

MRes vs MSc in Psychology

Confused about which
one is right for you?

Let's break it down



What is an MSc?

MSc (Master of Science):

- Taught degree
- Structured modules + exams/coursework
- Includes a dissertation (usually 3–4 months)
- Common across psychology, neuroscience, data, health

👉 Best if you want broad training + flexibility

What is an MRes?

- MRes (Master of Research)
- Research-intensive degree
- Minimal taught content
- 60–70%+ time spent on research
- Often embedded in active research labs

👉 Best if you want PhD-style training early



Key Differences (Quick Compare)

MSc

- More taught content
- Broader skill exposure
- Shorter dissertation
- Often better for career pivots

MRes

- Heavily research-focused
- Longer, deeper project
- Close supervision
- Designed for academic pathways



For Clinical / Counselling / Neuropsychology

MSc is often:

- More common
- More flexible
- Better combined with RA/Assistant Psych roles

MRes helps if:

- You're research-heavy
- You want a competitive academic ed



Visa & Funding Considerations

Important practical differences:

- MSc programs = more widely available
- MRes = fewer seats, sometimes better

Always check:

- Visa compliance
- Funding source
- Progression routes

