

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

MODULE TITLE	INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOBIOLOGY AND COGNITION		
MODULE CODE	PS1030 (L4)	CREDIT VALUE	20 UK CREDITS / 10 ECTS
SCHOOL	SCHOOL OF SCIENCES		

MODULE AIMS

This module aims to:

- Introduce students to physiological systems which underpin behaviour.
- Provide a foundation in perception and human information processing.
- Explore the explanation of behaviour in terms of physiological systems and neural structures

MODULE CONTENT

Indicative syllabus content:

Neuronal structure, function and connectivity. Structure and function of the nervous system. Neuropharmacology and the influence of drugs on behaviour. Research techniques in physiological psychology. The visual and auditory pathways. Psychophysics. The perception of form and depth and sensori-motor systems. Attention, subliminal processing and the effects of stress. Memory systems and the neuropsychology of memory. Hypothalamic function and neuroendocrinology. Visual and auditory perception, language, thinking, mental imagery, and memory.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of this module a student will be able to:

1. Define, identify and describe introductory themes and topics related to the theory and practice of psychobiology
2. Define, identify and describe introductory themes and topics related to the theory and practice of cognitive psychology
3. Describe, discuss and interpret a key theme or topic in psychobiology / cognitive psychology

TEACHING METHODS

The module is taught through a mixture of lectures and workshops. Psychobiology is delivered entirely through lectures. The perception and cognition part of the module is taught mainly via lectures, including a range of practical demonstrations or interactive exercises. ELearn materials, including webpage links support the lecture content. Workshop classes aim to develop practical skills and knowledge of experimental techniques in psychobiology and cognition along with oral communication skills. The assessments test students' broad understanding of material (MCQ), and more depth understanding through a piece of written coursework (learning outcome 3).

ASSESSMENT METHODS

This module is assessed through an examination and a written assignment.