

Psychology at Kingston covers all aspects of the subject, including social, developmental, biological, cognitive and neuropsychology.

Level 4 modules are introductory in nature and provide a broad foundation of knowledge around key theories and ideas of psychological science. Students will begin to critically analyse historic perspectives, contemporary issues and ways of thinking about identity. They will also be introduced to key strategies which are used in psychological research.

Level 5 modules are more focused and examine the relationship between brain function and our understanding of cognition and behaviour. Students explore current theory and practice that focuses on the person in psychology. Whilst developing experimental research designs and delve further into inferential statistics.

Level 6 modules are more advanced and include child psychology, counselling, health psychology, abnormal psychology, forensic psychology, neuropsychology and occupational psychology.

***Updated March 2025/PJW***

**Entry requirements:** GPA of 2.75 or above (out of 4.0) or equivalent.

**Pre-requisites:**

- **Level 4:** there are no formal pre-requisites though prior study is useful
- **Level 5:** these modules (typically equivalent to junior-level in the US system, for instance) build upon level 4 courses and as such require prior evidence of successful completion of introductory psychology. Any further module-specific pre-requisites are clearly outlined in each module summary below.
- **Level 6:** these modules are much more specialised and require **substantial** prior study of psychology. Any further module-specific pre-requisites are clearly outlined in each module summary below.

**Taught at:** Penrhyn Road campus

KEY TO MODULE DESCRIPTORS

SUITABILITY OF MODULE FOR STUDENTS VISITING KU ON STUDY OPTION \_\_\_\_\_

**1:** Indicates module is suitable for students visiting KU on Study Option 1 (Whole Year)

**2:** Indicates module is suitable for students visiting KU on Study Option 2 (Autumn)

**3:** Indicates module is suitable for students visiting KU on Study Option 3 (Spring)

**Notes:**

1. *All modules are at undergraduate level.*
2. *Students enrolled on Study Option 1 are required to study the entire module.*
3. *whilst the University makes every effort to ensure that this information is correct at the time of updating (March 2025), it cannot accept responsibility for omissions or subsequent changes. Module availability and content may be subject to change, as part of the University's policy of continuous improvement and development.*
4. *Details of assessment for students enrolled on either Study Option 2 or 3 where provided are **indicative only** and may also be subject to change as part of the above policy.*

Study Option 1 = Whole Year  
Study Option 2 = Autumn  
Study Option 3 = Spring

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**Psychology Modules for Visiting Students 2025/26**

<b>MODULE CODE</b>	<b>LEVEL</b>	<b>MODULE TITLE</b>	<b>SUITABILITY KEY</b>
<a href="#">PS4001</a>	4	Psychology Research Methods 1	1
<a href="#">PS4005</a>	4	Introduction to Forensic Psychology	1, 2, 3
<a href="#">PS4008</a>	4	Approaches and Professional Skills in Psychology	1
<a href="#">PS4009</a>	4	Introduction to Psychology	1, 2, 3
<a href="#">PS4010</a>	4	Applying Psychology in the Real World	1
<a href="#">PS5001</a>	5	Psychology Research Methods 2	1
<a href="#">PS5003</a>	5	Brain, Behaviour and Cognition	1, 2, 3
<a href="#">PS5012</a>	5	Social and Developmental Psychology	1, 2, 3
<a href="#">PS5013</a>	5	Psychopathology and Mental Health	1, 2, 3
<a href="#">PS6002</a>	6	Advanced Developmental Psychology	1, 2, 3
<a href="#">PS6003</a>	6	Neuropsychology and Neuro-rehabilitation	1
<a href="#">PS6004</a>	6	Critical Social Psychology: Memory, Narrative & Representation	1, 2, 3
<a href="#">PS6005</a>	6	Psychology of Health and Wellbeing	1
<a href="#">PS6008</a>	6	Advanced Issues in the Psychology of Thinking	1, 2, 3
<a href="#">PS6013</a>	6	Occupational Psychology	1

