

Advanced Social Psychology

7.1 Module Overview									
Module Number		Module Title	Advanced Social Psychology						
Stage of Principal Programme			3	Semester	1	Duration. <i>(Weeks F/T)</i>	12	ECTS	5
Mandatory / Elective (M/E)	E	Hours of Learner Effort / Week	2.3						
Analysis of required hours of learning effort									
Teaching and Learning Modalities					✓if relevant to this module	Approx. proportion of total (hours)			
Contact Hours									
In person face-to-face					✓	28			
Synchronous									
Indirect/Non-Contact Hours									
Asynchronous									
Work Based									
Other:									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Independent reading, engagement with VLE, research and preparation of assessments 					✓	101			
Total						125			

Pre-Requisite Module, if any. Module # and Title	N/A
Co-Requisite Module, if any. Module # and Title	N/A
Maximum number of learners per instance of the module	120
Specification of the qualifications (academic, pedagogical and professional/occupational) and experience required of staff working in this module.	
Role e.g., Tutor, Mentor, Lecturer, Research Supervisor, etc.	Qualifications & experience required
	Staff - Learner Ratio X:Y
Lecturer	A minimum level 9 qualification in Psychology or closely cognate area
Tutor	A minimum level 9 qualification in Psychology or closely cognate area

Assessment Techniques – percentage contribution				
Continuous Assessment	100%	Proctored Exam – in person		Practical Skills Based
Project		Proctored Exam - online		Work Based
Capstone (Y/N)?	N	If Yes, describe		

7.2 Minimum Intended Module Learning Outcomes (MIMLOs)	
MIMLO On completion of this module a learner will be able to:	Related MIPLO #
1. Describe the historical foundations and key thinkers of social psychology.	1, 2, 3, 5

2. Demonstrate the ability to evaluate critically a piece of social psychology research	3, 4, 6
3. Critically analyse social psychology theories by examining their strengths and weaknesses.	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7
4. Demonstrate an understanding of more contemporary theories, concepts and definitions being used by social psychologists today.	1, 3, 5, 7
5. Describe and discuss how social psychology theories can be applied to contemporary issues.	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8

7.3 Indicative Module Content, Organisation and Structure

The aim of this core module is to provide the learner with a more specialised and contemporary understanding of social psychology. The learner will develop the skills necessary to evaluate a piece of social psychology research and to assess the strengths and weaknesses of social psychology theories. These skills will enable the learner to evaluate contemporary research being conducted by social psychologists in the areas that will be covered in the module (i.e. cultural evolution, social self, social structures, social reasoning, limits of adaption).

Over the course of 12 weeks, the learner will cover a range of topics such as (but not exclusively),

Introduction to Advanced Social Psychology

- Brief history of social psychology
- The key thinkers in social psychology
- Future directions for social psychology

Research in Advanced Social Psychology

- Evaluating research methods
- Interpreting findings
- Ethical issues in conducting research
- New Research Methods: Internet mediated research

Established Theories in Social Psychology

- History of theorising
- How to evaluate theories (Strengths and Weaknesses)
- Applying evaluation criteria to sample theories

The Social Self

- Social psychological perspective on mental health

Attribution Processes

- Causes of attributions
- Consequences of attributions

Social Structures

- Class
- Education
- Mobility
- Culture

Stereotypes and Prejudice

- Stereotypes causes and reduction
- Stereotypes accuracy and perseverance
- The origins and consequences of prejudice

Social Reasoning

- Social reasoning processes
- Motivated social cognition

Cultural evolution

- Cultural evolutionary theory
- Implicit vs. explicit processes

Interpersonal attraction

- Attraction
- Feminism and the gender debate
- Close relationships

7.4 Work-based learning and practice-placement (if applicable)

N/A

7.5 Specific module resources required (if applicable)

N/A

7.6 Application of programme teaching, learning and assessment strategies to this module

This module will be delivered over 12 weeks, which consists of lectures (12) and tutorials (each learner will have 4 tutorials). The lecturer and tutor utilise research informed theories, analysis and critique in delivering the content. Tutorials provide an opportunity for learners to engage in discussion and develop their critical thinking and research skills. Group work in tutorials also provides opportunity to apply psychological theories and research to real world scenarios.

Assessments for this module consist of 2500-word essay worth 80%- and discussion board worth 20%.

Essay: The essay (weighted at 80%) will be an assignment to examine learners’ research, academic writing, and referencing skills. Learners have the opportunity to demonstrate understanding of material and ability to compare, contrast and critique psychological theories (MIMLOs 1, 2, 4, 5).

Discussion Board: The discussion board (weighted at 20%) involves contributing to a Moodle Discussion Board, where learners will evaluate the theories and findings presented in the journal articles. The assignment maps onto the minimum intended module learning outcomes (2, 3). The assignment allows learners to demonstrate their understanding of the core concepts, psychological theories and research studied in the course. This form of assessment encourages learners to describe, compare and critique the core psychological theories related to child developmental psychology to showcase their learning and understanding (MIMLOs 2, 3).

7.7 Summative Assessment Strategy for this module

MIMLOs	Technique(s)	Weighting
1, 2, 4, 5	Essay , 2000-2500 words	80%
2-3	Contributing to Discussion Board	20%

7.8 Sample Assessment Materials

Essay (80%)

The essay will require learners to choose a topic they are interested in within advanced social psychology and to evaluate critically the most current research/findings related to the topic.

The essay requirements:
Times New Roman Font 12
Line-spacing 1.5
Word Count: 2,000-2,500
Soft-copy submission through Turnitin
Criteria used for marking: structure, content, grammar, spelling and referencing.

Contributing to a Moodle Discussion Board (20%)

Evaluate the theories and findings presented in the journal articles (10%)
Which journal articles provide the strongest evidence and why? (5%)
What future research could be conducted to explore this topic further? (5%)

Marking of assessments will be in line with the Marking Assessment Guidelines as outlined in Section 3.3 of the College's [Regulations in Relation to Assessment and Standards](#) unless otherwise indicated.

7.9 Indicative reading lists and other information resources

Indicative Core Reading:

Branscombe, N. R. and Baron, R. A. (2019). *Social psychology* (14th ed.). Harlow: Pearson.
Hewstone, M. (2016). *An introduction to social psychology* (6th ed.). London: Blackwell Publishing.
Hogg, M. and Vaughan, G. (2017). *Social psychology* (8th ed.). London: Pearson.

Other Reading:

Journal articles as posted on Moodle by the Lecturer from journals such as:

Journal of Personality and Social Psychology

Social Psychology

Journal of Experimental Social Psychology

European Journal of Social Psychology

Social Psychology Quarterly

Social Psychological and Personality Science

Basic and Applied Social Psychology.

Recommended Viewing:

TED Talks-Various Social Psychologists