations + PB4A7: Quant Applications + PB413: Experimental Design (all compulsory).
- PB421: Happiness (semi comp) + PB434: Behavioural Science in the Age of New Technology and AI (alternative behavioural science course as optional)
- PB410: Dissertation (compulsory)

Example 2:

- PB405: Foundations + PB4A7: Quant Applications + PB413: Experimental Design (all compulsory)
- PB441: Wellbeing for Policy (semi comp) + PB431: Societal Psychology of Economic Life (optional, hosted by PBS)
- PB410: Dissertation (compulsory)

Example 3:

- PB405: Foundations + PB4A7: Quant Applications + PB413: Experimental Design (all compulsory)
- PB436: The Science of Time at Work (semi comp) + [MY457: Causal Inference for Observational and Experimental Studies](#) (outside course)
- PB410: Dissertation (compulsory)

Note: other departments in the school run courses that cover behavioural concepts through the lens of their core disciplines. To save time, it is worth running a 'ctrl+f' search on 'behaviour' or 'behavioural' on the [course overview webpage](#) to see the different options available.

Wellbeing Specialism Structure

MSc Behavioural Science has a [wellbeing specialism](#) students can opt into. Students self-select into the specialism via the courses they choose. Students must enrol on **both** PB421 Happiness and PB441 Wellbeing for Policy, and their dissertation must have a wellbeing focus.

Wellbeing Specialism example:

- PB405: Foundations + PB4A7: Quant Applications + PB413: Experimental Design (all compulsory).
- PB421: Happiness + PB441: Wellbeing for Policy (both compulsory for the wellbeing specialism)
- PB410: Dissertation (compulsory – must be focused on a topic that is wellbeing related)

AI and New Technology Specialism Structure

MSc Behavioural Science also has a new [AI and New Technology](#) specialism students can opt into. Students self-select into the specialism via the courses they choose. Students must enrol on PB434: Behavioural Science in an Age of AI and New Technology and one of the following courses: PB429 Science, Innovations and the Human Future, PB458 Dialogue: Conflict & Negotiation, PB440 Modelling Minds in Society, MY459 Computational Text Analysis and Large Language Models, MY474 Applied Machine Learning for Social Science, MY475 Applied Deep Learning for Social Science, MY481 Generative AI for Social Science Research.

To be eligible for this specialism students must also write their MSc dissertation on a topic related to behavioural science in the context of AI and New Technology.

AI and New Technology Specialism example:

- PB405: Foundations + PB4A7: Quant Applications + PB413: Experimental Design (all compulsory).
- PB434: Behavioural Science in an Age of AI and New Technology (comp for specialism) + MY475 Applied Deep Learning for Social Science (semi comp for specialism)
- PB410: Dissertation (compulsory – must be focused on a topic that is AI and New Technology related)

Course Selection

[A helpful guide to course selection can be found here that covers everything students need to know - please take some time to read through it.](#) **Course selection opens at 10am on Thursday 24th September via LSEforYou (LFY) and can be accessed for two weeks** (although students will be able to browse courses in the system from 10am on Monday 21st September). Although **faculty will not start responding to PBS optional course requests until Friday 25th September**, students should engage with the system at some point on 24th September.

1. Students enrol on PB405, PB4A7, PB413, PB410, all of which are compulsory courses on the programme. To do this, students select the relevant course codes from the list.
2. The programmes team will then allocate you to a seminar for PB405, PB4A7, PB413 (please note that there are no seminars for PB410)
3. Students apply for the semi-comp and PBS optional courses they would like to enrol on. **Students need to provide a short statement (around 100 words) outlining motivation for optional courses (this is built into the interface).** When submitted, this goes to the course leader who decides an outcome.
4. If accepted, the student then confirms their enrolment in LFY and selects their preferred seminar for the half unit options.

Important information regarding course selection:

- **Every course has a cap (also known as ‘controlled access’)** depending on how many seminars are running. We will always prioritise behavioural science students on the semi-comp behavioural science courses, but everything else is dependent on availability. Most students get their 1st choice combination within PBS - we just do not know what courses will see high demand until course selection opens.

- Courses hosted by other LSE departments (such as Management or Government) will prioritise their own students before accepting 'outside' students, so it might be trickier to get a place.
- **Course selection reopens in January before the start of Winter Term.** It is not unusual for students to move courses during this window on reflection of the academic content they have been exposed to during the Autumn Term, although availability may be more limited.

Timetabling

[All timetabling at LSE can be found here.](#) Below is how PB405, as an example, is outlined:

Code	Teaching Title	Type	Grp	Day	Room	Start	Finish	AT Wks	WT Wks
PB405	PB405 Foundations in Behavioural Science	LEC	1	Tue	CKK.LG.09	15:00	16:30	2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11	
PB405	PB405 Foundations in Behavioural Science	LEC	1	Tue	CBG.G.01	15:00	16:00		1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11
PB405	PB405 Foundations in Behavioural Science	LEC	1	Thu	CLM.2.02	09:00	10:30	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11	
PB405	PB405 Foundations in Behavioural Science	SEM	1	Fri	CLM.1.02	09:00	10:30	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10	
PB405	PB405 Foundations in Behavioural Science	SEM	1	Fri	PAR.1.02	14:00	15:30	11	
PB405	PB405 Foundations in Behavioural Science	SEM	2	Fri	CLM.1.02	10:30	12:00	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10	
PB405	PB405 Foundations in Behavioural Science	SEM	2	Fri	PAR.1.02	14:00	15:30	11	
PB405	PB405 Foundations in Behavioural Science	SEM	3	Fri	CKK.1.07	13:00	14:30	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10	
PB405	PB405 Foundations in Behavioural Science	SEM	3	Fri	PAR.1.02	15:30	17:00	11	
PB405	PB405 Foundations in Behavioural Science	SEM	4	Fri	CKK.1.07	14:30	16:00	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10	
PB405	PB405 Foundations in Behavioural Science	SEM	4	Fri	PAR.1.02	15:30	17:00	11	

1. Initially it may look confusing, but we will go over everything in the induction. [The Course Selection guide also covers timetabling.](#)
2. Your selected seminar will appear on LFY and [StudentHub](#) alongside the relevant lectures to inform your personal timetable.
3. As well as the core PB405 lecture there is also the 'Wider World' lecture series which runs from 3pm on Tuesdays.

Contact and Support

- If, at any point, you have questions about the above, or anything at all, feel free to reach out to the BeS Programme Manager Chris Roberts (pbs.msc@lse.ac.uk)
- who leads on all the administrative aspects of the MSc.
- During Welcome Week you will also be allocated an [academic mentor](#), who is also a source of support throughout the academic year. Students can either email or book an office hour with them. We recommend booking a meeting with them twice a semester to have a general chat, but no obligation if you do not feel the need.
- You can book an office hour with any academic at LSE (not just faculty in PBS) via [Studenthub](#).