Study Option 1 = Whole Year  
Study Option 2 = Autumn  
Study Option 3 = Spring

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<b>Module Code: PS4001</b>
<b>Module Title: Psychology Research Methods 1</b>
<b>Credits: Full Year: 8 (US) 15 (ECTS)</b>
<b>Level: 4</b>
<b>Prerequisites: None</b>
<b>Suitability:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Study Abroad/International Exchange students for Study Option 1 only</li> <li>• Not open to Erasmus students, as level 4.</li> </ul>
<b>Content:</b> <p>This module introduces students to key strategies which are used in psychological research, including designing an experiment, hypothesis testing, and statistical analysis. The main features of the module involve the acquisition of practical skills in qualitative and quantitative research, learning how to apply and carry out statistical tests using SPSS, and how to report research findings.</p> <p><b>Topics covered include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Designing research: Conducting literature reviews and developing hypotheses; types of experimental, survey, and qualitative designs; issues of reliability and validity</li> <li>• Ethics: Ethical issues surrounding research design, informed consent, conducting research with vulnerable groups, the use of placebo control groups, and participant confidentiality</li> <li>• Data characteristics and Inferential Statistics: Measures of central tendency; measures of dispersion; the normal distribution; z scores; standard errors and confidence intervals; type I and type II errors</li> <li>• Relationships between variables: Parametric and non-parametric correlation tests; chi-square tests; how to use SPSS to conduct correlations and chi-square; how to interpret and report statistical findings</li> <li>• Comparing two means: Within-subjects and between-subjects t-tests; non-parametric alternatives; how to use SPSS to conduct t-tests and non-parametric alternatives; how to interpret and report statistical findings</li> <li>• Qualitative methods: Different types of qualitative data analyses; strengths and limitations of qualitative approaches; how to analyze and report qualitative data</li> <li>• Disseminating research: How to report quantitative and qualitative research in a variety of formats (poster presentation, oral presentation, and lab report); APA guidelines for reporting results; how to use SPSS, Word and Excel to create tables and graphs</li> </ul>
<b>Teaching: Weekly 2-hour lectures and 1-hour practical workshops</b>

Study Option 1 = Whole Year  
 Study Option 2 = Autumn  
 Study Option 3 = Spring

**Assessment:**

Study Option 1:

- Portfolio of three online tests (40%)
- Two 1,500-word lab reports (60%)

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**Module Code:** PS4009

**Module Title:** Foundations of Psychology

**Credits:**

- Full Year: 8 (US) 15 (ECTS)
- Single Semester: 4 (US) 7.5 (ECTS)

**Level:** 4

**Prerequisites:** None

**Suitability:**

- Study Options 1, 2 & 3
- Not open to Erasmus students, as level 4

**Content:**

This module introduces students to theories and ideas of psychological science in core areas of research. This module allows students to acquire a broad foundation of knowledge of these core areas, as well as many specialist sub-areas of psychology. Topics will include:

- Biological Psychology
- Cognitive Psychology
- Social Psychology
- Developmental Psychology
- Individual Differences
- Mental Health
- Skills for Psychology students

**Teaching:** 2-hour weekly lectures and two 2-hour seminars

Study Option 1 = Whole Year  
Study Option 2 = Autumn  
Study Option 3 = Spring

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**Assessment:**

Study Option 1:

- 1,500-word essay (60%)
- (2 x 40 minute inclass tests) (40%)

Study Options **2/3**: version of study option 1

**Last updated:** 11/04/25 PJW

**Module Code:** PS4005

**Module Title:** Introduction to Forensic Psychology

**Credits:**

- Full Year: 8 (US) 15 (ECTS)
- Single Semester: 4 (US) 7.5 (ECTS)

**Level:** 4

**Prerequisites:** None

**Suitability:**

- Study Options **1** or **2** or **3**.
- Not open to Erasmus students, as level 4

**Content:**

This module will introduce students to major areas of investigation within forensic psychology with special emphasis on how these link to core areas of the discipline (e.g., social, biological, cognitive, individual/personality, and developmental psychology). Historical approaches to understanding crime and the ethical issues that have arisen as a result (and continue to exist today) will also be emphasized. To recognize the contribution of other fields to furthering our understanding of the criminal justice system, students will also be introduced to related topics in law, court procedures, and evidence gathering. The module will also provide some insight into the training and career pathways for forensic psychologists.

