Module Specification

Psychological Perspectives on Political Violence, Terrorism and Peace

Version: 2023-24, v2.0, 04 Jul 2023

Contents

Part 1: Information

Module title: Psychological Perspectives on Political Violence, Terrorism and Peace

Module code: USPKJU-15-3

Level: Level 6

For implementation from: 2023-24

UWE credit rating: 15

ECTS credit rating: 7.5

Faculty: Faculty of Health & Applied Sciences

Department: HAS Dept of Social Sciences

Partner institutions: None

Field: Psychology

Module type: Module

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: Not applicable

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: See Learning Outcomes.

Outline syllabus: The module covers the following topics:

Introduction to Political Psychology

Foundations of Political Psychology (Key psychological paradigms and their intersection with political systems and theory, including: Biopsychology; Personality; Cognition and Social Identity).

Psychological Perspectives on Political Leadership and followership (trust, dependence, apathy)

Intra-personal Psychological Perspectives on Political Behaviour (Genetics, Information processing and Personality)

Inter-personal Psychological Perspectives on Political Behaviour (Media and Social Influence)

Introduction to the Psychology of Terrorism and Intrapersonal Psychological Perspectives on Terrorism and Political Violence

Interpersonal Psychological Perspectives on Political Violence

Psychological Perspectives on War, Genocide and Intergroup Conflict (including ethics and the responsibility of the discipline)

The Psychological Impact of Terrorism and Political Violence

Psychological Perspectives on Conflict Management and Recovery

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: For 15 credits, students will be expected to engage with the module for 150 hours over the course of a UWE semester. Of this total, 36 hours will consist of contact time and the same amount will be for final revision. The remaining 78 hours will be spread across the module and focused on independent study that includes reading and formative/summative assignment

preparation.

Students will be expected to attend timetabled sessions designed to guide their understanding of the topic material and independent study.

There will be framework-building lectures given by staff with expertise in the area, supplemented by invited lectures from external subject specialists.

The module will use videos, pdfs, and self-directed on-line learning to establish basic knowledge and understanding, followed by group seminars discussing issues arising. Feedback will be provided on a continuous basis throughout the module at the group level and on individual assignments where appropriate.

Focus to be on students engaging with course materials, learning actively, and generating their own areas of interest for further work.

Students will be enabled to use Blackboard, the university supported virtual learning environment to organise and communicate their learning material. Students will be able to engage with the material, other students and members of staff through this system and make use of the various functionalities built into the Blackboard (e.g., blogs, journals, audio, video, discussion boards, wikis, etc.). Moreover, students will be able to communicate with their instructors using university sponsored tools (such as Lync).

Scheduled learning includes lectures, seminars, tutorials, workshops and external visits.

Independent learning includes hours engaged with essential reading, case study preparation, assignment preparation and completion etc.

Scheduled sessions may vary slightly depending on the module choices you make.

Students will receive 3 hours of contact time per week over a 12-week. Contact time

will comprise of a mixed model of instruction that will include lectures and/or workshop sessions.

Module Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

> **MO1** Describe and discuss the application of psychological theoretical frameworks to politics and political violence
>
> **MO2** Synthesise and critically evaluate evidence surrounding intra- and interpersonal factors influencing politically-related cognition (e.g. political ideology, attitudes) and behaviours (e.g. voting decisions and politically-motivated violence)
>
> **MO3** Describe and critically evaluate the explanatory frameworks for political violence and terrorism
>
> **MO4** Describe and discuss the psychosocial effects of terrorism, and describe and evaluate the broader strategies for group and cultural recovery from incidents of terrorism. Particularly those psychosocial strategies that facilitate the promotion of peace and tolerance for diversity

Hours to be allocated: 150

Contact hours:

> Independent study/self-guided study = 114 hours
>
> Face-to-face learning = 36 hours
>
> Total = 150

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at readinglists.uwe.ac.uk via the following link https://uwe.rl.talis.com/index.html

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: The Assessment Strategy has been designed to support and enhance the development of both subject-based and more general skills, whilst ensuring that the modules learning outcomes are attained, as described below.

