PRIFYSGOL glyndŵr UNIVERSITY

MODULE SPECIFICATION FORM

Module Title: **Biological Psychology**	Level: 5	Credit Value: 20

Module code: PSY503	Cost Centre: GAPS	JACS3 code: C800

Trimester(s) in which to be offered: 1 or 2	With effect from: Sept 2014

Office use only: To be completed by AQSU:	Date approved: February 2014 Date revised: - Version no: 1

Existing/New: Existing	Title of module being replaced (if any):

Originating Academic Department: Psychology	Module Leader: Dr Sahar Hamid

Module duration (total hours):	200	Status: core/option/elective (identify programme where appropriate):	Core
Scheduled learning & teaching hours	48		
Independent study hours	152		

Programme(s) in which to be offered: BSc (Hons) Psychology	Pre-requisites per programme (between levels): None

Module Aims:

- To acquaint students with current theories, models and explanations of biological psychology and to explore the relationship between biology, psychology and mental activity.

Intended Learning Outcomes:

At the end of this module, students will be able to:

1. Critically evaluate the biological underpinnings of behaviour (KS1, KS3)
2. Critically evaluate the current models and theories used in biological psychology (KS5)
3. Critically discuss the study of different animal species and their environments (KS6, KS9)

Key skills for employability

1. Written, oral and media communication skills
2. Leadership, team working and networking skills
3. Opportunity, creativity and problem solving skills
4. Information technology skills and digital literacy
5. Information management skills
6. Research skills
7. Intercultural and sustainability skills
8. Career management skills
9. Learning to learn (managing personal and professional development, self management)
10. Numeracy

Assessment:

1. An essay giving in-depth consideration to a specified topic e.g. the effect of drugs on behaviour.

2. Practical report, for example assessing memory in animals.

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting	Duration (if exam)	Word count (or equivalent if appropriate)
1	1, 2	Essay	50%		2000
2	3	Report	50%		2000

Learning and Teaching Strategies:

This module will be delivered using 12 lectures (each 2 hrs) and 12 practical sessions (each 2 hrs) or workshops consisting of student-led discussion, practical formatively assessed exercises, external speakers and directed study.

Syllabus outline:

- Biological aspects of learning and memory
- Motivation and emotion
- Sleep and arousal
- Evolutionary explanations of behaviour: primatology, socio-biology, animal cognition and comparative psychology
- Human neuropsychology, cortical localisation of function, biological basis of psychological abnormalities
- Behavioural genetics; hormones and behaviour

Bibliography:

Essential reading:

Kolb, B., & Whishaw, I. Q. (2003). *Fundamentals of human neuropsychology* (5th ed.). New York, NY: W. H. Freeman.

Toates, F. S. (2006). *Biological psychology* (2nd ed.). London, UK: Prentice Hall.

Other indicative reading:

Alcock, J. (2005). *Animal behaviour: An evolutionary approach* (6th ed.). Sunderland, UK: Sinauer Associates.

Barrett, L., Dunbar, R., & Lycett, J. (2001). *Human evolutionary psychology*. London, UK: Palgrave-McMillan.

Carlson, N. R. (2007). *Physiology of behaviour* (9th ed.). Boston, MA: Allyn & Bacon.

Dawkins, R. (1989). *The selfish gene* (2nd ed.). Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.

Krebs, J. R., & Davies, N. B. (1997). *Behavioural ecology: An evolutionary approach*. Oxford, UK: Blackwell Scientific.

Workman, L., & Reader, W. (2008). *Evolutionary psychology: An introduction*. Cambridge, UK: Wiley.

Journals:

British Journal of Clinical Psychology

British Journal of Health Psychology

Cognitive Neuropsychology