

Module Specification

Module Summary Information

1	Module Title	Cyberpsychology
2	Module Credits	20
3	Module Level	4
4	Module Code	PSY4040

5	Module Overview
<p>The increasing use and accessibility of technology and the internet in our daily lives has led to the development of the area of Cyberpsychology, an area that focusses on the exploration of how we use technology, how we behave online, and how technology in turn shapes our behaviour. This applied area relates to real world issues such as cyberbullying, robotics, online health support, online deception, social media use, trolling, relationships and online research ethics. This module is well placed to allow you to apply psychological theory to contemporary real world phenomena.</p> <p>As an optional level 4 module it provides a great deal of choice for you, and allows you the flexibility to choose the particular topic that you want to learn about and then write about. Whilst you have choice over the topic the assessment is scaffolded in a way as to allow everyone regardless of topic to explore psychological theory and apply it to real world examples. While giving you lots of choice, the module is also intended to give you a supported experience in academic essay writing. Skills that you will develop will include general communication skills of clear and well-structured writing, as well as skills in academic referencing. More specifically, you will learn how to incorporate theories and research evidence in an essay. Lastly, the module requires you to identify/apply what you learn about Cyberpsychology to real world issues and practice, thus consolidating the employability focus of the programme.</p> <p>How this module fits with the programme philosophy</p> <p>This module fits in with the programme philosophy because it: a) allows you to explore scientific, psychological and technological approaches to understanding online behaviour, internet use, new media and intelligent systems; b) it contributes to the continuing professional development where you will consolidate knowledge and skills in Psychology which are applied to contemporary real world contexts such as cyberbullying, online crime, health support forums, trolling, anti-social behaviour, online relationships and deception; c) teaching methods and assessment in this module facilitates employability skills (e.g. communication, thinking and reasoning clearly, of expressing ideas with clarity, and critically reflecting upon your own views and prejudices); d) it aligns with the aims and ethical considerations of the British Psychology Society, and the emerging plans within to promote a Cyberpsychology division.</p> <p>How this module fits with the programme level LT&A strategy</p> <p>This module fits in with the School of Social Sciences Learning Teaching & Assessment strategy in the following way: a) You will develop writing skills based work and group discussions within your workshops, which will support employability skills; b) learning independently will also be encouraged, as you will be supported with further reading and online multimedia resources which will promote independent learning; c) formative learning activities will play a central role to this module to build higher level study skills, as well as prepare you for your summative assessment; and d) the flexible nature of the assessment topic will allow you to tailor your student learning experience towards your current interests and areas relevant to future employment.</p>	

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6	Indicative Content
<p>Cyberpsychology: an exploration of how we use technology, how we behave online, and how technology in turn shapes our behaviour.</p> <p>This applied area relates to issues such as: cyberbullying, robotics, online health support, online deception, social media use, trolling, relationships and online research ethics.</p>	

7	Module Learning Outcomes	
On successful completion of the module, students will be able to:		
	1	Identify how Internet use affects human behaviour, cognition, emotion, interaction, health and research and vice versa.
	2	Demonstrate an understanding of the various applications of psychological theory, knowledge and research to Internet and new media use.
	3	Apply theories, knowledge and research findings from Cyberpsychology to real world practice.
	4	Communicate ideas effectively through written work.

8	Module Assessment		
Learning Outcome			
	Coursework 100%	Exam	In-Person
1, 2, 3, 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	32	
Directed Learning (DL) includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning, as directed on VLE	58	
Private Study (PS) includes preparation for exams	110	
Total Study Hours:	200	