



Trinity College Dublin

Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath

The University of Dublin

School of Psychology

Erasmus & Visiting Students: Modules & Assessments

2018–2019

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

SCHOOL CONTACTS

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

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****Please note:** some popular modules have very limited seats due to restrictions on room size. The school cannot guarantee every student will be able to enroll in their top choice of modules. We will do our best to accommodate as many visiting students as possible but we ask that you kindly have back-up modules in case your top picks are full.

MODULE INFORMATION

Michaelmas Term 2018

PS1A07 Perception

Lecturer: Prof Fiona Newell

Duration: 1 term (Michaelmas)

Contact p/wk: 1 lecture

Weighting: 5 ECTS

Description: This module is designed to introduce students to the field of human perception and the principles underlying perceptual processing within the main sensory systems. The approach of the module is based on cognitive neuroscience and will provide a foundation knowledge of the physiological structure of the main sensory organs and the associated brain structures, and also an overview of the functional properties of each of these sensory systems. Students will have knowledge of perception from low-level processing, such as stimulus detection, to more higher-level processing such as object or person recognition. The module aims to provide an integrated approach to the study of human perception from physiological, behavioural and neuropsychological research.

PS1A30 Personality and Individual Differences

Lecturer: Prof Rahul Sambaraju

Duration: 1 term (Michaelmas)

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: TBC

Duration: 1 term (Michaelmas)

Contact p/wk: 1 lectures

Weighting: 5 ECTS

Description: To orient students to historical developments the field of psychology; to understand the strengths and limitations of different levels of analysis in psychology; to synthesize different levels of explanation in psychology; to encourage critical evaluation of the methods used to acquire psychological knowledge in order to understand the relationships between theories, observations, and conclusions and to critically analyse psychological knowledge within a wider socio-historical and intellectual context

PS2A07**Developmental Psychology**

Lecturer: Prof Lorraine Swords / 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.

PS3A18**Perceptual Neuroscience**

Lecturer: Prof Fiona Newell

Duration: 1 term (Michaelmas)

Contact p/wk: 1 lecture

Weighting: 5 ECTS

Description: The course will review important findings from research in neurophysiology and cognitive neuroscience on the structure and function of the visual, auditory and somatosensory cortices. Evidence from studies based on single unit recordings, multiple recordings, neuroimaging and behaviour from both human and comparative research will be discussed. The course will also review evidence for how the processing of sensory information in the brain leads to a coherent perception of the multisensory world. Recent psychophysical studies investigating how sensory information is combined will be reviewed along with significant advances in neuro-computational models proposed to explain these effects. The course will examine the phenomenology of perception and evaluate how illusions and synaesthesia provide insight into the conscious basis of perceptual processing in the brain.

PS3A43**Development of Perception throughout the Lifespan**

Lecturer: Prof Fiona Newell

Duration: 1 term (Michaelmas)

Contact p/wk: 1 lecture

Weighting: 5 ECTS

Description: This course aims to provide an overview of the development of the main human sensory systems and related perceptual abilities from the moment of conception throughout the lifespan. The approach will be mainly from a neuroscience and behavioural perspective, with cortical development and consequent effects on behaviour analysed. The effect of genetic and environmental factors on sensory development will be discussed. The effects of ageing on sensory and perceptual decline will also be included.

PS3A55**The Theory and Application of Behaviour Analysis**

Lecturer: Prof Olive Healy

Duration: 1 term (Michaelmas)

Contact p/wk: 1 lecture

Weighting: 5 ECTS

Description: Much of psychology concerns itself with what is happening inside the head or brain. Behaviour Analysis, by contrast, insists that much of the explanation for behaviour, and the leverage to change it, can be found in the analysis of the context in which it develops and occurs. This option explores the theory of behaviour analysis, and the principles of Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) and assesses their contribution to modern psychology.