➤ **Autumn Semester:**

- history of forensic psychology
- Biological and environmental correlates of crime
- Youth offenders
- Physiological and Verbal Deception Detection
- Nonverbal Deception Detection
- Bias in Investigations
- Interviewing/False Confessions

Study Option 1 = Whole Year  
Study Option 2 = Autumn  
Study Option 3 = Spring

- Who becomes antisocial?
- Substance use
- Cybercrime
- Stalking

➤ **Spring Semester:**

- Victimology and Male Sexual Violation - Victims & Perpetrators
- Adult Sexually Harmful Behaviour
- Clerical Abuse & Child Sexual Exploitation
- Hate Crime
- Psychopathy
- Policing and Institutional Racism
- Jury Decision-making
- Eyewitness Memory
- Domestic Abuse

**Teaching:** weekly 3-hour lecture

**Assessment:**

Study Option 1:

- 1000-word parole assignment (30%)
- 1500-word applied assignment (40%)
- portfolio of class tests (30%)

Study Options 2/3:

- Version of study option 1 assessment

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**Module Code:** PS4008

**Module Title:** Approaches and Professional Skills in Psychology

**Credits:** Full Year: 8 (US) 15 (ECTS)

**Level:** 4

**Prerequisites:** None

Study Option 1 = Whole Year  
Study Option 2 = Autumn  
Study Option 3 = Spring

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**Suitability:**

- Study Option 1
- Not open to Erasmus students, as level 4
- **PS4008 can only be taken if taken with PS4001 and PS4009**

**Content:**

This module will introduce students to the fundamental skills required for studying Psychology at degree level. Students will gain experience and professional skills (aligned with Navigate) for higher education study, including reflexive thinking, critical evaluation and collaborative groupwork. It will look beyond the Eurocentric modes of thinking to consider different ways to construct and share knowledge. The module will examine conceptual and historical paradigms and key philosophical debates and challenges in psychology as a science. It will introduce students to different approaches such as indigenous and Eastern psychological traditions and explore how colonialism has shaped psychological research and theory. This module will introduce students to Future Skills through engagement with Navigate.

**Teaching:** 2-hour weekly lectures and two 2-hour seminars

**Assessment:**

Study Option 1:

- 1.5-hour exam (50%)
- Portfolio of employability and research skills (50%)

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**Module Code:** PS4010

**Module Title:** Applying Psychology in the Real World

**Credits:** Full Year: 8 (US) 15 (ECTS)

**Level:** 4

**Prerequisites:** None

Study Option 1 = Whole Year  
Study Option 2 = Autumn  
Study Option 3 = Spring

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**Suitability:**

- Study Option 1
- Not open to Erasmus students, as level 4

**Content:**

This module will explore the practical applications of psychology in real-world settings, focusing on how psychological principles are used to address contemporary social, occupational, and health-related challenges. Key theoretical frameworks and applied methods will be introduced, along with case studies that illustrate psychology in action. The module will cover diverse areas such as Health Psychology, Educational Psychology, and Sports Psychology, as well as interventions in workplace and community settings. Emphasis will be placed on understanding how research informs practice and the ethical considerations involved. No prior experience in applied psychology is assumed.

Indicative content may include:

- Occupational Psychology
- Media and Consumer Psychology
- Environmental and Social Psychology
- Health Psychology
- Sports and exercise
- Educational/counselling/forensic psychology

**Teaching:** weekly three-hour interactive lectures

**Assessment:**

Study Option 1:

- individually written report (50%)
- presentation (50%)

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**LEVEL 5 – INTERMEDIATE**

<b>Module Code:</b> PS5001
<b>Module Title:</b> Psychology Research Methods 2
<b>Credits:</b> Full Year: 8 (US) 15 (ECTS)
<b>Level 5</b>
<b>Prerequisites:</b> Good mathematical skills or prior study of introductory research methods such as <a href="#">PS4001</a> or equivalent
<b>Suitability:</b> Study Option 1 only
<p><b>Content:</b>            This module builds on the introduction to research methods and inferential statistics offered in <a href="#">PS4001 Research Methods 1</a>. It covers more advanced research designs —involving multiple independent variables — and more advanced quantitative and qualitative methods such as analysis of variance, regression analysis and qualitative analysis. It also develops skills in qualitative research methods and analysis.</p> <p>Topics covered include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The nature of the experimental method</li> <li>• Hypothesis testing, the nature of difference and error and inferential statistics</li> <li>• Multifactorial experimental designs and statistical analysis</li> <li>• Measures of differences, relationships and associations.</li> <li>• Qualitative research methods and analysis</li> <li>• Designing and running psychological experiments</li> <li>• Writing laboratory reports</li> </ul> <p>➤ <b>Autumn Semester:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Science, Pseudoscience and measurement</li> <li>• Central tendency and dispersion</li> <li>• Forward from Z to t?</li> <li>• t-tests</li> <li>• Oneway ANOVA</li> <li>• Lab Report: Introduction and data collection</li> <li>• Data Analysis</li> <li>• Factor Analysis</li> <li>• Correlations</li> </ul> <p>➤ <b>Spring Semester:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ethics, Literature, Design, Group Work</li> </ul>

