

MODULE SPECIFICATION FORM

Module Title: Introduction to Theory and Methods in Psychology	Level: 3	Credit Value: 20
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Module code: PSY325	Cost Centre: GAPS	JACS2 code: N/A
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Trimester(s) in which to be offered: 1	With effect from: September 2014
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Office use only: To be completed by AQSU:	Date approved: August 2013 Date revised: Sept 2014 Version no: 2
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Existing/New: Existing	Title of module being replaced (if any): N/A
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Originating Academic Department: Psychology	Module Leader: Dr Sahar Hamid
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Module duration (total hours): 200	Status: Core to Psychology Foundation Year Strand (identify programme where appropriate):
Scheduled learning & teaching hours: 50	
Independent study hours: 150	
Placement hours: 0	

Programme(s) in which to be offered: BSc (Hons) Psychology (including Foundation Year) BSc (Hons) Health, Wellbeing and Community (including Foundation Year) BSc (Hons) Complementary Therapies for Healthcare (including Foundation Year) BSc (Hons) Acupuncture (including Foundation Year)	Pre-requisites per programme (between levels): None
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Module Aims:

This module is designed to introduce students to the major research methods and theoretical approaches in psychology.

Expected Learning Outcomes

At the end of this module, students should be able to:

1. Describe a range of research methods
2. Describe and discuss ethical guidelines
3. Describe and evaluate the major approaches in psychology
4. Analyse the application of two or more approaches to one or more aspects of behaviour.

Transferable/Key Skills and other attributes:

- Study Skills
- IT skills
- Referencing

Assessment:

Structured case study assignment in which the student must

- a) explain aspects of a given case using two or more approaches and
- b) evaluate the usefulness of these explanations
- c) suggest research arising from the given case using experimental and non-experimental methods and
- d) discuss methodological and ethical issues arising from suggested research

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting	Duration (if exam)	Word count or equivalent if appropriate
1	1,2, 3, 4	Coursework	100%		1500

Learning and Teaching Strategies:

A variety of teaching and learning strategies will be adopted included lectures, small group work, tutorials, self-directed learning, and formative assessment exercises together with online support via Moodle.

Syllabus outline:

Research methods in psychology: to include experimental and non experimental methods
Strengths and weaknesses of methods
Ethical issues in research with human participants

Approaches in psychology: to include biological, behaviourist, cognitive, individual differences.
Strengths and weaknesses of each approach

Bibliography**Essential reading:**

Gross, R.D. (2010). *Psychology: The science of mind and behaviour*. London: Hodder & Stoughton.

Other indicative reading:

Gross, R.D. (2012). *Being human: Psychological and philosophical perspectives*. London: Hodder & Stoughton.

Eysenck, M.W. (2013). *Simply psychology*. Third Edition. Psychology Press

Journals

No specific journals required for this module but every opportunity will be taken to introduce students to original articles