Prifysgol Wrecsam
Wrexham University

Module specification

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Refer to guidance notes for completion of each section of the specification.

Module Code	PSY426
Module Title	Biological Development
Level	4
Credit value	20
Faculty	Social and Life Sciences
HECoS Code	100497
Cost Code	GAPS

Programmes in which module to be offered

Programme title	Is the module core or option for this programme
BSc (hons) Psychology	Core
BSc (Hons) Psychology with Foundation Year	Core

Pre-requisites

None

Breakdown of module hours

Learning and teaching hours	36 hrs
Placement tutor support	0 hrs
Supervised learning e.g. practical classes, workshops	0 hrs
Project supervision (level 6 projects and dissertation modules only)	0 hrs
Total active learning and teaching hours	**36** hrs
Placement / work based learning	0 hrs
Guided independent study	164 hrs
Module duration (total hours)	**200 hrs**

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Initial approval date	15th May 2024
With effect from date	September 2024
Date and details of revision	
Version number	1

Module aims

This module will equip students with an understanding of biological human development. Students will gain an understanding of the structure and function of cells, genes, and chromosomes, along with building knowledge of their role in psychological function. Students will also develop their understanding of the biological changes which occur during key developmental periods including childhood, adolescence, and older adulthood.

Module Learning Outcomes - at the end of this module, students will be able to:

1	To synthesise and articulate knowledge of a particular area of biological development.
2	Demonstrate knowledge of research surrounding a particular area of biological development.
3	Identify key scientific terms and their meaning.

Assessment

Indicative Assessment Tasks:

This section outlines the type of assessment task the student will be expected to complete as part of the module. More details will be made available in the relevant academic year module handbook.

1. A presentation focusing on a given topic in biological development (e.g.,10-minute power point presentation, 5-minute Q&A).

2. An in-class test (e.g., MCQ).

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting (%)
1	1, 2	Presentation	50
2	3	In-class test	50

Derogations

None

Learning and Teaching Strategies

A range of different learning and teaching strategies will be utilised in this module, including lectures, seminars, group, and individual activities, directed and self-directed learning, and tutorials. Seminar activities include discussions (whole class and smaller group), relevant online content (i.e., TED Talks or subject specialist videos). Module content will include pre-recorded asynchronous online content that will inform synchronous sessions. This will allow students time to reflect on and further develop their knowledge ahead of consolidating learning through group workshops and/or seminars.

All learning and teaching methods are supported by the University's virtual learning environment, Moodle, where students will be able to access clear and timely information to support the delivery of content such as videos, links to relevant online information, discussion forums, and pre-recorded lectures.

The University's Active Learning Framework (ALF) is embedded within the module to achieve optimal accessibility, inclusivity, and flexibility in terms of teaching and learning. This is in line with the principles of Universal Design for Learning (UDL). A learning blend is used that combines synchronous and asynchronous digitally enabled learning with best use of online opportunities and on-campus spaces and facilities.

Indicative Syllabus Outline

- Cell structure and division
- Conception, genes, and chromosomes
- Genes and evolution
- Biological sex development
- Physical growth (prenatal, childhood, adolescence, and young adulthood)
- Infant and child cognition
- Biological changes in adolescence
- Biological changes in older adulthood

Indicative Bibliography:

Please note the essential reads and other indicative reading are subject to annual review and update.

Essential Reads

Slater, A. & Bremner, G. (Eds). (2017). *An introduction to developmental psychology* (3rd ed). BPS Blackwell.

Barnes, J. (2013). *Essential biological psychology* (1st ed.). SAGE Publications.

Other indicative reading

Some resources through the medium of Welsh can be found at www.porth.ac.uk, which is the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol resource portal.

Journals

British Journal of Developmental Psychology

Developmental Psychology

Biological Psychology