

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

MODULE TITLE	APPLYING PSYCHOLOGY TO THE EDUCATIONAL SETTING		
MODULE CODE	PS3050 (L6)	CREDIT VALUE	20 UK CREDITS / 10 ECTS
SCHOOL	SCHOOL OF SCIENCES		

MODULE AIMS

This module aims to:

- Provide in depth knowledge of the cognitive processes involved in classroom learning.
- Encourage students to critically evaluate claims, theories and evidence relating to the application of psychology to the classroom.
- Increase awareness of the problems facing children with special educational needs.
- Help students become critically aware of the contribution psychologists have made, and might make, to educational issues.
- Explore how selected psychological ideas have been applied in educational contexts.

MODULE CONTENT

Indicative syllabus content:

The module covers a number of topic areas chosen both for their importance in educational practice and to reflect the application of psychological research to the area of education. Topics that may be covered include theories of learning, special learners, literacy and numeracy, reading development/reading difficulties/dyslexia, bullying, ADHD, the Play Curriculum, truancy, socio-emotional learning and classroom management. The module will pay particular attention to assessment issues in educational psychology and will look at the role of an Educational Psychologist.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

1. Work independently to identify, select, interpret and present appropriate information
2. Critically evaluate psychological research related to the educational context.
3. Critically evaluate the application of psychological ideas in educational settings and discuss the difficulties involved.
4. Describe and contrast psychological approaches to intervention in relation to a case study.

TEACHING METHODS

A range of topics are covered by lectures and directed reading, these are delivered by a range of staff with expertise in a specific area of educational research – hence lectures will be informed by research. One ‘independent learning’ topic is introduced to students as part of a lecture, but developed through independent study, with the support of reading lists and tutor guidance eg a talk by an Educational Psychologist. Students, working in groups, design and deliver a presentation of a paper related to the seen topic – this is not assessed but aims to guide reading and support the development of presentation skills. This will help to develop skills in drawing together information, presenting and team work. The independent learning topic is a compulsory ‘seen’ question on the examination paper. Students select one further question from a choice of six.

ASSESSMENT METHODS

This module is assessed through an examination and a coursework.