



University of the
West of England

MODULE SPECIFICATION

Code: USPJVH-10-0

Title: Foundations of Psychology

Version: 1

Level: 0

UWE credit rating: 10

ECTS credit rating: 5

Module type: Standard

Owning Faculty: Health and Life Sciences

Field: Psychology

Faculty Committee approval: Quality and Standards Committee

Date: June 2011

Approved for Delivery by: N/A

Valid from: September 2011

Discontinued from:

Pre-requisites:

None

Co-requisites:

None

Entry Requirements:

N/A

Excluded Combinations:

None

Learning Outcomes:

The student will be able to:

- recognise the main theoretical perspectives within Psychology;
- describe a range of methodological approaches to Psychological research;
- discuss the similarities and differences between Psychology and the Natural Sciences;
- appreciate the potential vocational applications of Psychological knowledge.

Syllabus Outline:

The module will introduce students to selected topics and approaches to Psychological research and theorising. The syllabus will be structured with the aim of providing sufficient experience of learning and teaching in Psychology to enable students to judge whether they would wish to opt to enrol on an honours degree programme in the discipline. They will also be made aware of the key transferable skills that studying Psychology at degree level will help them develop.

Areas addressed will include:

Introduction to perspectives in Psychology.

Selected topics in Developmental, Cognitive, Social, Humanistic and Differential Psychology.

Practical introduction to selected research designs, methods and data analysis - including experiments and surveys; psychophysiological measurement techniques and psychometrics; descriptive and inferential statistics using both paper and pencil and statistical software.

Teaching and Learning Methods:

Lectures, interactive practicals and workshops, seminars, guided study.

Reading Strategy:

All students will be encouraged to make full use of the print and electronic resources available to them through membership of the University. These include a range of electronic journals and a wide variety of resources available through web sites and information gateways. The University Library's web pages provide access to subject relevant resources and services, and to the library catalogue. Many resources can be accessed remotely. Students will be presented with opportunities within the curriculum to develop their information retrieval and evaluation skills in order to identify such resources effectively.

Any **essential reading** will be indicated clearly, along with the method for accessing it, e.g. students may be expected to purchase a set text, be given or sold a print study pack or be referred to texts that are available electronically, etc. This guidance will be available either in the module handbook, via the module information on Blackboard or through any other vehicle deemed appropriate by the module/programme leaders.

If **further reading** is expected, this will be indicated clearly. If specific texts are listed, a clear indication will be given regarding how to access them and, if appropriate, students will be given guidance on how to identify relevant sources for themselves, e.g. through use of bibliographical databases.

Indicative Reading List:

Current editions of:

Hewstone, M., Fincham, F.D. & Foster, J. (2005). Psychology. Oxford: BPS & Blackwell.

Carlson, N., Martin, G. & Buskist, W. (2007). Psychology (Third European Edition). Harlow: Pearson Education..

Davey, G. (ed.) (2004). Complete Psychology. London: Hodder and Stoughton.

Glassman, W. & Hadad, M. (2004). Approaches to Psychology (4th edition). Buckingham: Open University Press.

MacDonald, M. & Das, S. (2008). What to do with your Psychology Degree. Maidenhead: Open University Press.

Northedge, A. (2005). The Good Study Guide. Milton Keynes: Open University.

Passer, M.W. et al (2009). Psychology: The Science of Mind and Behaviour, European Edition. London: McGraw-Hill.

Assessment:

Weighting between components A and B (standard modules only) A: 50% B: 50%

FIRST ATTEMPT

First Assessment Opportunity

Component A (*controlled*)

Description of each element

EX1 Examination (1 hr) Assessment Period 1

Element Wt (Ratio)

(*within Component*)

Final Assessment 1

Component B

Description of each element

CW1 Coursework portfolio (1500 words minimum)

Element Wt (Ratio)

(*within Component*)

1

Second Assessment Opportunity (Resit) further attendance at taught classes is not required

Component A (*controlled*)

Description of each element

EX2 Examination (1 hr) Assessment Period 3

Element Wt (Ratio)

(*within Component*)

Final Assessment 1

Component B

Description of each element

CW2 Coursework portfolio (1500 words minimum)

Element Wt (Ratio)

(*within Component*)

1

EXCEPTIONAL SECOND ATTEMPT Attendance at taught classes is not required.

Specification confirmed by**Date**
(Associate Dean/Programme Director)