Assessment part A

A timed written exam under controlled conditions during the university exam period. The exam is chosen to meet the requirement for a controlled conditions assessment and enable critical discussion of the application of psychological theoretical frameworks to politics and political violence as well as surrounding intra- and interpersonal factors influencing politically-related cognition and behaviours.

Assessment part B

Psychosocial Case Study Analysis: Students will conduct and write up a psychosocial analysis of an incident of political violence / terrorism to demonstrate critical understanding of the learning outcomes.

Formative feedback is available to students throughout the module through group discussions, and in workshops. Students are provided with formative feed-forward for their exam through a revision and exam preparation session prior to the exam and through the extensive support materials supplied through Blackboard.

All work is marked in line with the Department's Generic Assessment Criteria and conforms to university policies for the setting, collection, marking and return of student work. Where an individual piece of work has specific assessment criteria, this is supplied to the students when the work is set.

This assessment strategy has been designed following best practice on effective assessment from JISC (http://www.jisc.ac.uk/whatwedo/programmes/elearning/assessment/digiassess.aspx) and The Open University's Centre for Excellence in Teaching and Learning.

Technical design and deployment of the activities will also follow best practice developed at UWE by the Education Innovation Centre in collaboration with academic colleagues across the university. Staff guidance and support are already in place (http://info.uwe.ac.uk/online/Blackboard/staff/guides/summativeassessments.asp).

Assessment tasks:

Examination (First Sit)

Description: Examination (1 hour)

Weighting: 40 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2

Case Study (First Sit)

Description: Psychosocial case study analysis (1500 word max)

Weighting: 60 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO3, MO4

Examination (Resit)

Description: Examination (1 hour)

Weighting: 40 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2

Case Study (Resit)

Description: Psychosocial case study analysis (1500 word max)

Weighting: 60 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO3, MO4

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Law with Psychology [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] LLB (Hons) 2021-22

Psychology [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] BSc (Hons) 2021-22

Applied Psychology [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] BSc (Hons) 2021-22

Health Psychology [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] BSc (Hons) 2021-22

Social Psychology [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] BSc (Hons) 2021-22

Biological Psychology [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] BSc (Hons) 2021-22

Psychology and Mental Health [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] BSc (Hons) 2021-22

Sociology with Psychology [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] BSc (Hons) 2021-22

Psychology with Criminology [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] BSc (Hons) 2021-22

Sociology with Psychology [Sep][SW][Frenchay][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2020-21

Law with Psychology [Sep][SW][Frenchay][4yrs] LLB (Hons) 2020-21

Psychology [Sep][SW][Frenchay][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2020-21

Health Psychology [Sep][SW][Frenchay][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2020-21

Psychology {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2020-21

Applied Psychology [Sep][SW][Frenchay][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2020-21

Social Psychology [Sep][SW][Frenchay][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2020-21

Biological Psychology [Sep][SW][Frenchay][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2020-21

Psychology and Mental Health [Sep][SW][Frenchay][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2020-21

Sociology with Psychology {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2020-21

Psychology with Criminology [Sep][SW][Frenchay][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2020-21

Psychology with Criminology {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2020-21

Sociology with Psychology {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BSc (Hons) 2019-20

Psychology [Sep][PT][Frenchay][6yrs] BSc (Hons) 2019-20

Psychology {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BSc (Hons) 2019-20

Psychology with Criminology [Sep][PT][Frenchay][6yrs] BSc (Hons) 2019-20

Psychology with Criminology {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BSc (Hons) 2019-20

Sociology with Psychology [Sep][PT][Frenchay][6yrs] BSc (Hons) 2018-19

Psychology with Criminology [Sep][PT][Frenchay][6yrs] BSc (Hons) 2018-19

Psychology with Sociology [Sep][PT][Frenchay][6yrs] - Withdrawn BSc (Hons) 2018-19

Psychology [Sep][PT][Frenchay][6yrs] BSc (Hons) 2018-19

Applied Psychology [Sep][PT][Frenchay][6yrs] BSc (Hons) 2018-19