

Module Specification

Module Summary Information

1	Module Title	Communication and Language
2	Module Credits	20
3	Module Level	6
4	Module Code	PSY6102

5	Module Overview
<p>This module will continue to develop key transferrable skills from level 4 and 5 such as group discussion and debate, critical evaluation and evidence-based reasoning. There will be research-led teaching which will explore key debates and methodologies used in language and communication research. The GBC areas of biological psychology, cognitive psychology and developmental psychology will be supplemented through this module.</p> <p>Language is a core element of what makes us human, and our ability to communicate is central to allowing us to develop. This module will allow you to explore the psychology of communication and language. Starting off by understanding the origins of language, looking at the universality of language and communication, this module will go on to explore the cognitive processes of language, provide an overview of language perception, production and comprehension as well as describe the neuropsychological components of language.</p> <p>This module will explore language development in the very early years, answering questions such as 'What is special about language?', 'How do babies learn language?', 'Are there early markers for language delays later in life?' The module will also explore how we produce and perceive speech as well as what happens when these processes breakdown. Animal communication and non-verbal communication such as sign language and gestures will be also discussed; an often forgotten but vital element of communication that provides important insights in to language evolution. Finally, disorders of language and interventions will be explored.</p> <p>The module will be supported by face-to-face learning in lectures and seminars, Moodle (VLE) activities and forums, as well as readings and other activities. Lectures will introduce a topic to students while seminars will support learning by employing practical activities, further instruction, and group work. Seminars will relate to the content in the lecture the week before.</p>	

6	Indicative Content
<p>Subject matter will cover a number of key themes and core knowledge base as related to the module learning outcomes. These include: Introduction to Language and Communication, The origins of language, Early, non-verbal language development, Speech and lexical development, Bilingualism and Second Language Learning, Speech Perception and Production, Language and the brain, Disorders of language and communication, Language and non-verbal gesture, Sign-language & cross-cultural communication, Language processing and social interaction, The evolution of Language: Past, Present & Future.</p>	

7	Module Learning Outcomes		
	On successful completion of the module, students will be able to:		
	1	Critically evaluate theoretical debates and empirical positions addressing key issues concerning how language and communication develop in humans.	
	2	Demonstrate knowledge of and the ability to apply research and theory in the psychology of language and communication in to practice.	
	3	Identify and analyse the importance of non-verbal communication outside of spoken language.	
	4	Show critical insight in to the origins of language and communication in humans as related to the neurobiology of language, and the effects of genetics and environment. .	

8	Module Assessment		
Learning Outcome			
	Coursework	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		31
Directed Learning (DL) includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning, as directed on VLE		39
Private Study (PS) includes preparation for exams		130
Total Study Hours:		200