School of Psychology, Trinity College Dublin

Erasmus/Visiting Student Modules

2014 - 2015
Please note courses are assigned a certain number of credits which indicate their contribution to the year's work.

**PS1A09 Psychological Disorder**
- **Duration:** 1 term (Hilary)
- **Contact hours p/w:** 2 lectures
- **Assessment:** 1 x 2-hr exam (multiple choice)
- **Weighting:** 5 Units
- **Description:** This lecture course introduces students to a variety of approaches to conceptualising and treating a range of psychological and physical problems. This includes an overview of behavioural, humanistic, cognitive, psychoanalytic and biomedical perspectives; an outline of contemporary diagnostic principles and practice; examination of a diverse array of disorders, including depression, anxiety and schizophrenia, psychophysiological, somatoform and sexual disorders, and neurological, addiction and personality disorders.

**PS1A01 Introduction to Psychology**
- **Duration:** 1 term (Michaelmas)
- **Contact hours p/w:** 2 lectures
- **Assessment:** 1 x 2-hr exam (multiple choice)
- **Weighting:** 5 Units
- **Description:** A broad introduction to the major conceptual approaches, theories, principles and research domains of contemporary psychology. The five main areas of psychology are discussed: neuroscience, which is a study of the mind by looking at the brain; developmental, which investigates how people grow and learn; cognitive, which uses an information-processing or computational method to studying the mind; social, which examines how people act and interact in groups; and clinical, which focuses on mental illness and its treatments.

**PS1A03 History of Psychology**
- **Duration:** 2 terms (Michaelmas and Hilary)
- **Contact hours p/w:** 1 lecture MT, 1 lecture HT
- **Assessment:** 1 x 2-hr exam
- **Weighting:** 5 credits
- **Description:** As a discipline develops in time it produces both a theory and a history. This course traces the history of psychological research and the history of the concepts and categories underpinning theoretical and empirical work in modern psychology. It concentrates on the development of psychology in the 19th and 20th centuries, including an exploration of the earlier philosophical background. To identify the historical antecedents of present-day research activity, lectures will be given by members of staff focussing on the history of their particular research area as well as core content. The course aims to inform students on the intellectual background to the discipline as well as the research history of specific topics within the discipline.

**PS1A06 Social Psychology**
- **Duration:** 1 term (Hilary)
- **Contact hours p/w:** 2 lectures
Assessment: 1 x 2-hr exam
Weighting: 5 credits
Description: This course presents the richness, complexity and variety of human social behaviour and the science that studies it in a conceptually integrated way. Social psychology, as the interface between the individual and the social world, is positioned between the individual level of explanation of most forms of psychology and the societal focus taken by other social sciences. Broad topics covered include social perception, social influence, and social relations.

**PS1A07**  
**Perception**
Duration: 1 term (Michaelmas)
Contact hours p/w: 2 lectures
Assessment: 1 x 2-hr exam
Weighting: 5 credits
Description: The lecture course will be based on an introduction to visual, auditory and haptic perception. The course will also include an introduction to visual cognition including object and face recognition, visual attention and visual search. Evidence from diverse sources such as experimental, cognitive neuropsychological and computational research will be discussed.

**PS1A11**  
**Introduction to Organisations**
Duration: 1 term (Hilary)
Contact hours p/w: 2 lectures
Assessment: 1 x 2-hr exam
Weighting: 5 credits
Description: Most human activity takes place within some kind of organisation. This course explores the organisational aspects of human activity, from the individual who may be selected, trained, develop a role and pursue a career, through the co-ordination of groups and teams, who may work with technology to produce some product or service, to the structure of the organisation which conditions how things work and its culture that expresses its meanings and values.

**PS2A07**  
**Developmental Psychology**
Duration: 1 term (Michaelmas)
Contact hours p/w: 2 lectures
Assessment: 1 x 2-hour exam
Weighting: 5 Units
Description: This course traces human psychological development from the beginning to the end of life. As well as giving a chronological account of what we know about psychological change across the life span, there is a strong focus on theoretical, conceptual and methodological issues.