Study Option 1 = Whole Year  
 Study Option 2 = Autumn  
 Study Option 3 = Spring

- Technical Stuff for running experiments and questionnaires: Qualtrics, SuperLab, MS Forms, PowerPoint
- Partial Correlations and Regression
- Multiple Regression
- Non-Parametric Tests
- Qualitative Methodologies and Data Collection
- Ethics and Evaluating Qualitative Research

**Teaching:** 2-hour lecture and 2-hour laboratory workshops weekly.

**Assessment:**

**Study Option 1:**

- Four consolidation in-class tests (40%)
- 2,000-word laboratory report (30%)
- Group project (30%)

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**Module Code:** PS5012

**Module Title:** Social and Developmental Psychology

**Credits:**

- Full Year: 8 (US) 15 (ECTS)
- Single Semester: 4 (US) 7.5 (ECTS)

**Level:** 5

**Prerequisites:** prior study of introductory psychology at university level

**Suitability:** Study Options 1, 2 & 3

**Content:**

The module will cover a broad range of topics, key theories, applications, and empirical research in social and developmental psychology. This module will allow students to apply theory to current issues and reflect on their own development. Throughout, the importance of culture, ethics, the scientific approach, and the notion of measurement will be fundamental. In addition, the Future Skills Explore Learning Outcomes are delivered in this module.

➤ **Autumn Semester: Social Psychology**

- Introduction to social psychology (theory and research methods)
- Social cognition and social influence
- Identity and Prosocial behaviour

Study Option 1 = Whole Year  
Study Option 2 = Autumn  
Study Option 3 = Spring

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- Attitudes and behaviour change
- Language, power, and misinformation
- Application and integration: Political psychology (political behaviour, prejudice and discrimination, intergroup relations)
- Social Representations and Culture
- Critical Social Psychology

➤ **Spring Semester: Developmental Psychology**

- Attachment across the lifespan
- Social Relations and Development
- Moral development
- Perceptual Development
- Number development
- Language development
- Executive functioning (typical and atypical development)
- Memory development
- Development and culture

**Teaching:** two-hour weekly keynote lectures and a 1-hour interactive workshop session.

**Assessment:**

**Study Option 1:**

- Social Psychology portfolio: Group presentation (15 minutes) (30%)
- Peer evaluation (5%)
- Developmental Intervention report (1,500 words) (35%)
- Portfolio of two reflective reports, 750 words each (30%)

**Study Option 2:**

- Social Psychology portfolio: Group presentation (15 minutes)
- Reflective report 1 (750 words)

**Study Option 3:**

- Developmental Intervention report (1500 words)
- Reflective report 2 (750 words)

*Note: methods of assessment are indicative only*

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Study Option 1 = Whole Year  
Study Option 2 = Autumn  
Study Option 3 = Spring