PS3A59**Neurological Rehabilitation**

Lecturer: Prof Richard Carson

Duration: 1 term (Michaelmas)

Contact p/wk: 1 lecture

Weighting: 5 ECTS

Description: This module will cover approaches to meeting the needs of people with neurological disorders and progressive neurological diseases. As the production of purposeful goal directed movement pervades all aspects of behaviour, there will be a specific focus upon the physical, psychological and social consequences of movement dysfunction. The module will deal with the scientific principles underlying neurological rehabilitation, including motor control and learning. The student is also introduced to intervention strategies

that are designed to maintain or re-establish functional capability, such as brain-computer interfaces, robot assisted therapy, deep brain stimulation and cortical stimulation.

PS3A61 Making Sense of Action

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

Description: This module will cover approaches to understanding perception and cognition, from the perspective that these functions can only be considered sensibly in an action context. Consideration will be given to exemplars drawn from various areas of psychology that serve to illustrate the role of movement in aspects of perception and cognition regarded traditionally as being independent of the means of effect. The module will deal with observations defined at the level of behaviour. It will also include evidence drawn from the neurosciences - concerning brain activity subserving perception, cognition and motor function that bears upon these issues. In addition, consideration will be given to some of the related philosophical questions that are raised. The student is also introduced to the possibility that intervention strategies thus informed, may be used to maintain or enhance cognitive performance.

PS3A67 Child Health and Wellbeing

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

Description: This module introduces students to the study of child health and wellbeing through the presentation and critical examination of some contemporary topics in the field. These topics are based around two key themes: (i) Risk and Resilience and (ii) Children's Perspectives on Health & Illness. Lectures will provide a stimulating, interactive context in which to consider theoretical, research-based and applied perspectives from psychology and related disciplines.

PS3A68 Child and Adolescent Clinical Psychology

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

Description: The module explores key topics in clinical psychology through the lens of clinical case material and through development of key clinical skills of assessment, formulation and intervention. It brings together theories and primary research in childhood psychological difficulties deriving from both developmental and clinical psychology. The individual child is kept at the centre of the learning with specific attention paid to diversity and social and cultural norms and how they impact on our understanding of children and adolescents' psychological difficulties.

PS3XXX Cognition: Mind and Brain

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

Description: This module aims to provide a foundation in understanding core cognitive mechanisms of mind. This module will introduce the study of the mind from the perspective of theoretical models of cognition, inspired by experimental psychology, and provide an introduction to the neural substrate of cognitive processes, led by contemporary models and methods in cognitive neuroscience.

The module will provide foundations in philosophy of mind, experimental approaches to the study cognition and behaviour, and methods for understanding the neural substrate of cognition (e.g. fMRI, EEG and brain lesion analysis). Broad topics covered will include learning, attention, memory, decision-making, goal-oriented behaviour and metacognition. The role of modulatory influences on cognition will also be examined, from the influence of emotion and changing states of consciousness, to the long-term impact of aging. The influence of cognitive modelling and artificial intelligence for understanding mind will also be examined.

Hilary Term 2019

PS1A06 Social Psychology

Lecturer: Prof Rahul Sambaraju / Prof Frederique Vallieres

Duration: 1 term (Hilary)

Contact p/wk: 1 lecture

Weighting: 5 ECTS

Description: This module is designed to introduce students to the field of social psychology and the principles underlying group and individual interaction. It will present the historical and philosophical roots of social psychology in the context of the current state of the discipline. Students will be acquainted with debates and tensions between different schools within social psychology and to present critiques of the discipline. The module aims to present the richness, complexity and variety of human social behaviour and the discipline that studies it in a conceptually integrated way.

PS3A08 Clinical Psychology and People with Intellectual Disabilities

Lecturer: Prof Kevin Tierney

Duration: 1 term (Hilary)

Contact p/wk: 1 lecture

Weighting: 5 ECTS

Description: This module provides students with an understanding of the practice of clinical psychology as applied to intellectual disability and pervasive developmental disorders. It lays particular emphasis on evidence-based practice with respect to differential diagnosis, early intervention and the treatment of behavioural disorders. The practice of clinical psychology in this domain is also discussed in relation to Irish health policy documents in order to provide students with a greater understanding of the context for clinical psychology practice. In addition students are exposed to issues relating to the two key features of clinical psychology practice in this area: direct work and triadic work.

