



Trinity College Dublin

Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath

The University of Dublin

School of Psychology

Erasmus & Visiting Students: Modules & Assessments

2017–2018

PLEASE NOTE: These modules are currently provisional and subject to change before the start of the academic year. Please check back for any updates.

SCHOOL CONTACTS

Prof Paul Dockree (dockreep@tcd.ie) Erasmus & Visiting Student Coordinator

Erin Paullin (paulline@tcd.ie) Global Officer, School of Psychology (Monday-Tuesday)

June Carpenter (carpentj@tcd.ie) Executive Officer, School of Psychology (Wednesday-Friday), Room 1.44

MODULE INFORMATION

PS1A05 Evolutionary Psychology

Lecturer: Prof. Richard Carson

Duration: 1 term (Hilary)

Contact p/wk: 2 lectures

Weighting: 5 ECTS

Description: This course approaches human behaviour from a biological point of view, in the same way as a biologist might approach the behaviour of any other animal. The theory of evolution is explained, as are some basic process and principals involved in the evolution of behaviour, especially social behaviour, and particularly those associated with reproduction. Some features of the circumstances in which humans evolved are also discussed, and an attempt made to analyse human behaviour in terms of its evolutionary origins.

PS1A09 Psychological Disorder

Lecturer: Prof Mac MacLachlan

Duration: 1 term (Hilary)

Contact p/wk: 2 lectures

Weighting: 5 ECTS

Description: This lecture course introduces students to a variety of approaches to conceptualising and treating a range of psychological and physical problems. This includes an overview of behavioural, humanistic, cognitive, psychoanalytic and biomedical perspectives; an outline of contemporary diagnostic principles and practice; examination of a diverse array of disorders, including depression, anxiety and schizophrenia, psychophysiological, somatoform and sexual disorders, and neurological, addiction and personality disorders.

PS1A08 Fundamentals of Neuroscience and Behaviour

Lecturer: Prof Shane O'Mara

Duration: 1 term (Michaelmas)

Contact p/wk: 2 lectures

Weighting: 5 ECTS

Description: An introductory level course to the topics of brain and behaviour; methods in neuroscience; conditioning and associative learning; neurons; basic neuroanatomy and neurotransmission.

PS1A30 Personality and Individual Differences

Lecturer: Prof Frédérique Vallieres

Duration: 1 term (Hilary)

Contact p/wk: 2 lectures

Weighting: 5 ECTS

Description: In this course it is proposed to explore the main theories of personality and the most recent research relating to these theories. The structure and measurement of abilities will also be focussed on. Topic areas will include the psychoanalytic approach, trait approaches, social cognitive theory, learning theory, phenomenological and existential approaches, the structure of mental abilities and ability processes.

PS1A32 Foundations in Psychology

Lecturer: Prof Paul Dockree, Prof Lorraine Swords

Duration: 1 term (Michaelmas)

Contact p/wk: 2 lectures

Weighting: 5 ECTS

Description: This module traces the development of the discipline of psychology from its philosophical and physiological foundations right up to its present-day application in various spheres of human activity. Students will be introduced to key historical happenings, conceptual issues, research approaches and practices within the major psychological perspectives and fields of study. A number of pertinent questions are addressed: How does one school of thought within psychology differ from its predecessors? Can different methods in psychology be considered scientifically valid? What counts as progress in psychological research? What has been psychology's greatest findings and biggest mistakes? Will psychology ever develop a cohesive, widely accepted explanatory theory and should it try? How relevant are historical perspectives in psychology today?

PS1A34 Thinking

Lecturer: Prof Ruth Byrne

Duration: 1 term (Michaelmas)

Contact p/wk: 2 lectures

Weighting: 5 ECTS

Description: The aim of this course is to provide a foundation in cognition, in particular in contemporary explanations of mental representations, thinking, reasoning and memory, and to familiarise students with the interdisciplinary perspective of cognitive science, drawing on evidence from cognitive psychology, artificial intelligence, linguistics, philosophy and cognitive neuroscience

PS2A07 Developmental Psychology

Lecturer: Prof Elizabeth Nixon

Duration: 1 term (Michaelmas)

Contact p/wk: 2 lectures per week

Weighting: 5 ECTS

Description: This course traces human psychological development from the beginning to the end of life. As well as giving a chronological account of what we know about psychological change across the life span, there is a strong focus on theoretical, conceptual and methodological issues.

