Q. Am I eligible to apply for this Masters?

A. We welcome applications from candidates of all backgrounds meaning every year we have a cohort of students with a great variety of experiences. You do not need to have teaching experience to join the Psychology and Education course. The minimum requirements are a 2:1 (or foreign equivalent) Undergraduate Degree, good command of written and spoken English and a demonstrated interest in Psychology and Education. Your eligibility to undertake a full- or part-time Masters in the Faculty of Education at Cambridge is determined by our University’s Board of Graduate Studies. More details can be found on the Masters entry requirements page.

Q. I am an international student. Will this course be suitable for me?

A. We welcome applications from overseas students. Every year we have a sizeable proportion of international students on our course. The Faculty of Education has many international partnerships and values the intellectual diversity that overseas students can contribute.

Q. How often will I need to be present at the University?

A. Teaching and supervision takes place during term-time at the Faculty of Education (with maybe one or two additional dates per year). Terms are three eight-week periods, details of which can be found on the University website. You may need additional time for meetings with your supervisor and those can be at mutually convenient times. Full-time Masters students need to attend on Mondays and Wednesdays. Part-time Masters students need to attend on Wednesday afternoon only (2pm-7pm). The Faculty library is also open late on Wednesdays so you can make the most of your visit if you are coming from far away. It might be helpful to look at the University's terms of residence for full- and part-time students.

Q. When should I apply? What if the deadline has passed?

A. You should apply as early as possible when you are able to complete your application. Spaces fill up fast and we are generally over-subscribed. If a deadline has passed you are still welcome to send us your application, but you are also encouraged to apply again the following year if your application reaches us too late.

Q. Do I need to have a research project in mind when I apply?

A. You do not need to have a specific project in mind when you apply, although it will be important to demonstrate your interest in Psychology and Education in your application. This can be through projects you have already taken part in, or through a discussion of themes that are close to your heart. It helps to look at the Psychology and Education research themes to get an idea of the areas of expertise within our supervision team.
Q. If I am not accepted this year, can I apply again next year?

A. You are always welcome to apply again. It helps to put in an early application and to demonstrate your interest in Psychology and Education through a detailed description of your previous experience and future plans.

Q. If I am interested in GBC, but I don’t already have 60 undergraduate psychology credits, how can I get these?

A. If you also wish to obtain GBC through the Psychology and Education Masters, then you will need to provide evidence of 60 credits of psychology at the undergraduate level (or the equivalent of 6 months’ undergraduate study of psychology). These can either be obtained through a typical Bachelors degree, or through short courses offered as overviews for those returning to study. In either case you will need to provide the transcripts showing you have completed at least 60 credits with your application to our programme, or demonstrate that you are undertaking these credits and will have completed them before starting the Masters.

We do not offer such courses here, but you can find several appropriate ones with various patterns of delivery (e.g., distance learning; intensive residential course) by searching online. The credits should ensure you have a broad basis in psychology so that you are not starting from zero when you undertake the Masters with us. Introductory modules or topic-specific modules are both acceptable.

Q. Do I need to complete the 60 pre-requisite credits for GBC before I start the Masters?

A. You must complete the 60 credits before starting the Masters in October. However you do not need to have completed these before submitting your application.

Q. What is the balance between psychology and education on the course?

A. The balance is fairly even between these two elements. You can find out more about our research by looking at the Psychology and Education webpages and browsing through our staff profiles.
Q. Do I choose the topics for my essays?

A. You are given some guidance, but you also have a degree of flexibility in your essay topics so that you can explore themes that you are interested in. For the first essay you select one from a list of about 20 set questions across the five core topics. For your second essay you select two journal articles to evaluate that relate to your proposed research topic for your thesis.

Q. What opportunities will I have to interact with other students and staff besides lecture time?

A. You will have one-on-one meetings with your supervisor to discuss your essays and your thesis. You will also be invited to attend the Psychology and Education Academic Group seminars, delivered by visiting academics. There are many other seminars taking place in the Faculty and throughout the University and you are always welcome to attend those as well.

Q. What avenues could the Masters in Psychology and Education open for me?

A. If you choose to apply what you have learned during your time with us as a teacher or working in another area of education then you will be equipped to evaluate research that is relevant to your area, making you a better practitioner.

If you have completed the additional British Psychological Society GBC element then you will be well-prepared to go on for further study in Psychology. This can lead to work, for example, as a Chartered Clinical or Educational Psychologist.

You will also have mastered the research skills necessary for undertaking PhD work in the fields of Psychology and Education. Many of our current PhD students first completed our Masters.

Q. How can I fund my Masters?

A. It is your responsibility to secure funding for your studies. There are a variety of funding sources, which can be applied for. You may find the information on Masters funding page useful.