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<b>Module Code: PS5003</b>
<b>Module Title: Brain, Behaviour and Cognition</b>
<b>Credits:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full Year: 8 (US) 15 (ECTS)</li> <li>• Single Semester: 4 (US) 7.5 (ECTS)</li> </ul>
<b>Level: 5</b>
<b>Prerequisites:</b> Prior university-level study of psychology
<b>Suitability:</b> Study Options 1 or 2 or 3
<p><b>Content:</b> This module covers major topics within the field of cognitive psychology, and will examine the relationship between brain function and our understanding of cognition and behaviour.</p> <p>The module will introduce key theoretical explanations proposed to account for human cognition and introduce students to some real-life applications of cognitive psychology. The module will also introduce students to the structure and function of the nervous system before examining the contribution of specialised brain structures to cognitive functions such as perception, attention, language, memory and decision making, and behaviours such as motivation, emotion and sleep. Finally the module will examine the effect of hormones, drugs and neurological dysfunction on cognition and behaviour.</p> <p><i>Note that some topics may swap semesters.</i></p> <p>➤ <b>Autumn Semester: Methods in Brain Research, the Nervous System and Cognitive Psychology</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The nervous system: brain anatomy</li> <li>• Methods in brain research I: fMRI and neuropsychology</li> <li>• Methods in brain research II: EEG and non-invasive brain stimulation</li> <li>• Methods in brain research III: Heart rate variability-theory</li> <li>• The nervous system: neural transmission</li> <li>• Cognitive psychology: Visual perception</li> <li>• Cognitive psychology: Attention</li> <li>• Cognitive psychology: short-term memory</li> <li>• Cognitive psychology: Long-term Memory: Episodic</li> </ul> <p>➤ <b>Spring Semester: Biological and Cognitive Psychology</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cognitive psychology: Long-term memory: Semantic</li> <li>• Biological psychology: Biopsychology of declarative memory</li> </ul>

Study Option 1 = Whole Year  
Study Option 2 = Autumn  
Study Option 3 = Spring

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- Biological psychology: Amnesia and the brain
- Biological psychology: Parkinson's Disease
- Biological psychology: Biopsychology of Emotions
- Biological psychology: Hormones and Behaviour
- Biological Psychology: Effects of drugs on behaviour
- Biological Psychology: Obesity and Brain Health
- Cognitive psychology: Physical exercise and cognition
- Cognitive psychology: Cognition across the lifespan
- Biological Psychology: the basics of sleep physiology and behaviour

**Teaching:** 2-hour lectures weekly and 5 workshops

**Assessment:**

**Study Option 1:**

- 1,500-word literature review (40%)
- 2-hour exam - 60 multiple-choice questions and one essay style question (40%)
- In-class test (20%)

**Study Option 2/3:**

- 2,000-word literature review (100%)

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Study Option 1 = Whole Year  
Study Option 2 = Autumn  
Study Option 3 = Spring

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<b>Module Code:</b> PS5013
<b>Module Title:</b> Psychopathology and Mental Health
<b>Credits:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full Year: 8 (US) 15 (ECTS)</li> <li>• Single Semester: 4 (US) 7.5 (ECTS)</li> </ul>
<b>Level:</b> 5
<b>Prerequisites:</b> university-level study of psychology
<b>Suitability:</b> Study Options 1 or 2 or 3
<b>Content:</b> <p>This module will examine the nature and treatment of abnormal behaviour, thought and feeling. A range of psychological disorders in childhood and adulthood will be studied. Examples of topics might include phobias, anxiety disorders, ADHD, ASD, personality disorders, eating disorders, schizophrenia, OCD, social anxiety, panic disorders and mood</p> <p>The module will introduce the main characteristics of these disorders, current approaches to understanding and the main treatment options. The module will also explore how cognitive functions can be localised within the brain. Cognitive impairments that can arise in some psychological disorders will be examined. Finally, examples of how neurobiological data can help inform an understanding of psychological disorder will be evaluated.</p> <p><b>Topics covered may include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generalized anxiety disorders</li> <li>• Specific phobias</li> <li>• Obsessive compulsive disorder</li> <li>• Post traumatic disorder</li> <li>• Eating disorders</li> <li>• Mood disorders I</li> <li>• Mood disorders II</li> <li>• Attention-deficit /hyperactivity disorder</li> <li>• Schizophrenia</li> <li>• Autism spectrum disorders</li> <li>• Substance abuse</li> <li>• Personality Disorders</li> <li>• Neurocognitive disorders in later life</li> </ul>
<b>Teaching:</b> 3-hour lectures weekly including an interactive discussion element

Study Option 1 = Whole Year  
 Study Option 2 = Autumn  
 Study Option 3 = Spring