**PS3A05**  
**Cross Modal Cognition**
Duration: 1 term (Hilary)
Contact hours per week: 1 lecture
Assessment: 1 x 2-hrs 30-mins exam, 1 x essay
Weighting: 5 credits
Description: This course will offer both an investigation of perception in each of the main human sensory modalities (vision, audition and touch) and an integrated examination of how the senses work together. Different approaches to the study of multisensory integration and new topics within this area will be studied including brain imaging, neural responses to objects and faces, selective attention across different modalities, perceptual plasticity and phenomenology (i.e. multisensory illusions). The course will also cover cases in which sensation is deprived in one modality (e.g. blindness) over long or short-term. Finally, the course will also provide an overview of the theoretical approaches to the study of a multisensory condition known as synaesthesia.

PS3A06 Organisational Psychology
Duration: 1 term (Michaelmas)
Contact hours per week: 1 hr-lecture, 1 hr-seminar
Assessment: 1 x 2-hrs 30-mins exam, 1 x essay
Weighting: 5 credits
Description: This course provides an introduction to core theoretical areas in the psychology of work and organisations. It deals with organisations as systems and cultures as well as with how people function within organisations (as leaders, team workers etc.). In parallel with the lecture course is a series of workshops, through which students are facilitated to develop a dossier on an organisation of their choice. This gives an opportunity to apply the ideas in the lecture course in a practical context, and to begin to develop the analytic and evaluative skills which are necessary in organisational Assessment: Course Assessment: is through the dossier and the annual exam.

PSA09 Human Sexuality
Duration: 1 term (Hilary)
Contact hours per week: 1 lecture
Assessment: 1 x 2-hrs 30-mins exam, 1 x essay
Weighting: 5 credits
Description: Human sexuality is often a controversial topic, with people holding divergent views. This course proposes to focus on the psychological factors involved in sexuality in the context of biological, sociological and cultural factors. Various perspectives, e.g. the developmental and psychosocial, will be explored. Psychosexual behaviour in the Irish context and current trends in investigating human sexuality will form part of the course.

PS3417 Health Psychology
Duration: 1 term (Michaelmas)
Contact hours p/w: 1 lecture
Assessment: 1 x 2-hrs 30-mins exam, 1 x essay
Weighting: 5 credits
Description: This course aims to provide a broad introduction to the study of how human psychology and human health intersect. A number of the major
current issues in health psychology will be addressed as will more specific research areas in which psychological knowledge can inform medical and health practice.

**PS3A31  Forensic Psychology**
Duration: 1 term (Michaelmas)
Contact hours p/w: 1 lecture
Assessment: 1 x 2-hrs 30-mins exam, 1 x essay
Weighting: 5 credits
Description: The term ‘forensic’ is generally used to refer to psychologists who work with offenders, and/or victims of crime. Forensic psychology is concerned with the application of psychological principles within the judicial system, as it examines the interface between criminal justice and psychology. The focus of this course places an emphasis on the practical application of psychological theory in a forensic environment. The course aims to train students to apply psychological insights, concepts and skills to the understanding and functioning of the legal and criminal justice system.

**PS3A33  Qualitative Research Methods**
Duration: 1 term (Hilary)
Contact hours p/w: 1 lecture
Assessment: 1 x 2-hrs 30-mins exam, 1 x essay
Weighting: 5 credits
Description: This course is designed to help students to appreciate the philosophical foundations for conducting qualitative research and to understand why and how qualitative research is carried out in psychology. A sample of current qualitative methodologies and examples of how qualitative methods may be applied in psychological settings are provided. The student is introduced to the processes involved in making sense of qualitative data and how qualitative data can and should be analysed and evaluated. Some computer software available for conducting qualitative analysis is explored. Designing qualitative research reports is also covered.