PS3A22 Rationality and Reasoning

Lecturer: Prof Ruth Byrne

Duration: 1 term (Hilary)

Contact p/wk: 1 lecture

Weighting: 5 ECTS

Description: This module will consider core theoretical and methodological issues in the scientific study of human reasoning and decision making. The module is designed to assess experiments on human social reasoning, including moral judgment, intentional reasoning, and reasoning about social dilemmas, to evaluate experimental studies of human hypothetical thought, including conditional reasoning, counterfactual thought, causal reasoning, and argumentation, and to critically consider experimental investigations of decision making, including planning choices, and risky choices.

PS3A23 Creativity and Imagination

Lecturer: Prof Ruth Byrne

Duration: 1 term (Hilary)

Contact p/wk: 1 lecture

Weighting: 5 ECTS

Description: The module will evaluate core theoretical and methodological issues in the scientific study of human creativity and imagination. It will assess experimental studies of human innovation, including conceptual combination, category expansion, and the creation of alternatives to reality in adulthood and in childhood, evaluate experimental investigations of human insight, analogy, scientific discovery and imagery, and critically consider studies of the interaction of such factors as emotion and culture with creativity.

PS3A37 **Child Development in Changing Family Contexts**

Lecturer: Prof Elizabeth Nixon
Duration: 1 term (Michaelmas)
Contact p/wk: 1 lecture
Weighting: 5 ECTS

Description: The family represents one of the most important environments within which children develop. This course is concerned with the question of how families matter in children's development. The course examines theory, research and applied perspectives on the family as a context for children's development. The course aims to provide students with knowledge of research and theoretical advances on the relations between child development, and family processes, parenting, and diverse family structures. Topics such as parent-child relationships, marital conflict and divorce, single and step-parenting, and gay/lesbian parenthood will be considered, within a framework that takes account of developmental processes and broader socio-cultural contexts.

PS3A39 **Applied Issues in Developmental Psychology**

Lecturer: Prof Elizabeth Nixon
Duration: 1 term (Michaelmas)
Contact p/wk: 1 lecture
Weighting: 5 ECTS

Description: This course explores the application of developmental psychology to issues pertaining to improving the well-being of children and their families. The course considers how real world events and changing society have informed developmental theory and the path of research. Within each of the topics covered on the course, consideration is given to relevant developmental theory, applied empirical research, and implications for intervention, practice and policy. Topics to be covered include: day care and parental employment, child abuse, media and children's development, and public-policy issues.

PS3A40 **Psychology of Criminal Behaviour**

Lecturer: Prof Tim Trimble
Duration: 1 term (Michaelmas)
Contact p/wk: 1 lecture
Weighting: 5 ECTS

Description: This course develops an understanding of the psychology of criminal conduct. It will investigate a range of perspectives from psychological literature that seek to shed light on crime and its commission. It will provide knowledge regarding the measurement and distribution of crime in society and official responses with regard to crime prevention and investigation. The aim is to promote an understanding of crime categories, offenders, and how a psychological understanding impacts on prevention, rehabilitation, and treatment. It will give an overview of applied professional practice in Forensic and Investigative Psychology.

PS3A54 **Social Neuroscience**

Lecturer: Prof Redmond O'Connell
Duration: 1 term (Hilary)
Contact p/wk: 1 lecture
Weighting: 5 ECTS

Description: Social Neuroscience is one of the newest fields in Psychology and explores the neural systems underlying social behaviour. Emerging from a synthesis of ideas and methods from social psychology and the neurosciences, social neuroscience seeks to broaden our understanding of human brain function beyond basic motor, perceptual and cognitive processes by elucidating the brain's fundamental role in governing interpersonal relations. This endeavour has the potential to greatly improve our understanding of how the brain works and, at the same time, to refine theories of social processes. The course will outline the theoretical origins of the field, basic neuroanatomy and core methodologies including brain imaging techniques and behavioural paradigms. In addition, key areas that will be covered include self-awareness, emotional and motivational processes, social cognition, social interaction, person perception and neuroeconomics. In so doing, the course will highlight prominent disorders of social function, such as autism, and how limitations in seemingly 'non-social' cognitive abilities can greatly influence our social behaviour.

