

Module Code:	PSY511
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Module Title:	Biological Psychology
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Level:	5	Credit Value:	20
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Cost Centre(s):	GAPS	<u>JACS3</u> code:	C800
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School:	Social & Life Sciences	Module Leader:	Dr Shubha Sreenivas
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Scheduled learning and teaching hours	30 hrs
Guided independent study	170 hrs
Placement	0 hrs
Module duration (total hours)	200 hrs

Programme(s) in which to be offered (not including exit awards)	Core	Option
BSc (Hons) Psychology	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Pre-requisites
None.

Office use only

Initial approval: 08/03/2018

Version no: 1

With effect from: 24/09/2020

Date and details of revision: August 2020 added module leader and updated reading list

Version no: 2

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

Key skills for employability

- KS1 Written, oral and media communication skills
- KS2 Leadership, team working and networking skills
- KS3 Opportunity, creativity and problem solving skills
- KS4 Information technology skills and digital literacy
- KS5 Information management skills
- KS6 Research skills
- KS7 Intercultural and sustainability skills
- KS8 Career management skills
- KS9 Learning to learn (managing personal and professional development, self-management)
- KS10 Numeracy

At the end of this module, students will be able to		Key Skills	
1	Demonstrate an appreciation for the biological underpinnings of behaviour	KS1	
		KS3	
		KS5	
2	Evaluate current models and theories used in biological psychology	KS5	
		KS6	
3	Critically apply knowledge of theories and models within biological psychology in order to appraise current research	KS6	KS3
		KS9	
		KS5	

Transferable skills and other attributes

Study, writing and IT skills.
Use of appropriate data.
Problem solving skills.
Research Skills

Derogations

None.

Assessment:

Indicative Assessment Tasks:

1. A seen paper, for example assessing visual processing in hemispatial neglect patients.
2. An essay giving in-depth consideration to a specified topic e.g. the effect of drugs on behaviour.

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting (%)	Duration (if exam)	Word count (or equivalent if appropriate)
1	3	In-class test	40%	1 hour	N/A
2	1, 2	Essay	60%	N/A	2,500

Learning and Teaching Strategies:

The module is delivered using a mixture of lectures, seminars and practical/workshop sessions including teaching or guided learning to support the lecture content. There will be a focus on the original source material which will include a combination of classic and contemporary research studies using a variety of research methods. The practical sessions/workshops will combine student-led discussion, practical sessions in the psychology laboratory, 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.

Indicative Bibliography:**Essential reading**

Barnes, J. (2013). *Essential Biological Psychology*. London: SAGE Publishing

Toates, F. S. (2011). *Biological Psychology* (3rd ed.). London, UK: Prentice Hall/Pearson Education.

Whishaw, I.Q., & Kolb, B. (2015). *Fundamentals of human neuropsychology* (7th ed.). New York: W.H. Freeman.

Other indicative reading

Alcock, J. (2013). *Animal behaviour: An evolutionary approach* (10th ed.). Sunderland: Sinauer Associates.

Barret, L., & Dunbar R., (2002). *Human evolutionary psychology*. London: Palgrave-McMillan.

Carlson, N.R., & Birkett, M.A. (2016). *Physiology of behaviour* (12th ed.). Boston, MA: Allyn & Bacon.

Davies, N.B., & Krebs, J.R. (2012). *Introduction to behaviour ecology* (4th ed.). Oxford: Blackwell Science.

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

Toates, F.S. (2011). *Biological psychology* (2nd ed.). London: Prentice Hall.

Journals

British Journal of Clinical Psychology

British Journal of Health Psychology

Cognitive Neuropsychology