Module Specification

Biological and Cognitive Neuropsychology

Version: 2025-26, v1.0, Approved

Contents

Part 1: Information

Module title: Biological and Cognitive Neuropsychology

Module code: USPJQN-30-M

Level: Level 7

For implementation from: 2025-26

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

College: College of Health, Science & Society

School: CHSS School 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: A module which spans the biological, psychological socio-cultural elements of health and disease, alongside the methodological skills required to investigate complex case formulations.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: To develop a critical understanding of the theoretical underpinnings of health and disease, spanning biological, cognitive and sociocultural

domains.

To provide a context in which knowledge and understanding is applied to both local and global health challenges.

To develop systems thinking in relation to patient case formulations

To develop students' fluency in the translation and communication of findings to peers, specialists and lay audiences.

Outline syllabus: The focus of this module reflects a critical engagement with the broader fields of biological and cognitive neuropsychology and the core BPS (British Psychological Society) requirements. An indicative content is outlined below:

Underlying neurophysiology and evolutionary theories of health and disease.

The role of the sensory-motor system and cognitive function in adaptive behaviour.

The neuroscience of consciousness, including lab-based methods of inquiry.

The biopsychosocial considerations in typical and atypical neuropsychology, for example in the context of acute and persistent pain.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: A variety of learning approaches will be used to support all students in developing an in-depth understanding and critical appreciation of biological and cognitive neuropsychology. Taught sessions at UWE will utilise TEL (see below) where possible, to augment activities such as interactive lectures, tutorials, seminars, workshops, debates, case studies, problem based learning.

Scheduled learning activities:
Interactive lectures, seminars, lab-based practical classes and workshops.

Scheduled contact time is structured around a series of interactive lectures that introduce the key concepts, identify current levels of understanding and pin-point areas of scientific uncertainty. Theory is under-pinned by focussed analysis of selected areas informed by current research and/or emerging areas of interest within research/industry/or popular media arenas.

Independent learning includes hours engaged with essential reading, case formulation preparation, and assessment preparation, peer-peer learning.

Technology-Enhanced Learning (TEL): The module will be supported by a range of technology, ensuring course materials are always accessible. Students will be expected to access reading materials through our online platform for the the module, and engage with additional activities such as accessing video and weblinks. Discussion boards will be enabled for student use, facilitated by the module leader.

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

MO1 Describe and critique current theoretical approaches and research methods used for biological and cognitive neuropsychology

MO2 Critically evaluate research and practice in biological and cognitive neuropsychology.

MO3 Identify and deploy relevant research methods in accordance with a specific research question.

MO4 Apply systems thinking to clinical case formulations to determine potential underlying mechanisms, methods of further inquiry, relevant research and treatment options.

Hours to be allocated: 300

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 252 hours

Face-to-face learning = 48 hours

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/lists/6FE1D101-7310-9508-9B5C-50C8DAEB8815.html

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: The Assessment for this module is designed to allow students to showcase the breadth and depth of their knowledge, as well as skills they have developed, through an application to a real-world challenge. Students' ability to integrate different sources of information, as well as an ability to analyse, synthesize and summarise critically, will be assessed.

Portfolio 1 (weighted at 50%). To include tasks such as: oral presentation (case formulation (10 minutes) and short reports applying biological and cognitive neuroscience in practice.

Portfolio 2 (weighted at 50%). To include tasks such as: full lab report, combining experimental protocol, statistical analysis and interpretation (Biological Psychology focus) (1500 words); short form lab reports x 2 linked to qualitative and quantitative research methods.

Opportunities for formative assessment and feedback are built into the scheduled learning during tutorial and workshop activities. This may take the form of structured activities, discussion of current research, and review of example clinical cases.

Assessment tasks:

Portfolio (First Sit)
Description: To include tasks such as: oral presentation (case formulation (10 minutes) and short reports applying biological and cognitive neuroscience in practice.
Weighting: 50 %

Final assessment: No
Group work: No
Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO4

Portfolio (First Sit)
Description: To include tasks such as: full lab report, combining experimental protocol, statistical analysis and interpretation (Biological Psychology focus) (1500 words); short form lab reports x 2 linked to qualitative and quantitative research methods.
Weighting: 50 %
Final assessment: Yes
Group work: No
Learning outcomes tested: MO2, MO3, MO4

Portfolio (Resit)
Description: To include tasks such as: oral presentation (case formulation (10 minutes) and short reports applying biological and cognitive neuroscience in practice.
Weighting: 50 %
Final assessment: No
Group work: No
Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO4

Portfolio (Resit)
Description: To include tasks such as: full lab report, combining experimental protocol, statistical analysis and interpretation (Biological Psychology focus) (1500 words); short form lab reports x 2 linked to qualitative and quantitative research methods.
Weighting: 50 %
Final assessment: Yes
Group work: No
Learning outcomes tested: MO2, MO3, MO4

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Psychology (Conversion) [Frenchay] MSc 2025-26

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Psychology (Conversion) [Frenchay] MSc 2025-26

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Psychology (Conversion) [Frenchay] MSc 2025-26