Introduction to Psychology

### Module Code
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### NQF level:
| 4 |

### Credit Value
| 15 |

### Study duration:
| 9 weeks |

This module aims to:
- Introduce students to the key theories and sub-divisions in psychology
- Examine the relationship between the main disciplines in psychology (e.g. biological, social, developmental and cognitive)
- Evaluate how research and scientific inquiry builds psychological knowledge
- Explore the ways in which psychology informs and interacts with other disciplines, e.g. health, law, etc.
- Consider the way that an understanding of psychological theory can be used to explain human behaviour(s)

#### Syllabus
- A history of psychology
- Psychological Research Methods
- Social Psychology
  - Social groups and social identity
  - Social influence
- Biological Psychology
  - Regions of the brain
  - Brain Processes and Information
  - Limitations in psychology of understanding the brain
- Cognitive Psychology
  - Perception and attention
  - Memory
  - Thinking and reasoning
- Developmental Psychology
  - Conditioning and learning
  - Moral development
  - Social development
  - Lifespan development

#### Learning outcomes
On completion of this module, students will be able to:
- Appreciate the nature of psychology and psychological research
- Understand the main theoretical perspectives within psychology
- Identify the relationship between psychological theory and scientific research/data
- Identify some key regions of the brain
- Understand how some brain regions are associated with particular processes
- Appreciate the extent of current understanding in this area
- Review and evaluate some of the key studies in each of the main divisions of psychology
- Demonstrate an awareness of how psychology relates to and informs other disciplines

#### Learning and teaching methods
The Learning and Teaching Methods for the module follow the intended online delivery strategy for the programme as a whole. The module will be delivered through the provision of specified reading materials on the virtual learning platform, which shall be supported by specified discussion forums and lecturecasts, and Tutor support will be available to students via phone, email, and a fortnightly synchronous question and answer (Q&A) session.

Students will be provided with indicative guidance on, and encouraged to look at, relevant websites which are appropriate to the module, and to identify and share appropriate web-based resources as learning support references with their fellow students and as indicators of their individual learning contexts with their tutors. The lecturecasts will include referenced use of selected case studies which will be drawn from the reading materials/web based module learning resources and the practice-based and professional/educational contexts and experience of the Tutors.

### Description of unit of assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description of unit of assessment</th>
<th>Length/Duration</th>
<th>Submission Date</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discussion contribution</td>
<td>Fortnight</td>
<td>Unit 2 and Unit 3</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-module assignment</td>
<td>2000 words</td>
<td>Unit 6</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Journal entry</td>
<td>500 words (each)</td>
<td>Unit 4 and Unit 8</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>End of module project</td>
<td>2000 words</td>
<td>Unit 9</td>
<td>40%</td>
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