



Individual Differences, Emotions and Behaviour

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| Module Code | IEB | NQF level: | 5 |
| Credit Value | 15 | Study duration: | 9 weeks |

Module description:

This module expands student's knowledge of individual differences; a branch of psychology that seeks to explain why people differ from one another and how it is possible to measure those differences. The study of personality and intelligence into the topics of mood, motivation and how those constructs influence behaviour. Students will critically analyse the methods of individual differences as well as build on their understanding of the principles of psychometrics which is the measurement of mental capacities and processes and fundamental to this field of psychology.

This module aims to:

- develop students' critical thinking in the field of individual differences;
- develop students' practical skills in the techniques that are fundamental to the study of individual differences;
- develop students' research skills by administering and analyzing data from the International Personality Item Pool.

Learning outcomes

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

- critically evaluate approaches to the theory and measurement of individual differences;
- appraise the link between measurement in individual differences and the prediction of behaviour;
- demonstrate application of this knowledge through the analysis and interpretation of data from the International Personality Item Pool.
- demonstrate understanding of the basic principles of experimental design;

Syllabus

- Individual differences in the 21st century
- Reliability and validity
- Item and factor analysis
- Personality and intelligence
- Mood and motivation
- Predicting behaviour over lifespan
- The genetic determinants of personality

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 two of your peer's posts (300 words per response). Your answers must be evidence based and supported with psychological literature. | 1100 words | Continuous | 30% |
| Scientific report | 2000 words | End of module | 70% |