Academic Year 2015 - 2016

Module Title :	SS1730 -Introduction to Psychology (10ECTS)
	This introductory module will run in both Michaelmas and Hilary term. The module serves to introduce students to psychology as a broad discipline, and to cover specific topics of interest within the field of social psychology. The module therefore is comprised of two sections:
	 Section One – Introduction to Psychology (Michaelmas Term) Section Two – Introduction to Social Psychology (Hilary Term
Section One	Introduction to Psychology
Module Content	 This section of the module will cover the following topics: History of psychology as a discipline of study Conceptualisation and measurement of personality Learning and the effect of experience on behaviour Psychological perspectives of human development Diagnosis and treatment of psychological disorders Perceiving the external world through our sensory experiences The study of memory, attention, and other cognitive processes Understanding how psychological factors contribute to physical health and illness How development, thought, and behaviour are shaped by culture The psychology of happiness and wellbeing
Learning Outcomes:	 On completion of section one, students will be equipped to: Describe the main fields of study in contemporary psychology, and their associated theories Understand the psychological processes that underpin human behaviour Apply psychological theory to real-world situations Be critical consumers of psychological knowledge, in order to effectively evaluate research findings and theoretical proposals
Section Two Module Content	 Introduction to Social Psychology This section of the module will cover the following topics: Attitude formation, attitude change, and the influence of attitudes on behaviour How we see ourselves: self-concept, self-esteem How we see others: impressions and attributions

	 Groups, conformity, and minority/majority influence Language and communication Prosocial behaviour and the bystander effect Causes and effects of stereotyping, prejudice and discrimination The influence of choice, emotion, and identity on consumer behaviour Obedience to authority and compliance with norms Interpersonal attraction
Learning Outcomes:	 On completion of section two, students will be equipped to: Demonstrate knowledge of the key ideas and concepts of social psychology Understand the impact of psychological factors on human's behaviour in social interactions Apply social psychological theory to real-world examples Be critical consumers of psychological knowledge (specifically within social psychology), in order to effectively evaluate research findings and theoretical proposals
Key Reading/s	Passer, Smith, & Holt (2009). Psychology: The science of mind and behaviour. McGraw-Hill. Feldman (2010). Psychology and your life. McGraw-Hill.
	Baron (2011). Social Psychology. Pearson.
	Hogg & Vaughan (2011). Social Psychology. Pearson.
Additional Readings	Additional readings for specific topics will be recommended throughout the module.
Lecturer / Timetable	Ms Sadhbh Byrne
	One two-hour lecture per week
Assessment 1: (Michaelmas Term)	1 essay / assignment = 30% of overall grade
Assessment 2: (Hilary Term)	Examination = 70% of overall grade