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<p><b>Assessment</b></p> <p>Study Option 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1,500-word essay (40%)</li> <li>• 2-hour exam – two questions out of six (50%)</li> <li>• 2 online contributions (10%)</li> </ul> <p>Study Options 2/3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1,500-word essay (100%)</li> </ul> <p><i>Note: methods of assessment are indicative only</i></p> <p><b>Last updated:</b> 11/04/25 PJW</p>
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<b>Module Code:</b> PS6002
<b>Module Title:</b> Advanced Developmental Psychology
<p><b>Credits:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full Year: 8 (US) 15 (ECTS)</li> <li>• Single Semester: 4 (US) 7.5 (ECTS)</li> </ul>
<b>Level:</b> 6
<p><b>Prerequisites:</b> substantial background in psychology including prior study of developmental psychology such as <a href="#">PS5012</a> or similar.</p>
<b>Suitability:</b> Study Options 1 or 2 or 3
<p><b>Content:</b></p> <p>The module will cover a broad range of issues in developmental psychology including both examples of typical and atypical development, such as infant cognitive and social development, language in typical and atypical populations, children’s understanding of number and dyscalculia, children’s relationships, children's understanding of theory of mind, Autism, among other themes.</p> <p><b>Topics covered may include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The foundations of knowledge</li> <li>• Prenatal development</li> <li>• Early neonate perception</li> <li>• Infant cognitive development</li> </ul>

Study Option 1 = Whole Year  
Study Option 2 = Autumn  
Study Option 3 = Spring



- Infant social development
- Language development
- Preverbal numerical understanding
- Children's understanding of number
- Developmental dyslexia
- Theory of Mind
- Autism
- Children with sensory impairments
- Children's peer relationships
- Emotional disorders

**Teaching:** 3-hour lectures weekly including an interactive discussion element

**Assessment:**

**Study Option 1:**

- 2,000-word essay (50%)
- 2,000-word case study analysis (50%)

**Study Option 2:**

- 2,000-word essay (100%)

**Study Option 3:**

- 2,000-word case study analysis (100%)

*Note: methods of assessment are indicative only*

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**Module Code:** PS6003

**Module Title:** Neuropsychology and Neuro-rehabilitation

**Credits:** Full Year: 8 (US) 15 (ECTS)

**Level:** 6

**Prerequisites:**

Strong background in biological psychology, including successful completion of intermediate-level module(s) covering cognition and biological psychology such as [PS5013](#) Psychopathology and Mental Health or [PS5003](#) Brain, Behaviour and Cognition (or equivalent).

Study Option 1 = Whole Year  
Study Option 2 = Autumn  
Study Option 3 = Spring

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**Suitability:** Study Option 1 only

**Content:** this module has two main parts.

➤ **Autumn Semester - Neuropsychology:**

It places a particular emphasis on understanding the effects of brain activity on cognitive and social aspects of human behaviour (and *vice-versa*). In addition, the module addresses the effects of brain injury and neurological impairments with a view to understand models of normal cognitive and social functioning.

Topics covered include:

- A stroke of insight
- Hemispheric Specialisation
- Neuropsychology of Memory
- Neuropsychology of Attention
- Hemispatial Neglect
- Neuropsychology of Executive Function
- Neuropsychology of Emotion
- Neuropsychology of Reward and Addiction
- Neuropsychology of Eating Behaviours
- Introduction to Social neuroscience

➤ **Spring Semester - Neuro-rehabilitation:**

This part will introduce students to neurological disorders of high level motor control, perception, attention and memory. The up-to date treatment and management of neurological disorders will be evaluated.

Topics covered include:

- Homonymous Hemianopia Can you train the blind brain to see?
- Rehabilitation of Hemispatial Neglect
- Alzheimer's Disease and Cognitive Reserve
- Schizophrenia
- Schizophrenia - Treatments
- Bipolar Disorder
- Brain training and non-invasive brain stimulation
- Neuropsychological assessment
- Neuropsychology of Emotion
- Social Neuroscience
- Principles of Neuro-rehabilitation

**Teaching:** 3-hour lectures weekly, including an interactive element.

**Assessment:**

**Study Option 1:**

- 1,500-word essay (40%)
- 2 blogs (500 words each) (15%)
- 2 essays – 2,500 words (45%)

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**Module Code:** PS6004

**Module Title:** Critical Social Psychology: Memory, Narrative and Representation

**Credits:**

- Full Year: 8 (US) 15 (ECTS)
- Single Semester: 4 (US) 7.5 (ECTS)

**Level:** 6

**Prerequisites:**

Successful completion of intermediate level psychology module covering social psychology such as [PS5012](#) or (or equivalent).

