



**School of Psychology  
BSc (Hons) Psychology  
Undergraduate L1 Modules**

<http://www.qub.ac.uk/schools/psy/Study/Undergraduate/>

**Level 1 Modules (indicative)**

**PSY 1006: Using Psychology in Everyday Life 1**

The module will cover aspects of everyday life seen from a psychological point of view. This should offer fresh insights into familiar phenomena and encourage students to question some common sense beliefs. Students will also be given the opportunity to investigate some of these phenomena further in a practical setting. Lectures will be on both broad areas of research and more specific practical and theoretical topics. The topics are presented by members of the course team who have a specific interest and knowledge of their topic.

**Learning outcomes:**

Students will demonstrate an appreciation of the range of approaches used by psychologists in trying to understand why people and animals behave as they do, and will show some insight into their own behaviour. They will demonstrate familiarity with some basic psychological theories and some applications of these.

**Transferrable skills:**

Critical thinking about seemingly familiar issues. Analysis of psychological research and its application to real life situations. Basic skills in human experimentation.

**PSY1007: Using Psychology in Everyday Life 2 – Influencing Individual Behaviour**

The module will cover how psychology may improve individual performance and provide interventions to overcome individual problems in everyday behaviours. The module will outline the role psychology has in designing and implementing interventions to influence individual performance and behaviour. The module will explore the psychology behind the behaviour(s) and how effective programmes are in influencing and changing behaviour. The module will offer fresh insights into the causes of and solutions to everyday psychological and behavioural issues experienced by the individual. The topics are presented by members of the course team who have a specific interest and knowledge of their topic.

**Learning outcomes:**

Having taken the module students will be able to demonstrate a critical understanding of:

- The range of applications of psychology to problem behaviours
- How psychology contributes to the development of behavioural change
- How the effectiveness of psychological processes can be assessed
- How psychology can influence choice and behaviour

**Transferrable skills:**

The module will confer the ability to critically evaluate seemingly familiar issues, analyse psychological theories behind behavioural change, understand processes in influencing behaviour and review and evaluate the literature.

**PSY1008: Foundations of Psychology**

This module provides an introduction to the core aspects of psychology: social, cognitive and developmental psychology, psychobiology and individual differences. As such, it will provide a foundation for studying these topics in more detail in level 2 and 3.

**Learning outcomes:**

Having taken this module, students will:

- Understand social psychology and related statistics and research methods (including research ethics).
- Understand the key concepts of cognition at an introductory level
- Demonstrate historical knowledge of key areas of cognition.
- Describe the key theories that account for typical and atypical psychological development
- Have a strong appreciation of the nature-nurture debate as it pervades developmental psychology
- Show a basic understanding of the developmental process from the point of conception
- Show a basic understanding of how capacities and skills emerge and change over the course of development
- Demonstrate a basic knowledge of study designs, special methods and procedures typically used in developmental studies.
- Understand the basic structure and function of a neuron
- Be able to describe the process of synaptic transmission
- Understand the basic structure and function of the brain and nervous system
- Be able to describe the location and functions of the limbic system
- Understand the advantages and disadvantages of the primary techniques used in visualising neural activity in human and non-human animals
- Understand the stages and functions of dreams and sleep
- Be able to compare operant and classical conditioning and observational learning
- Appreciate the context of individual differences as a sub-discipline of psychology
- Be able to discuss the key theories of: depth Psychology and the Psychoanalytic approach, including their historical context; Behavioural/social approach to personality; humanistic theories of Rogers and Maslow, and their relevance to mental illness/counselling; broad trait theory approach to personality in terms of Eysenck's 3 factors and The 'Big Five'
- Be able to evaluate the trait theory approach compared to psychoanalytic, behavioural/social and humanistic approaches

**Transferrable skills:**

Show competence in certain transferable skills such as essay writing, literature searching, study skills, IT skills, critical thinking and communication skills.

**PSY1009: Introduction to Methods in Psychology**

This module provides an introduction to quantitative and qualitative research methods and statistics and to conceptual and historical issues in psychology.

**Learning outcomes:**

Having taken this module, students will:

- Be able to apply basic skills in experimental, survey and qualitative methodologies within the context of psychology, and related issues of research design
- Be able to illustrate first-hand experience of how psychological research is conducted
- Be able to identify weaknesses in specific methodologies and understand the relative merits of quantitative and qualitative approaches
- Be able to write psychology reports
- Be able to identify the practice of psychology as an ethical science
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- Be able to conduct analysis of psychological data using descriptive statistics
- Be able to display data in an appropriate graphical or tabular form
- Understand conceptual issues in research methods in psychology (both quantitative and qualitative)
- Know core concepts in scientific logic and epistemology
- Know the historical development of psychology
- Know the ethical and political issues in psychological research
- Be able to interpret primary research sources

**Transferable skills:**

Basic scholarship in scientific writing, library skills, literature searching skills, study skills, IT skills, critical thinking and communication skills. Show competence in specific software for data analysis.