



Module Specification

Critical Thinking (Psychology)

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Critical Thinking (Psychology)

Module code: USPKJW-15-1

Level: Level 4

For implementation from: 2023-24

UWE credit rating: 15

ECTS credit rating: 7.5

Faculty: Faculty of Health & Applied Sciences

Department: HAS Dept of Applied 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: Students will have the opportunity to engage with critical thinking at a number of levels (see below) – each of which might receive different emphasis from different disciplines. For example, they may have the opportunity to learn about:

Key skills – necessary both for academic and broader achievement. The capacity for ethical reflection; conceptual analysis; logical argument; using and exposing abuse of statistics; critique; normative reasoning; self reflection.

Critical engagement with the world outside academia as a source of information and as a realm of problematic issues to be engaged with.

Becoming aware of the potential role of academia and knowledge creation in creating and perpetuating irrationality and injustice and of the role of academia as an agent of positive change through reflection on its relations to wider institutions and social and natural systems.

These areas of critical thinking will arise in the context of exploring substantive topics that may include:

What is University for?; What is critical thinking and why is it important?

Fallibility in Human Cognition and Reasoning

Epistemology and the Scientific Method: The Fallibility of 'Knowledge'

The Fallibility of Psychology as a discipline

The Fallibility of Communication

The Role and Ethical Responsibility of the Discipline

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: For one-third of the total contact time, students will engage with a menu of inter/multi-disciplinary learning opportunities. Inter and

multi-disciplinary events will make a range of traditions in critical thinking available for students to engage with.

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

MO1 An understanding of key aspects of their discipline, including acquisition of coherent and detailed knowledge as it relates to critical thinking

MO2 An ability to deploy accurately established techniques of critical analysis, argument, and enquiry

MO3 An appreciation of the uncertainty, ambiguity and limits of knowledge

MO4 An ability to deploy critical thinking to reflect on and assess aspects of their own beliefs and assumptions

MO5 An ability to communicate using structured and coherent arguments

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](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/uspkiw-15-1.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/uspkiw-15-1.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: The assessment is in the form of a portfolio.

Students must provide evidence of knowledge and capacity to apply critical thinking skills appropriate to their own discipline.

They must also provide evidence that their thinking has developed in relation to a

specified topic, or some aspect of their own beliefs or assumptions – as a consequence of the application of critical thinking.

Such evidence may be made up of a range and number of components. This might include conventional essay writing – and/or online activities such as blogging for example.

The portfolio provides flexibility and scope for such a range of evidence of learning.

Assessment tasks:

Portfolio (First Sit)

Description: Portfolio

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5

Portfolio (Resit)

Description: Portfolio

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Psychology [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2023-24

Psychology [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2023-24

Psychology {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BSc (Hons) 2022-23

Psychology {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BSc (Hons) 2022-23

Psychology {Foundation} [Frenchay] BSc (Hons) 2022-23

Psychology {Foundation} [Sep][PT][Frenchay][8yrs] BSc (Hons) 2021-22