

Psychology							
Module Code	Module Title	ECTS Credits	Semester/ Duration	% Exam	% CA	Pre-requisite	Notes
PSU1205V	Evolutionary Psychology	5	Semester 2	100	0	PSU1214V or equivalent	<p>The aim of this course is to illustrate the advantages of adopting a “biological perspective” in studying human behaviour. Evolutionary Biology provides explanations for two sets of phenomena:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) How the plethora of species emerged from a common single ancestral species in a series of descendant and radiating lineages; 2) How organisms come to be well-matched to face the threats and opportunities in the environment they inhabit. <p>Evolutionary Psychologists claim that their account of human nature follows from applying the principles of evolutionary biology to the study of the human mind. Questions to be addressed in this module include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) What are the contemporary principles of evolutionary biology? 2) Are these principles being applied by Evolutionary Psychologists? <p>Together with discovery of the nature of particulate inheritance (the gene) and the sciences of molecular and developmental biology, evolutionary biology provides the fundamental basis for our understanding the human condition, and of our relationships with our physical, social, and biotic environment. An effective comprehension of typical and atypical human behaviour, both in health and disease, requires knowledge of evolutionary principles and an appreciation of the manner in which they have shaped biological processes at both an individual and a population level</p>
PSU1208V	Fundamentals of Neuroscience and Behaviour	5	Semester 2	100	0	PSU1214V or equivalent	<p>This module is designed to introduce students to the field of social psychology and the principles underlying group and individual interaction.</p> <p>It will present the historical and philosophical roots of social psychology in the context of the current state of the discipline. Students will be acquainted with debates and tensions between different schools within social psychology and to present critiques of the discipline. The module aims to present the richness, complexity and variety of human social behaviour and the discipline that studies it in a conceptually integrated way</p>

PSU3469V	Advanced Personality & Individual Differences	5	Semester 2	100	0	PSU1214V or equivalent	<p>The field of individual differences is primarily concerned with exploring variation between people in terms of how they think, act, and behave; and to understand how and why such variations come about.</p> <p>This course is designed to consolidate and build upon the freshman module in Personality and Individual Differences, but will focus more heavily on the measurement and conceptualisation of human mental abilities, and will involve critical evaluation and appraisal of the empirical data to support the central tenets of the different theoretical models.</p> <p>The course will explore the structure and measurement of ability processes including factor analytic models of ability, Gardner’s multiple intelligences, and Sternberg’s triarchic theory of intelligence.</p> <p>The course will also cover the social and biological origins of ability processes and the stability of these constructs as we age, the neuroscience of ability processes, cognitive epidemiology, and the applications of ability testing in everyday life.</p> <p>Primary sources (i.e. journal articles) will be used heavily in this course.</p>
PSU3470V	Psychoanalysis and Personality	5	Semester 2	100	0	PSU1214V or equivalent	<p>The main aims of this module are to provide students with a basic knowledge of psychoanalytic ideas, drawing on a number of traditions within psychoanalysis and exploring the differences between such perspectives and other psychological perspectives.</p> <p>An aim of the module is also to demonstrate the manner in which psychoanalytic ideas can be drawn on in thinking about cultural phenomena as well as in clinical contexts.</p> <p>The module thus gives students a foundation in ideas they may later draw on in clinical and counselling psychology training as well as in fields of counselling and psychotherapy.</p>

PSU3472V	Creative Cognition	5	Semester 2	100	0	PSU1214V or equivalent	<p>The aim of this module to provide an advanced evaluation of psychological knowledge on creative cognition that builds on the foundation provided in the PS1234 Thinking module.</p> <p>It will familiarize students with the core theoretical and methodological issues in the scientific study of human creativity and imagination.</p> <p>It will enable students to develop a critical assessment of experimental studies of human innovation, including conceptual combination, category expansion, the creation of alternatives to reality in adulthood and the role of pretence in childhood.</p> <p>It will facilitate students in the formulation of rigorous evaluations of experimental investigations of human insight, analogy, scientific discovery and imagery.</p> <p>It will foster a critical appreciation of the influence of contextual factors such as culture in creative endeavours</p>
PSU3473V	Human Reasoning	5	Semester 2	100	0	PSU1214V or equivalent	<p>The aim of this module is to provide an advanced evaluation of psychological knowledge on human reasoning that builds on the foundation provided in the PS1234 Thinking module. It will familiarize students with the core theoretical and methodological issues in the scientific study of human reasoning and decision making.</p> <p>The module is designed to enable students to develop a critical assessment of experiments on human social reasoning, including moral judgment, intentional reasoning, and reasoning about social dilemmas.</p> <p>It will facilitate students in the formulation of rigorous evaluations of experimental studies of human hypothetical thought, including conditional reasoning, counterfactual thought, causal reasoning, and argumentation. It will foster a critical appreciation of experimental investigations of decision making, including planning and risky choices.</p>