**Suitability:** Study Options **1** or **2** or **3**

Study Option 1 = Whole Year  
Study Option 2 = Autumn  
Study Option 3 = Spring

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**Content:**

This module explores and interrogates social psychology (and its parent discipline - psychology) as a social and intellectual enterprise. What has social psychology achieved? What claims to knowledge does it make? Should we believe its claims? By addressing these issues, the module explores the nature and origins of social knowledge and critically evaluates the basis for any claims to 'absolute truth' or 'absolute reality'.

The module will be of interest to those who wish to examine contemporary beliefs and assumptions about the world on a range of political, philosophical, psychological and moral issues. In the second semester, theoretical knowledge is applied to the study of the collective past (the memory of peoples across generations) – a form of social knowledge involved in the construction of identity.

Students should have an interest in history, philosophy and politics. Detailed historical knowledge is not a prerequisite but it is important to be familiar with key events of the 20th Century and its timeline.

➤ **Autumn Semester: Historical and Philosophical Perspectives, Critical Perspectives on Identity**

❖ ***Historical and Philosophical Perspectives***

- The 'Critical Context' and the Politics of Psychology
- Critical Social Psychology in Historical Perspective
- Postmodernism and Psychology
- The Nature of Knowledge: Epistemology and Ontology
- How Do You See The World? George Kelly's Personal Construct Theory
- The Philosophy of Science and the Limits of Scientific Inquiry
- How 'Real' and 'Stable' is our Social World? Social Constructionism

❖ ***Critical Perspectives on Identity***

- Discursive Approaches to Psychology: Discourse, Narrative and Power
- The Politics of Explanation: Marxism and Individualism
- Identity, Culture and Human Relations
- Feminism: Critical Perspectives

➤ **Spring Semester: The Collective Past, Politics and Identity**

- The Psychology of Politics: Introduction to Political Psychology
- Social Memory and the Collective Past
- The Politics of Memory: The Construction of 'Good and 'Bad'
- Reconstructing the Past in Germany
- Memory and Public Space
- Family Memory, Madness and Identity
- Beyond Borders and Binaries: Introducing a Postcolonial Perspective
- Myth, Difference and the Modern Origins of Racism
- Social Psychology and Social Change
- Integrating Social Psychological Theory into Memory Studies

Study Option 1 = Whole Year  
Study Option 2 = Autumn  
Study Option 3 = Spring

<b>Teaching:</b> weekly 3-hour lecture/seminar
<b>Assessment:</b>  Study Option 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2000-word essay (50%)</li> <li>• 2000-word essay (50%)</li> </ul> Study Options 2/3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2000-word essay (100%)</li> </ul> <i>Note: methods of assessment are indicative only</i>
<b>Last updated:</b> 11/04/25 PJW

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<b>Module Code:</b> PS6005
<b>Module Title:</b> The Psychology of Health and Well-being
<b>Credits:</b> Full Year: 8 (US) 15 (ECTS)
<b>Level:</b> 6
<b>Prerequisites:</b> Successful completion of intermediate level psychology module covering social and developmental psychology such as <a href="#">PS5002</a> Social, Individual and Developmental Psychology (or equivalent)
<b>Suitability:</b> Study Option 1 only

Study Option 1 = Whole Year  
 Study Option 2 = Autumn  
 Study Option 3 = Spring

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**Content:**

The module engages students with the main themes of contemporary health psychology and positive psychology with a particular focus on theory, research, intervention, and application.

The students will gain an understanding of the importance of psychological processes in the experience of health and illness, and explore the role of behaviour and emotion in current trends of mortality and morbidity. In addition, students will gain an understanding of the role of positive emotions, optimism, spirituality, flourishing relationships, and community engagement in promoting health, well-being, and happiness.

They will also become aware of the crucial roles health psychology and positive psychology have to play in the development and evaluation of physical and psychological health promotion interventions.

