Based in the beautiful city of Edinburgh (frequently ranked the most liveable city in the UK), you will study Cognition in Science & Society at this world-renowned University. Edinburgh is also the centre of the largest Arts festival in the world, the Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

It is intended for graduates in psychology, linguistics, philosophy, or computing science / informatics and related disciplines who wish to pursue advanced research on the scientific understanding of human cognition and how that scientific understanding can help address issues that are important for society. The programme provides the opportunity for students to develop skills in communicating and applying both their own research and the research of others. Students who have well-developed written and oral communication skills will be encouraged to take on placement projects for knowledge exchange in areas of public service or commercial organisations.

Other students may choose to pursue research that has implications for the broader society but is conducted in an academic setting. Completion of the programme would provide the foundations of a research doctoral training programme, or a career oriented to applying scientific knowledge on human cognition in health care, industry, education, public bodies, charities and for policy makers, or in science writing for the general public or non-academic professionals. The programme is led by Professor Robert Logie and has links with research groups that work at the international cutting edge of the cognitive sciences.

The programme combines the scientific study of human cognition from the perspectives of psychology, linguistics and philosophy with the application of cognitive science to broader societal concerns. Students focus on research methodologies and theories of the cognitive sciences, but also explore the synergy between core science and its applications. This unifies forms of scholarly activity that are often pursued independently. Teaching follows an interdisciplinary approach with courses drawn from Cognitive Psychology, Cognitive Epidemiology, Neuropsychology, Linguistics, Philosophy, Informatics, Research Methods and Statistics.

An important feature will be training in oral and written dissemination of science to academics, commercial and government organisations, policy makers and the general public. Students will also select optional courses allowing them to pursue more advanced study within subsets of the contributing disciplines, and the MSc project work will link their chosen areas of focus with questions of relevance for society. In some cases, projects will involve placement in areas of government, education, health care, other public bodies, charities or commercial organisations. In other cases, the project will be carried out within the University but focused on a topic that is of relevance to a topic of importance for society.

Programme aims
The programme lays emphasis on the following outcomes:

- To provide a basis for research in the core theories of cognition, language, and communication.
- To provide a broad grounding in the research methods of the sciences of human cognition.
- To facilitate the ability to integrate knowledge across different disciplines and different methods and approaches to the study of human cognition.
- To develop the ability to examine problems of importance to society, and develop strategies for addressing them through appropriate methods in the laboratory or in an applied setting.
- To enhance the ability to communicate scientific findings to both the general public as well to the professionals in the public and private sectors.
- To develop skills in knowledge transfer.
- To provide a comprehensive understanding of the basic principles of research design and application.
- To enhance competency in understanding and applying a range of methods and research tools, skills in research management including managing data and conducting, disseminating research in ways consistent with both professional practice and the normal principles of research ethics.

Dates
Entry is September of each academic year, the programme is one year full time, students will be expected to complete in the August following their enrolment.

Who Should Apply?
The MSc is designed to be accessible to students who have a degree in psychology, linguistics, philosophy, informatics / computing science or a related discipline. Interested candidates with other backgrounds are encouraged to contact the Programme Director Professor Robert Logie in the first instance.

For full details please contact the Postgraduate Office at the School of Philosophy, Psychology & Language Sciences pplspg@ed.ac.uk or visit: http://www.ppls.ed.ac.uk/postgraduate