

Module code	CPPE_PPSY7E	NQF level	7
Credit value	10	Study duration	6 weeks

# Core Principles of Psychological Enquiry

## Module description

This module introduces students to the course as a whole and positions them to reflectively engage with the material to be covered at a Postgraduate level. Content includes the history and philosophy of psychological inquiry, the major paradigms of research, ethics, and developing the skills required at this level for reading literature and academic writing. As psychology graduates proceed into a variety of careers, throughout this module students will focus on thinking about a career in psychology, as well as developing transferable employability skills for psychology and non-psychology related careers. They will begin to build a portfolio of their personal development planning portfolio that they will continue to develop throughout the course.

## This module aims to:

- develop a systematic understanding of major methodological paradigms, historical developments, and current issues facing psychology and social science researchers
- develop a comprehensive understanding of research ethics.
- reflectively learn with a focus on understanding their own development throughout the course as a whole to encourage them to experience the course as one element of their own lifelong learning journey
- gain knowledge of the application of psychology in professional settings
- become employment focussed and narrow down the skills they are developing in terms of what is important to employers

## Learning outcomes

- Demonstrate a systematic and critical understanding of Qualitative and Quantitative research paradigms.
- Develop a comprehensive understanding and knowledge of research ethics (that adhere to the principles of the British Psychological Society's Codes) and apply this to identify ethical considerations in research design.
- Develop a comprehensive understanding of the application of psychological knowledge and skills in a professional setting.
- Deeply and critically reflect on their own development, practice and skills in order to continue their personal development, to advance their knowledge and understanding, and develop new skills to a high level.

## Syllabus

- Brief history of psychological inquiry (see Cortina et al., 2017). Epistemology and social science: major paradigms.
- What is research? Qualitative methodology vs Quantitative methodology and forming research questions and testable hypotheses.
- Ethics in psychological research.
- Intersectionality, diversity, culture and biases.
- The application of psychology in a professional setting.
- Reflective Learning: models and practice.



## Learning and Teaching Methods

The Learning and Teaching Methods for the module follow the intended online delivery strategy for the programme as a whole. Teaching will be delivered through a series of units covering the topics specified in the syllabus with a focus on developing psychological knowledge and skills. Students are directed in their learning to specified reading materials on the virtual learning platform linked to the core text and supported by selected extracts from other key texts, peer reviewed journal articles, and resources such as software and tools relevant to the module. Students will engage with interactive lecturecasts that present them with new learning and provide formative assessment on their knowledge, understanding and skills. Online peer discussion is encouraged through our internet-mediated learning platform where students receive feedback from tutors and peers to enhance their learning and understanding.

Description of unit of assessment	Length/Duration	Submission date	Weighting
Collaborative learning question <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Initial post (500 words)</li> <li>■ Response 1 (350 words)</li> <li>■ Response 2 (350 words)</li> </ul>	1,200 words	Unit 3	50%
Journal entries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Applying Psychology</li> <li>■ Reflective Activity</li> </ul>	2 x 1,000 words	Units 5 and 6	25% each