PS3A58 Preclinical & Clinical Models of Neuropsychiatric & Neurological Disorders

Lecturer: Prof Shane O'Mara
Duration: 1 term (Michaelmas)
Contact p/wk: 1 lecture
Weighting: 5 ECTS

Description: This module provides students with an understanding of neuropsychiatric and neurological disorders, particularly in terms of their interrelatedness with neurocognitive function and their modelling by preclinical animal models. A particular focus will be on current and developing neurotherapeutic strategies (from molecular to behavioural to assistive/invasive technology approaches). Advances in technologies to model, probe and support nervous system function will be a key feature too, whether from a behavioural, pharmacological and/or neural prosthetic perspective.

PS3A64 The Brain Throughout the Lifespan

Lecturer: Prof Shane O'Mara
Duration: 1 term (Hilary)
Contact p/wk: 1 lecture
Weighting: 5 ECTS

Description: The course title 'Life and Death of the Brain' is intended to convey the idea that there are other ways of approaching the study of brain structure and function beyond the conventional focus of parsing cognitive, affective and others functions using standard tools (such as brain imaging). There is a very large amount of important and interesting research work being conducted at the intersection of the brain, other disciplines and society at large. These topics vary dramatically: they can include the impact of the brain sciences on the courtroom to understanding the nature of the brain's response during aesthetic experience, or neurobiology of poverty and adversity on development. The course will be broad and deep, moving from the immediacy of the impact of the local familial environment, to the effects of poverty and adversity on brain development, structure and function, to considering the nature of the neuroaesthetic response, to questions of ethics and law, and finally to extreme brain states, and a consideration of principles-based counterfactual neuroscience analysis ('impossible' brains, such as the zombie brain).

PS3A69 Case Studies in Neuropsychology

Lecturer: Prof Paul Dockree
Duration: 1 term (Hilary)
Contact p/wk: 1 lecture
Weighting: 5 ECTS

Description: Case studies of patients with brain damage remain a critical part of cognitive neuropsychology's methods for understanding the organisation of cognitive systems, and devising principled approaches to rehabilitation. In this topic, there is great scope for clinicians and researchers to inform and learn from one another with respect to the manifestation of clinical disorders, their potential causes, and paths to rehabilitation. Students are aware of famous patients with brain damage (e.g. Phineas Gage and patient H.M.) but this module will address lesser-known cases, who have nevertheless provided important insights into contemporary research problems across several domains including attention, memory, dysexecutive syndrome and disorders of meta-cognition and social-cognitive processing.

PLEASE READ THIS INFORMATION CAREFULLY

ERASMUS/VISITING STUDENT ASSESSMENTS

An Extended Coursework Essay must be submitted for every module a visiting student is registered for.

- **4000 words** for Sophister level modules (i.e., modules whose codes are PS3Axx);
- **2500 words** for Freshman level modules (i.e., modules whose codes are PS1Axxx or PS2Axxx)

You must submit **2 x hard copies** with the correct completed cover sheet and 1 x soft copy to turnitin.com. Or 1 x soft copy to tunritin.com – please confirm the lecture’s instructions for correct submission of exam essays. Hard copy essay should be dropped off to June Carpenter in Room (ROOM NUMBER) in the School of Psychology, first floor of Aras An Phiarsaigh. **Please email CARPENTJ@tcd.ie with any questions regarding assessment and essay submission.**

It is expected that:

- (i) a range of areas should be covered. A poor mark will be awarded to essays that do not integrate a major of the relevant topics covered in the lectures; **AND**
- (ii) responses should be critical and original and should be based on reading beyond the lecture notes.