*Note that some topics can change semesters.*

➤ **Autumn Semester:**

- Introduction to Health Psychology
- Models, Theories, and Frameworks of Behaviour Change
- Exercise
- Eating and Obesity
- Sexual Health & Satisfaction
- Substance use
- Psychedelics: Party and Therapy Drugs
- ADHD
- Positive Psychology, Well-being and Happiness
- Physical Activity and Alcohol Use

➤ **Spring Semester:**

- Health inequalities
- Health and the Media
- Positive Psychology, Mindfulness
- Stress and coping
- Biopsychosocial aspects of chronic illness
- Screening Behaviours
- Experience of Pain
- Sleep Health
- Women's health, pregnancy

**Teaching:** weekly 3 -hour interactive lectures

Study Option 1 = Whole Year  
Study Option 2 = Autumn  
Study Option 3 = Spring

**Assessment:**

**Study Option 1:**

- 2,000-word case study essay (50%)
- Action report and poster/leaflet or podcast (50%)

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**Module Code: PS6008**

**Module Title: Advanced Issues in the Psychology of Thinking**

**Credits:**

- Full Year: 8 (US) 15 (ECTS)
- Single Semester: 4 (US) 7.5 (ECTS)

**Level: 6**

**Prerequisites:** successful completion of intermediate level psychology module covering cognition and biological psychology such as [PS5003](#) Brain, Behaviour and Cognition (or equivalent)

**Suitability:** Study Options 1 or 2 or 3

**Content:**

This module will explore the psychology of higher cognitive processes, such as thinking, reasoning, judgement and decision-making. The module will encourage students to evaluate critically whether human thinking is rational, and the normative models with which that rationality is measured. It will also introduce students to quantitative models of these processes. Finally the module will introduce students to applications of cognitive psychology research, especially in terms of judgement and decision making in areas such as politics, sports, economics and health.

*Note that some topics can change semesters.*

**Topics:**

➤ **Autumn Semester:**

- Language
- Sleep and cognition
- The dynamics of memory

Study Option 1 = Whole Year  
Study Option 2 = Autumn  
Study Option 3 = Spring

- Everyday memory
- Executive functions
- Numerical cognition
- The secret lives of babies
- Theory of Mind (or Mindreading)

➤ **Spring Semester:**

- Social and emotional development
- Disinformation and cognition
- Working memory and problem solving
- Psychometrics and creativity
- The art of thought
- On the origins of new ideas (or ideation ground zero)
- Eureka or bust (on insight and oversight)
- Collaborative creativity
- Cognitive archaeology
- Distributed cognition

**Teaching:** weekly 1 -hour keynote lecture coupled with two-hour interactive lectures

**Assessment:**

**Study Option 1:**

- 2,000-word critical review (50%)
- 2-hour exam (50%)

**Study Options 2/3:**

- 2,000-word critical review (100%)

*Note: methods of assessment are indicative only*

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Study Option 1 = Whole Year  
Study Option 2 = Autumn  
Study Option 3 = Spring

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<b>Module Code: PS6013</b>
<b>Module Title: Occupational Psychology</b>
<b>Credits:</b> Full Year: 8 (US) 15 (ECTS)
<b>Level:</b> 6
<b>Prerequisites:</b> prior study of psychology at university level
<b>Suitability:</b> Study Option 1
<p><b>Content:</b></p> <p>This module introduces a range of issues in contemporary occupational psychology within four key areas: Health and Well-being; Selection and Assessment; Leadership and Organisational Change; Training and Development. A variety of theoretical models of organizational behaviour are introduced and discussed. The empirical research within each area is described and critically evaluated, and students are encouraged to develop skills by applying their knowledge to business case study examples. Topics include stress and burnout, workspace design, bullying and harassment, motivation and performance, psychometric testing and selection processes, models of organisational change, leadership and management, personal development, and job design.</p> <p><b>Topics (indicative):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Selection and assessment;</li> <li>• Psychometric testing</li> <li>• Leadership and organisational change;</li> <li>• Training and development.</li> <li>• Stress and burnout</li> <li>• Health promotion at work</li> <li>• Workspace design</li> <li>• Positive occupational psychology</li> <li>• Bullying and harassment,</li> <li>• Disability and equal opportunity</li> <li>• Motivation and performance, ,</li> <li>• Models of organisational change</li> <li>• Leadership and management practices</li> <li>• Training and personal development planning</li> <li>• Job design</li> </ul>

Study Option 1 = Whole Year  
 Study Option 2 = Autumn  
 Study Option 3 = Spring

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**Teaching:** 3-hour interactive lectures weekly

**Assessment:**

Study Option 1:

- 1,000-word poster/flyer (20%)
- 1,200-word essay (30%)
- 2,000-consultancy report (50%)

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Study Option 1 = Whole Year  
Study Option 2 = Autumn  
Study Option 3 = Spring

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