School of Psychology

Erasmus & Visiting Students: Modules & Assessments

2019–2020
**SCHOOL CONTACTS**

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

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

June Carpenter (carpentj@tcd.ie) Executive Officer, School of Psychology (Wednesday-Friday), Front Office AP

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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.

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**MODULE INFORMATION**

**Hilary Term 2020 (Jan-April)**

**PSUV1009 Psychological Disorder**
- Lecturer: Prof. Claire Gillan
- Duration: 1 term (Hilary)
- Contact p/wk: 2 lecture
- Weighting: 5 ECTS

Foundation/Fresher (Year 1 & 2) Level

Description: This course describes and outlines the major theoretical approaches to the diagnosis and treatment of psychological disorders. It considers the historical development of the concept of mental illness/psychological disorder and examines the various lenses through which it is currently viewed. The module will identify contemporary diagnostic criteria for a range of disorders and will critically evaluate the role of biological, social, cultural and economic influences in defining and diagnosing mental health. The course will examine the application of various research methodologies to studying the causes of mental illness, along with current best-practice psychological and pharmacological interventions. Finally, ethical and legal implications of approaches towards psychological disorders will also be considered.

**PSU1205V Evolutionary Psychology**
- Lecturer: Prof. Richard Carson
- Duration: 1 term (Hilary)
- Contact p/wk: 2 lecture
- Weighting: 5 ECTS

Foundation/Fresher (Year 1 & 2) Level

Description: The aim of this course is to illustrate the advantages of adopting a “biological perspective” in studying human behaviour. Evolutionary Biology provides explanations for two sets of phenomena: 1) How the plethora of species emerged from a common single ancestral species in a series of descendant and radiating lineages; 2) How organisms come to be well-matched to face the threats and opportunities in the environment they inhabit. Evolutionary Psychologists claim that their account of human nature follows from applying the principles of evolutionary biology to the study of the human mind. Questions to be addressed in this module include: 1) What are the contemporary principles of evolutionary biology? 2) Are these principles being applied by Evolutionary Psychologists? Together with discovery of the nature of particulate inheritance (the gene) and the sciences of molecular and developmental biology, evolutionary biology provides the fundamental basis for our understanding the human condition, and of our relationships with our physical, social, and biotic environment. An effective comprehension of typical and atypical human behaviour, both in health and disease, requires knowledge of evolutionary principles and an appreciation of the manner in which they have shaped biological processes at both an individual and a population level.

**PSU1208V Fundamentals of Neuroscience and Behaviour**
- Lecturer: Prof. Rhodri Cusack
- Duration: 1 term (Hilary)
- Contact p/wk: 2 lecture
- Weighting: 5 ECTS
Foundation/Fresher (Year 1 & 2) Level
Description: An introductory level course to the topics of brain and behaviour; methods in neuroscience; conditioning and associative learning; neurons; basic neuroanatomy and neurotransmission.

PSU3458V Preclinical and Clinical Models of Neuropsychiatric and Neurological Disorders
Lecturer: Prof. Shane O'Mara
Duration: 1 term (Hilary)
Contact p/wk: 1 lecture
Weighting: 5 ECTS
Advanced/Sophister (Year 3 & 4) Level
Description: Neuropsychiatric and neurological disorders are widespread and disabling conditions in society, compromising individual quality of life and diminishing productive potential while placing a great strain on health-care systems and care-givers. This course examines a number of these disorders, and places a particular focus on the translation of basic neuroscience to clinical disorders, and vice versa. 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.

PSU3464V The Brain Throughout the Lifespan
Lecturer: Prof. Shane O'Mara
Duration: 1 term (Hilary)
Contact p/wk: 1 lecture
Weighting: 5 ECTS
Advanced/Sophister (Year 3 & 4) Level
Description: The format of lectures is conventional but students are encouraged to ask questions and to engage the lecturer in discussion where practicable. Both the reduced numbers in these optional modules and the fact that the module is based in the lecturer’s own area of research expertise and interest facilitates increased class discussion and debate.
Inclusive curriculum: Each lecture and any supporting and accompanying documentation is posted on our school website to facilitate independent study and self-paced learning and/or will be posted on the course blog or other appropriate format.

PSU3470V Psychoanalysis and Personality
Lecturer: Prof. John O’Connor
Duration: 1 term (Hilary)
Contact p/wk: 1 lecture
Weighting: 5 ECTS
Advanced/Sophister (Year 3 & 4) Level
Description: The main aims of this module are to provide students with a basic knowledge of psychoanalytic ideas, drawing on a number of traditions within psychoanalysis and exploring the differences between such perspectives and other psychological perspectives. An aim of the module is also to demonstrate the manner in which psychoanalytic ideas can be drawn on in thinking about cultural phenomena as well as in clinical contexts. The module thus gives students a foundation in ideas they may later draw on in clinical and counselling psychology training as well as in fields of counselling and psychotherapy.