PS3A15 Advanced Psychology of Language

Lecturer: Prof Jean Quigley

Duration: 1 term (Hilary)

Contact p/wk: 1 lecture

Weighting: 5 ECTS

Description: TBC

PS3A16 Moral Development in Childhood

Lecturer: Prof Claire Kelly

Duration: 1 term (Hilary)

Contact p/wk: 1 lecture

Weighting: 5 ECTS

Description: This module explores the science of morality, a burgeoning field that has emerged at the intersection of developmental, social and evolutionary psychology, philosophy and neuroscience, and now forms a core component of the scientific study of human nature.

PS3A17 Health Psychology

Lecturer: Prof David Hevey

Duration: 1 term (Hilary)

Contact p/wk: 1 lecture

Weighting: 5 ECTS

Description: This module provides students with an understanding of how psychological science can be applied to the promotion and maintenance of physical health. The critical role of psychological beliefs about illness (e.g., illness perceptions; unrealistic optimism), beliefs about treatment (e.g., placebo effects) and beliefs about health behaviours (self-efficacy) are described. Individual differences (e.g., personality) in health and illness are critically appraised. Theoretical models explaining responses to health threats (e.g. risk perception) and

health behaviour (e.g., HBM, TPB) are presented. In addition, the module examines research demonstrating the effects of psychological states on physiological systems (stress, psychoneuroimmunology). Psychological aspects of management (e.g., stress management) of chronic illnesses (e.g., chronic pain, cardiovascular disease) are outlined.

PS3A33 Qualitative Research in Psychology

Lecturer: Prof Jean Quigley

Duration: 1 term (Hilary)

Contact p/wk: 1 lecture

Weighting: 5 ECTS

Description: This course is designed to help students appreciate the philosophical foundations for conducting qualitative research and to understand why and how qualitative research is carried out in psychology. A sample of current qualitative methodologies and examples of how qualitative methods may be applied in psychological settings are provided. The student is introduced to the processes involved in making sense of qualitative data and how qualitative data can and should be analysed and evaluated. Some computer software available for conducting qualitative analysis is explored. Designing qualitative research reports is also covered.

PS3A56 Human Factors and Organisational Factors

Lecturer: Prof Sam Cromie

Duration: 1 term (Hilary)

Contact p/wk: 1 lecture

Weighting: 5 ECTS

Description:

Human action is subject to influences at the levels of task, individual, team, organisation, industry and society. This module will:

- Help the student to critically examine the interplay of these factors in determining the dimensions of human performance – safety, efficiency, reliability, sustainability.
- Introduce students to the range of interventions that have been developed to enhance performance and help them to critically evaluate their effectiveness
- Expose students to applied human factors research in a range of organisational and societal contexts
- The module will draw heavily on ongoing research projects for its content and will give students hands-on experience of state of the art tools and methodologies.

PS1XXX Intro to the Psychology of Language

Lecturer: Prof Jean Quigley

Duration: 1 term (Hilary)

Contact p/wk: 1 lecture

Weighting: 5 ECTS

Description: TBC

PS3XXX Social Psychology and Discourse

Lecturer: Prof Rahul Sambaraju

Duration: 1 term (Hilary)

Contact p/wk: 1 lecture

Weighting: 5 ECTS

Description: The main aim of this module is to examine and demonstrate how talk (or text) in everyday settings or particular institutional settings, such as in parliaments, is centrally implicated in social behaviour. It will examine theory, research, and applied perspectives on how social behaviour is accomplished in and through discourse. It will provide students with an understanding of social and discursive constructionist approaches to social behaviour.