PSU3475V	Psychology of Religion and Spirituality	5	Semester 2	100	0	PSU1214V or equivalent	<p>In this module we examine the core phenomena of religious and spiritual belief and practice – faith, guilt & forgiveness, worship - through the lenses of different psychologies. Psychoanalysis, social, cognitive, behavioural, biological, evolutionary and positive psychology have all addressed these. We explore their theoretical perspectives, methodologies and the types of empirical data they have gathered.</p> <p>We also look at distinctive features of human culture that, while not specifically religious, are arguably fundamental to the experience of being human, such as art, fiction and humour.</p> <p>Core to the module is consideration of multiple rationalities & the nature and status of different types and levels of knowledge – religious vs scientific, psychological vs sociological, evolutionary vs humanistic – in understanding the human condition</p>
PSU3483V	Advances in Neurotherapy: From Molecules to Prosthetics for Neuropsychiatric and Neurological Disorders	5	Semester 2	100	0	PSU1214V or equivalent	<p>Neuropsychiatric and neurological disorders are widespread and disabling conditions in society, compromising individual quality of life and diminishing productive potential while placing a great strain on health-care systems and care-givers.</p> <p>This course examines a number of these disorders, and places a particular focus on the translation of basic neuroscience to clinical disorders, and vice versa.</p> <p>This module provides students with an understanding of neuropsychiatric and neurological disorders, particularly in terms of their interrelatedness with neurocognitive function and their modelling by preclinical animal models.</p> <p>A particular focus will be on current and developing neurotherapeutic strategies (from molecular to behavioural to assistive/invasive technology approaches).</p> <p>Advances in technologies to model, probe and support nervous system function will be a key feature too, whether from a behavioural, pharmacological and/or neural prosthetic perspective</p>

PSU3484V	Developing brains, developing persons: from culture to consciousness	5	Semester 2	100	0	PSU1214V or equivalent	<p>This module is intended to convey the idea that there are other ways of approaching the study of brain structure and function beyond the conventional focus of parsing cognitive, affective and others functions using standard tools (such as brain imaging). There is a very large amount of important and interesting research work being conducted at the intersection of the brain, other disciplines and society at large. These topics vary dramatically: they can include the impact of the brain sciences on the courtroom to understanding the nature of the brain's response during aesthetic experience, or neurobiology of poverty and adversity on development.</p> <p>The course is therefore intended to broaden and deepen the understanding of the student of the cognitive and brain sciences as they impact on the individual and their place and interaction with development, family, and society at large. The course therefore will explore topics of contemporary relevance and interest to the individual and society at large on the implications of discoveries about brain and cognitive function through the prism generated by the brain and cognitive sciences.</p> <p>It is intended that the course will be broad and deep, moving from the immediacy of the impact of the local familial environment, to the effects of poverty and adversity on brain development, structure and function, to considering the nature of the neuroaesthetic response, to questions of ethics and law, and finally to extreme brain states (e.g. torture), and a consideration of principles-based counterfactual neuroscience analysis ('impossible' brains, such as the zombie brain)</p>
PSUV1009	Psychological Disorder	5	Semester 2	100	0	PSU1214V or equivalent	<p>This course describes and outlines the major theoretical approaches to the diagnosis and treatment of psychological disorders.</p> <p>It considers the historical development of the concept of mental illness/psychological disorder and examines the various lenses through which it is currently viewed.</p> <p>The module will identify contemporary diagnostic criteria for a range of disorders and will critically evaluate the role of biological, social, cultural and economic influences in defining and diagnosing mental health.</p> <p>The course will examine the application of various research methodologies to studying the causes of mental illness, along with current best-practice psychological and pharmacological interventions.</p> <p>Finally, ethical and legal implications of approaches towards psychological disorders will also be considered</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">For more information on module descriptors please click the module code</p>							
<p style="text-align: center;">Please note that Modules relate to the 2023/24 Academic Year and are subject to change</p>							