PSU3472V Creative Cognition
Lecturer: Prof. Ruth Byrne
Duration: 1 term (Hilary)
Contact p/wk: 1 lecture
Weighting: 5 ECTS
Advanced/Sophister (Year 3 & 4) Level
Description: The aim of this module to provide an advanced evaluation of psychological knowledge on creative cognition that builds on the foundation provided in the PS1234 Thinking module. It will familiarize students
with the core theoretical and methodological issues in the scientific study of human creativity and imagination. It will enable students to develop a critical assessment of experimental studies of human innovation, including conceptual combination, category expansion, the creation of alternatives to reality in adulthood and the role of pretence in childhood. It will facilitate students in the formulation of rigorous evaluations of experimental investigations of human insight, analogy, scientific discovery and imagery. It will foster a critical appreciation of the influence of contextual factors such as culture in creative endeavours.

PSU3473V       Human Reasoning
Lecturer: Prof. Ruth Byrne  
Duration: 1 term (Hilary)  
Contact p/wk: 1 lecture  
Weighting: 5 ECTS  
Advanced/Sophister (Year 3 & 4) Level  
Description: The aim of this module is to provide an advanced evaluation of psychological knowledge on human reasoning that builds on the foundation provided in the PS1234 Thinking module. It will familiarize students with the core theoretical and methodological issues in the scientific study of human reasoning and decision making. The module is designed to enable students to develop a critical assessment of experiments on human social reasoning, including moral judgment, intentional reasoning, and reasoning about social dilemmas. It will facilitate students in the formulation of rigorous evaluations of experimental studies of human hypothetical thought, including conditional reasoning, counterfactual thought, causal reasoning, and argumentation. It will foster a critical appreciation of experimental investigations of decision making, including planning and risky choices.

PSU3475V       Psychology of Religion and Spirituality
Lecturer: Prof. Sam Cromie  
Duration: 1 term (Hilary)  
Contact p/wk: 1 lecture  
Weighting: 5 ECTS  
Advanced/Sophister (Year 3 & 4) Level  
Description: In this module we examine the core phenomena of religious and spiritual belief and practice – faith, guilt & forgiveness, worship - through the lenses of different psychologies. Psychoanalysis, social, cognitive, behavioural, biological, evolutionary and positive psychology have all addressed these. We explore their theoretical perspectives, methodologies and the types of empirical data they have gathered. We also look at distinctive features of human culture that, while not specifically religious, are arguably fundamental to the experience of being human, such as art, fiction and humour. Core to the module is consideration of multiple rationalities & the nature and status of different types and levels of knowledge – religious vs scientific, psychological vs sociological, evolutionary vs humanistic – in understanding the human condition.

PSU3469V       Advanced Personality and Individual Differences
Lecturer: Prof. Cathal McCrory  
Duration: 1 term (Hilary)  
Contact p/wk: 1 lecture  
Weighting: 5 ECTS  
Advanced/Sophister (Year 3 & 4) Level  
Description: The field of individual differences is primarily concerned with exploring variation between people in terms of how they think, act, and behave; and to understand how and why such variations come about. This course is designed to consolidate and build upon the freshman module in Personality and Individual Differences, but will focus more heavily on the measurement and conceptualisation of human mental abilities, and will involve critical evaluation and appraisal of the empirical data to support the central tenets of the different theoretical models. The course will explore the structure and measurement of ability processes including factor analytic models of ability, Gardner’s multiple intelligences, and Sternberg’s triarchic theory of intelligence. The course will also cover the social and biological origins of ability processes and the stability of these constructs as we age, the neuroscience of ability processes, cognitive epidemiology, and the applications of ability testing in every-day life. Primary sources (i.e. journal articles) will be used heavily in this course.
Bitte lesen Sie dieses Information sorgfältig durch

ERASMUS/VISITING STUDENT ASSESSMENTS

An Extended Coursework Essay must be submitted for every psychology module a visiting student is registered for (with the exception of Stats and Methodology, which requires separate assessment):

- **2500-3000 word essay for each module taken in Psychology**

Essays are submitted online via Blackboard. Please confirm the lecturer’s instructions for correct submission of exam essays.

Please email the relevant lecturer 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 majority of 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 semester): no later than Thursday the 28th November 2019 by 3 pm.
- Hilary Term/HT (second semester): no later than Thursday April 9th 2020 by 3 pm.

**TERM DATES**

**Michaelmas Term/MT (first semester):** Monday 9th September to Friday 29th November 2019.

*Reading Week from Monday 21st October – no lectures*

**Hilary Term/HT (second semester):** Monday 20th January to Friday 10th April 2020

*Reading Week from Monday, 2nd March – no lectures*

**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 https://libguides.tcd.ie/plagiarism/about

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 https://libguides.tcd.ie/plagiarism/about.

(ii) Familiarize yourself with the 2019-20 Calendar entry on plagiarism, “Calendar Statement on Plagiarism for Postgraduates - Part III, 1.32” - https://libguides.tcd.ie/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 https://libguides.tcd.ie/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 https://libguides.tcd.ie/plagiarism/declaration; All students must sign this plagiarism declaration on the cover sheet of all submitted continuous assessments.

**USEFUL TCD WEBSITES:**

- Information for International Students - http://www.tcd.ie/orientation/add-int/
- Student Services - http://www.tcd.ie/orientation/services/
**EXAM ESSAY SUBMISSION COVER SHEET**

**ERASMUS & VISITING STUDENTS 2019-20**

All Essays must be submitted via Blackboard. No hard copies will be accepted.

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All essays must be submitted through the Blackboard site for the respective module. Your lecturer will have the assignment set up on the site. Following marking, the grade you have been awarded will also be visible through this site.