Students may find detailed guidelines in the **School of Psychology Undergraduate Handbook** available online in relation to grading criteria for degree classes.

Deadlines for all exam essays:

- Michaelmas Term/MT (first term): no later than **TBA**
- Hilary Term/HT (second term): no later than **TBA**

TERM DATES

Michaelmas Term/MT (first term): TBA

Hilary Term/HT (second term): TBA

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is interpreted by the University as the act of presenting the work of others as one’s own work, without acknowledgement. Plagiarism is considered as academically fraudulent, and an offence against University discipline.

The University considers plagiarism to be a major offence, and subject to the disciplinary procedures of the University. To ensure that you have a clear understanding of what plagiarism is, how Trinity deals with cases of plagiarism, and how to avoid it, you will find a repository of information at <http://tcd-ie.libguides.com/plagiarism>

As a student it is your responsibility to:

- (i) Visit the online resources to inform yourself about how Trinity deals with plagiarism and how you can avoid it at <http://tcd-ie.libguides.com/plagiarism>.
- (ii) Familiarize yourself with the 2016-17 Calendar entry on plagiarism, “Calendar Statement on Plagiarism for Postgraduates - Part III, 1.32” - <http://tcd-ie.libguides.com/plagiarism/calendar> located on this website and the sanctions which are applied;
- (iii) Contact your Course Director, or your Lecturer if you are unsure about any aspect of plagiarism.

Also, you must:

- (iv) Complete the ‘Ready, Steady, Write’ online tutorial on avoiding plagiarism ‘Ready, Steady, Write’ at <http://tcd-ie.libguides.com/plagiarism/ready-steady-write>. **Completing the tutorial is compulsory for all students.**
- (v) Familiarise yourself with the declaration that you will be asked to sign when submitting course work at <http://tcd-ie.libguides.com/plagiarism/declaration>; All students **must** sign [this plagiarism declaration on the cover sheet of all submitted continuous assessments.](#)

USEFUL TCD WEBSITES:

- Orientation for New Trinity Students - <http://www.tcd.ie/orientation/>
- Information for International Students - <http://www.tcd.ie/orientation/add-int/>
- Student Services - <http://www.tcd.ie/orientation/services/>
- Trinity Jargon Buster - <http://www.tcd.ie/orientation/jargon/>

EXAM ESSAY SUBMISSION COVER SHEET

ERASMUS & VISITING STUDENTS 2017-18

Hard copy exam essays must have this completed cover sheet attached to each essay.

Brief Title (USE CAPITAL LETTERS)	
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Student ID _____

No of words _____

Deadline ____/____/____

Date submitted ____/____/____

Please tick the box of the module you are submitting

PS1A05	Evolutionary Psychology		PS3A23	Creativity & Imagination	
PS1A08	Fundamentals of Neuroscience & Behaviour		PS3A37	Child Development in Changing Family Context	
PS1A32	Foundations of Psychological Thought Application		PS3A40	The Psychology of Criminal Behaviour	
PS1A34	Thinking		PS3A54	Social Neuroscience	
PS1A09	Psychological Disorder		PS3A64	The Brain Throughout the Lifespan	
PS1A30	Personality & Individual Differences		PS3A58	Preclinical & Clinical Models of Neuropsychiatric & Neurological Disorders	
PS2A07	Developmental Psychology		PS3A69	Case Studies in Experimental Neuropsychology	
PS3A39	Applied Issues in Developmental Psychology		PS3A22	Rationality & Reasoning	
			NB – PLEASE TICK	I have completed the Online Tutorial on avoiding plagiarism 'Ready, Steady, Write' located at http://tcd-ie.libguides.com/plagiarism/ready-steady-write	

Marked by		Marks Deducted		FINAL MARK	
Comments:					

2 x hard copies of exam essays should be submitted to Room 1.44 no later than 3pm on each term deadline date. Please check your module handbook for deadline dates. Electronic copies of exam essays should be submitted to www.turnitin.com according to the lecturer's instructions.