

Module Specification

Module Summary Information

1	Module Title	Parapsychology
2	Module Credits	20
3	Module Level	4
4	Module Code	PSY4035

5	Module Overview
<p>The parapsychology module focuses on exploring how Psychology is placed in the wider domain of “science” and through debates about the meaning and function of parapsychological belief, parapsychological research, and the social/historical relevance of parapsychology. Throughout the module you will be presented with a number of parapsychological topics (e.g., Alien abduction; Telepathy; Clairvoyance; Demonic possession) which will be underpinned by two broad perspectives: (i) believer and (ii) sceptic. You will be introduced to the methodological, theoretical and psychological problems in examining paranormal belief and experience in order to provide opportunities for the development of semantic learning and critical thinking skills.</p> <p>The scope of this module is to continue to provide the opportunity to advance your knowledge and understanding of Psychology. In addition, the module will highlight the specific role that Psychology plays in examining anomalous events that are reported within human society. The parapsychology module will also identify the skills, competencies and knowledge gained which are relevant to GBC requirements.</p> <p>How this module fits with the programme aims</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internationalisation: Within this module you will be provided with the opportunity to develop an understanding of cross-cultural variations in the reporting of paranormal experiences, and the function that paranormal belief has in different cultures. • Employability driven: This module will provide you with the opportunity to build upon key transferable skills (e.g., communication skills, dissemination of complex constructs, critical thinking.). In addition, this module will provide a solid basis from which academic thinking and academic writing can develop, which are essential for future career paths in applied or chartered Psychology. • Practice-led- & Knowledge-applied: Content of this module will integrate contemporary accounts of parapsychological research and is delivered by lecturers who are active in research into parapsychological beliefs. • Interdisciplinary: The interdisciplinary nature of parapsychology will be highlighted within the module content either in face-to-face lectures and seminars, online additional materials or via readings. • Pursuing excellence: This module will provide opportunities for you to develop and improve your academic and psychological skills through a variety of feedback mediums (e.g., formative activities, online discussion groups/forums, seminars, debates, etc.) <p>How this module fits with the programme philosophy</p>	

This module continues to build upon a scholarly approach and the development of knowledge and understanding acquired in previous modules in Semester one of Level 4. This module will use research and specialist interest examples to facilitate student understanding of complex concepts and debates to encourage critical reflection. In addition, this module provides opportunities to reflect on the practical application of debates, as well as extend and develop confidence in communication, self-efficacy and organisational skills that are required in both the employment sector and continued academic study. Furthermore, the module provides opportunities to foster a greater understanding of the importance of developing a balanced view of the diversity of beliefs and experiences in society.

6	Indicative Content
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Psychological and scientific explanations for anomalous experiences, including:

- Cognitive factors (Memory, perception)
- Belief
- Social and cultural factors
- Personality factors

Scepticism and believer perspectives on a range of anomalous experiences and beliefs

Indicative topic areas include (but are not limited to)

- Psi (telepathy, clairvoyance, precognition, PK)
- Alien abduction
- Demonic possession
- Ghosts and poltergeists
- Afterlife beliefs and experiences
- Shamanism and magic
- Folklore and paranormal myths

7	Module Learning Outcomes	
	On successful completion of the module, students will be able to:	
	1	Understand parapsychological and scientific explanations for anomalous experiences and beliefs
	2	Interpret and evaluate evidence in relation to parapsychological and scientific understandings of anomalous experiences and beliefs
	3	Recognise and evaluate believer and sceptical positions regarding anomalous phenomena

8	Module Assessment		
Learning Outcome			
	Coursework (15%)	Exam (85%)	In-Person
1, 2, 3	X	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	33	
Directed Learning (DL) includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning, as directed on VLE	57	
Private Study (PS) includes preparation for exams	110	
Total Study Hours:	200	