

Study Abroad Programme

The module description below is from the 2019/20 academic year and is subject to change, and for the use of study abroad students only.

Module name	Biological approaches to mind and behaviour
Module code	PS1005
School	School of Social Sciences
Department or equivalent	Department of Psychology
UK credits	15
ECTS	7.5
Level	4
Delivery location (partnership programmes only)	

MODULE SUMMARY

Module outline and aims

All animal behaviour, including that of humans, is determined by the structure and functioning of the central nervous system. This module introduces you to the biological bases of behaviour. You will learn about: the role of the nervous system in behaviour, the structure of nerve cells, the organisation of the nervous system, methods in the study of brain and behaviour, physiological mechanisms involved in homeostasis, sleep, and the neural bases of emotions, language, psychological disorders, and learning and memory.

The aims of the module are to help you:

- 1) Describe the overall organisation of the nervous system.
- 2) Outline the basic structures and processes underlying the central nervous system.
- 3) Describe the relationship between neuroanatomical structures and behaviour.
- 4) Explain methods of studying the relationship between brain structures and behaviour.
- 5) Describe the biological bases of homeostasis, sleep, language, emotions, psychological disorders, learning and memory.

Content outline

Topics to be covered

The neurone

Neuroanatomy

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Brain Development

The Brain Stem

The Cortex

Neurotransmitters

WHAT WILL I BE EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE?

On successful completion of this module, you will be expected to be able to:

Knowledge and understanding:

- Explain how a neurone's structure relates to its function.
- Describe the gross anatomy of the brain and its anatomically distinct structures.
- Describe how biological structures relate to psychological processes.

Skills:

- Present and interpret dynamic information about brain function.
- Demonstrate graphical communication, drawing diagrams to illustrate structures.
- Develop skills as an independent learner to support your continuing professional and academic development.

Values and attitudes:

- Appreciate the importance of a scientific approach to the study of biological psychology

HOW WILL I LEARN?

Lectures, classroom activities, directed reading. In addition, students learn through preparation for the exam through quizzes and the feedback to these.

Teaching pattern:

Teaching component	Teaching type	Contact hours (scheduled)	Self-directed study hours (independent)	Placement hours	Total student learning hours
	Lectures	20	130	0	150
Totals		20	130		150

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WHAT TYPES OF ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK CAN I EXPECT?

Assessments

2-hour exam comprising MCQ and short answer questions.

Assessment pattern:

Assessment component	Assessment type	Weighting	Minimum qualifying mark	Pass/Fail?
End of year exam	Written Exam	100	40	N/A

Assessment criteria

Assessment Criteria are descriptions of the skills, knowledge or attributes students need to demonstrate in order to complete an assessment successfully and Grade-Related Criteria are descriptions of the skills, knowledge or attributes students need to demonstrate to achieve a certain grade or mark in an assessment. Assessment Criteria and Grade-Related Criteria for module assessments will be made available to students prior to an assessment taking place. More information will be available from the module leader.

Feedback on assessment

Following an assessment, students will be given their marks and feedback in line with the Assessment Regulations and Policy. More information on the timing and type of feedback that will be provided for each assessment will be available from the module leader.

Assessment Regulations

The pass mark for the module is 40%. Any minimum qualifying marks for specific assessments are listed in the table above. The weighting of the different components can also be found above. The Programme Specification contains information on what happens if you fail an assessment component or the module.

INDICATIVE READING LIST

Kalat J.W. (2012) Biological Psychology (11th Ed.). Belmont: Wadsworth Cengage Learning.



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Carlson, N.R. (2012) *Physiology of Behaviour* (11th Ed.). Boston: Allyn & Bacon.

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