MODULE SPECIFICATION PROFORMA

![Glyndŵr University Wrexham logo]

PRIFYSGOL GLYNDŴR WRECSAM
GLYNDŴR UNIVERSITY WREXHAM

MODULE SPECIFICATION FORM

Module Title:	Positive Psychology of Religion	Level:	7	Credit Value:	20

Semester(s) in which to be offered: 2	With effect from:	Sept 2011

Module code: PSY706	Cost Centre:	GAPS	JACS2 code*:	C800

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

Originating Subject: Psychology	Module Leader:	Professor Christopher Alan Lewis

Module duration (contact hours/ directed/directed private study):	80 hours private study, 80 hours directed learning including on-line engagement, 20 hours peer group study (via VLE forums) 20 hours taught (via email and Moodle). Total 200 hours.	Status: core/option/elective (identify programme where appropriate):	Core

Percentage taught by Subjects other than originating Subject (please name other Subjects):	None

Programme(s) in which to be offered: MSc Psychology of Religion	Pre-requisites per programme (between levels): None	Co-requisites per programme (within a level): None

Module Aims:
The module is focused on the relationship between religion and human virtues and character strengths, and is framed within the context of The Virtues in Action Classification System (VIA; Peterson & Seligman, 2004). Connections are made between the comprehensive catalogue of 24 strengths (organized under six broad-band virtues) and religion.
- To contextualise positive psychology within the psychology of religion;
- To critically discuss the relationship between positive psychology and religion;
- To critically appraise research in the area of positive psychology and religion.

Expected Learning Outcomes

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

Knowledge and Understanding:
1. To differentiate between positive psychology areas in relation to psychology, and in particular to the psychology of religion;
2. To critically discuss the relationship between positive psychology and the psychology of religion;
3. To articulate and critique established theory on positive psychology and the psychology of religion.

Transferable/Key Skills and other attributes:
Communication skills
Reflection
IT skills
Academic skills

Assessment: please indicate the type(s) of assessment (eg examination, oral, coursework, project) and the weighting of each (%). ***Details of_ indicative assessment tasks must be included***.

A critical literature review exploring the interface between individual differences and religion or a practical research report. All assessment to be agreed with module leader/tutor.

Assessment	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting	Duration (if exam)	Word count or equivalent if appropriate
1	1, 2, 3	Coursework portfolio	100%		4,000

Learning and Teaching Strategies:

A variety of teaching and learning strategies will be adopted included directed reading, on-line discussions, on-line tutorials, self-directed learning, and formative assessment.

Feedback from weekly engagement exercises
Feedback from formative assessment.
e-mail support – as required

telephone support – as required
VLE forums – throughout the course
Moodle/Adobeconnect directed learning – throughout the course

---

Syllabus outline:

1. Introduction to Positive Psychology
2. Wisdom and Knowledge
3. Courage
4. Humanity - Interpersonal strengths that involve tending and befriending others
5. Justice - Civic strengths that underlie healthy community life
6. Temperance – Strengths that protect against excess
7. Transcendence - Strengths that forge connections to the larger universe and provide meaning
8. Mental Health, Religion and Culture
9. Conclusion

Bibliography

Essential reading:
Peterson, C., & Seligman, M. E. P. (2004). *Character strengths and virtues: A handbook and classification*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. (1 copy: Class mark on order).

Hood, R.W., Jr., Hill P. C., & Spilka, B. (2009). *The psychology of religion: An empirical approach* (4th Ed.). New York: The Guilford Press. (1 copy: Class mark 200.19SPI)

Recommended reading:
Joseph, S., Linley, P. A., & Maltby, J. (2006). Positive psychology, religion, and spirituality (Special Issue). *Mental Health, Religion and Culture*, 9, 3 (via Swets)

Linley, P. A., Joseph, S., & Boniwell, I. (Eds.). (2003). In a positive light. (Special Issue on Positive Psychology. *The Psychologist, 16* (3).

Loewenthal, K. (2007). *Religion, culture and mental health*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. (3 copies: Class mark 201.7LOE)

Lopez S. J., & Snyder, C. R. (2003). *Positive psychological assessment: A handbook of models and measures*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association. (1 copy: Class mark on order).

Seligman, M.E.P, & Csikszentmihalyi, M. (2000). Special issue on happiness, excellence, and optimal human functioning (Special Issue). *American Psychologist, 55*, 5-183. (via PsychArticles).

Ciarrocchi, J. W., & Yanni-Brelsford, G. (2008). Special section on positive psychology (Special Section). *Research in the Social Scientific Study of Religion, 18.* (via ATLAR)