



Critical Social Psychology

Module Code	CSP	NQF level:	6
Credit Value	15	Study duration:	9 weeks

Module description:

In this module students will engage in the study of the social factors that impact on individual's lives. Key themes include healthcare, education, politics, injustice, inequality and discrimination and working conditions. Students will engage in an analysis of the impact of how these contextual influences shape human experience and behaviour.

This module aims to:

- develop students' appraisal of the extent to which social psychology should be a scientific discipline;
- develop students' understanding of the ways in which psychological theories shape society;
- develop students' critical thinking of the ways in which contextual factors influence human experience and behaviour;
- develop students' proficiency with the role of discourse analysis in social psychology.

Learning outcomes

On completion of this module, students will be able to:

- critically evaluate the science of psychology;
- demonstrate knowledge of the psychological theories that shape society;
- diagnose the extent to which behaviour may be socially mediated;
- systematically review information from the public domain and edu-blogs.

Syllabus

- The replication crisis in social psychology.
- Is scientific knowledge better?
- What is critical social psychology?
- Discursive psychology.
- Ethics
- Feminism, Marxism and Psychoanalytic critiques.
- Social constructionism.
- Prejudice, discrimination and racism.
- Emotion, attitudes and politics.

Learning and teaching methods

The pedagogical approach for this module is informed through the principles of collaborative enquiry and constructionism. Collaborative enquiry is supported through our internet-mediated learning platform the aim of which is to develop a learning community that supports dialogue and collaboration between students through online peer discussion and debate to construct a unique learning experience which will enhance their subject understanding through social interactions which empowers them to explain their understandings, receive feedback from tutors and peers.

Teaching will be delivered through the provision of specified reading materials that will be provided on the UoEO Learning Platform, and will be supported by specified discussion forums, pre-recorded lecturecasts and biweekly online question and answer sessions (using synchronous communication software and application sharing facility). Students will be provided with indicative guidance on, and encouraged to look at relevant websites which are appropriate to the learning outcomes, and to identify and share appropriate web-based resources (as learning support references) with their fellow students. The pre-recorded lecturecasts and the online question and answer sessions will include referenced use of selected case studies which will be drawn from the reading materials and the practice-based and professional/educational contexts and experience of the Tutors. Self-managed learning will supplement lectures and students will be given direction on required and indicative reading.

Description of unit of assessment	Length/Duration	Submission Date	Weighting
Collaborative learning question: Post a 500-word response to a tutor posed question. Respond to one of your peer's posts (250 words per response). Your answers must be evidence based and supported with psychological literature.	750 words	Continuous	30%
Scientific report	Maximum 3000 words	End of module	70%