

Module Specification

Module Summary Information

1	Module Title	Psychopathology and Individual Differences
2	Module Credits	20
3	Module Level	7
4	Module Code	PSY7059

5	Module Overview
<p>Introduction to Psychopathology, will introduce the key perspectives in psychology which contribute to the explanation of abnormal states and their impact on disordered thinking, functioning and behaviour. The diagnosis and assessment process of a psychological disorder will play a central role in this module.</p> <p>In addition to this, psychological perspectives deriving from the core areas of: biological, psychodynamic, cognitive, behavioural and social perspectives will be considered to explain the aetiology of and treatment of individuals diagnosed with a psychological disorder. The role of brain functioning will also be discussed in explaining psychological disorders, especially how the brain plays a central role in effecting thinking, functioning and behaviour. The impact of medication on brain functioning and behaviour will also be considered. The inter-relationships across psychological perspectives and cognate disciplines will be discussed in how they can be applied to understanding psychological disorders. There will also be emphasis on applying evidence based approaches, using research examples and highlighting the role of individual differences to critically appraise their role in understanding psychological disorders.</p> <p>How this module fits with the programme philosophy: This module fits in with the programme philosophy because it: a) is delivered in line with British Psychological Society criteria, b) it contributes to the continuing professional development where you will consolidate knowledge and skills in psychology which can be applied to real world contexts, c) teaching methods and assessment in this module facilitates employability skills (e.g. problem-solving, communication, evidence based approaches and critiquing contemporary research).</p> <p>How this module fits with the programme level LT&A strategy: this module fits in with the LT&A strategy for the programme in the following way: a) You will play an active role in your learning, through engaging with and problem solving real world case studies and research, b) learning outside of the classroom will be encouraged, you will be supported with further reading and online based resources which will promote independent learning, c) formative learning activities will play a central role to this module to building confidence and helping you understand the expectations at a Masters level. This will prepare you for your summative assessment.</p> <p>How this module will be taught in line with LT&A strategy: This course is based mainly online, and you are part of a learning community and you will be an active and engaged member of your community, alongside your fellow students and staff.</p>	

6	Indicative Content
On this module you will cover a range of different psychological disorders. You will explore the potential causes of these disorders, using the psychodynamic, cognitive, behavioural and social perspectives. For example, you will explore issues such as depression and anxiety. The possible explanations for how these conditions come about and how they might be treated.	

7	Module Learning Outcomes
On successful completion of the module, students will be able to:	
1	Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of the diagnosis and assessment process of psychological or mental disorders.
2	Critically evaluate how a range of psychological disorders, and/or, mental disorders can impact on the individuals thinking, functioning and behaviour.
3	Appraise and evaluate the explanation of causative factors and treatments of psychological or mental disorders, using evidence based research and relevant psychological perspectives.
4	Consider and evaluate the evidence used in psychological research into mental or psychological disorders.

8	Module Assessment		
Learning Outcome			
	Coursework	Exam	In-Person
1-4	X		

9	Breakdown Learning and Teaching Activities
Learning Activities	Hours
Scheduled Learning (SL) includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, peer group learning, Graduate+, as specified in timetable	7
Directed Learning (DL) includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning, as directed on VLE	68
Private Study (PS) includes preparation for exams	125
Total Study Hours:	200