**PS3A43  Development of Perception throughout the Lifespan**
Duration: 1 term (Hilary)
Contact hours per week: 1 lecture
Assessment: 1 x 2-hrs 30-mins exam, 1 x essay
Weighting: 5 credits
Description: This course will involve a study of the capability, development and decline of the main sensory systems throughout the lifespan. The course will begin with a review of sensory and perceptual development in utero and the consequences of the rapid cortical development within the first years of life on visual, tactile and auditory perception. The effects of sensory impairment on perceptual development in the intact senses will also be discussed. Whilst the course will also focus on normal perception in adulthood, particular emphasis will be placed on the effects of ageing on sensory and perceptual capabilities.
PS3A53  Clinical Case Formulation in Adult Mental Health
Duration:  1 term (Hilary)
Contact hours per week:  1 lecture
Assessment:  1 x 2-hrs 30-mins exam, 1 x essay
Weighting:  5 credits
Course content pending confirmation at time of going to press.

PS3A55  The Theory and Application of Behaviour Analysis
Duration:  1 term (Hilary)
Contact hours per week:  1 lecture, 1 seminar
Assessment:  1 x 2-hrs 30-mins exam, 1 x essay
Weighting:  5 credits
Description:  Much of psychology concerns itself with what is happening inside the head or brain. Behaviour Analysis, by contrast, insists that much of the explanation for behaviour, and the leverage to change it, can be found in the analysis of the context in which it develops and occurs. This option explores the theory and basic principles of behaviour analysis and its application to clinical populations. It includes: the three-term contingency as a basic unit of analysis; single-subject designs, functional analysis, applied interventions, verbal behaviour; rule-governed behaviour; stimulus equivalence; self-control.

PS3A56  Human Factors and Organisational Factors
Duration:  1 term (Hilary)
Contact hours per week:  1 lecture
Assessment:  1 x 2-hrs 30-mins exam, 1 x essay
Weighting:  5 credits
Description:  Human action is subject to influences at the levels of task, individual, team, organisation, industry and society. This module will:
- Help the student to critically examine the interplay of these factors in determining the dimensions of human performance – safety, efficiency, reliability, sustainability.
- Introduce students to the range of interventions that have been developed to enhance performance and help them to critically evaluate their effectiveness.
- Expose students to applied human factors research in a range of organisational and societal contexts.
The module will draw heavily on ongoing research projects for its content and will give students hands-on experience of state of the art tools and methodologies.

PS3A59  Neurological Rehabilitation
Duration:  1 term (Hilary)
Contact hours per week:  1 lecture
Assessment:  1 x 2-hrs 30-mins exam, 1 x essay
Weighting:  5 credits
Description:  To be confirmed
**PS3461  Making Sense of Action**
Duration: 1 term (Michaelmas)
Contact hours per week: 1 lecture
Assessment: 1 x 2-hrs 30-mins exam, 1 x essay
Weighting: 5 credits
Description: To be confirmed

**PS3A62  The Psychology of Language**
Duration: 1 term (Hilary)
Contact hours p/w: 1 lecture
Assessment: 1 x 2-hrs 30-mins exam, 1 x essay
Weighting: 5 credits
Description: This module is designed to provide students with an advanced introduction to the study of language and psycholinguistics. It covers the central theories and issues in the psychology of language, including: the neural, social and cognitive bases of language; how the human brain supports production and comprehension of language; the structure and function of language; language acquisition and development, particularly in terms of its interrelatedness with cognitive and socio-cultural development; developmental and acquired language disorders.

**PS3A65  Addiction: Cognition and the Brain**
Duration: 1 term (Hilary)
Contact hours per week: 1 lecture
Assessment: 1 x 2-hrs 30-mins exam, 1 x essay
Weighting: 5 credits
Description: Drug addiction is a syndrome at the centre of which lies impaired control over behaviour, craving and tolerance. This course aims to provide students with a framework for understanding the processes that are involved in drug addiction, placing particular emphasis on the cognitive, emotional and neurobiological aspects of addiction. The aim is to promote an understanding of different addiction types (e.g. cocaine, heroin, and nicotine) while addressing some of the theoretical issues that are prevalent in the addiction literature (e.g., is drug use motivated by drug liking? Is addiction limited to psychoactive substances?).

**PS3A67  Child Health and Wellbeing**
Duration: 1 term (Michaelmas)
Contact hours per week: 1 lecture
Assessment: 1 x 2-hrs 30-mins exam, 1 x essay
Weighting: 5 credits
Description: To be confirmed