

Module Specification

Module Title Module Code
Credit Value Level Mode of Delivery Semester

Pre-requisite modules	Co-requisite modules	Overlapping modules

1) Content Description

Provide a description of the module, as it will appear in the Module Directory and on the Student Information System (approx. 70-80 words).

This module is intended for students studying BSc Psychology (C800). This module builds on the theme of psychology as a biological science in parallel with the "Exploring Psychology" module by specifying the proximate biological mechanisms involved in psychological phenomena. The course will focus on basic principles of biological psychology predominantly, and then introduce psychological processes to illustrate these.

2) Module Aims

Specify the aims of the module, i.e. the broad educational purposes for offering this module.

The module aims to:

- To provide a biological context, focusing on proximate mechanisms, for the study of cognition and behaviour
- To provide basic principles of neuroanatomy, neurophysiology, brain-behaviour associations (in terms of brain structure and function), behavioural genetics and psychopharmacology
- To cover British Psychological Society (BPS) and QA areas for "psychobiology"
- To develop students understanding and evaluation of psychological topics from a mechanistic biological perspective
- To provide a biological context, focusing on proximate mechanisms, for the study of cognition and behaviour

3) Learning Outcomes

Identify the learning outcomes for this module, i.e. knowledge, skills and attributes to be developed through completion of this module. Outcomes should be referenced to the relevant [QAA benchmark statements](#) and the [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland \(2008\)](#). The [SEEC Credit Level Descriptors for Further and Higher Education 2003](#) and [Queen Mary Statement of Graduate Attributes](#) should also be used as a guiding framework for curriculum design.

Academic Content:	
A 1	To understand basic concepts in biological psychology and their explanatory power in the psychological science
A 2	To evaluate the methods and techniques of biological psychology
A 3	To understand the basic principles of neuroanatomy, neurophysiological processes, fundamental brain-behaviour relationships, basic genetics and psychopharmacology
A 4	To critical evaluate classic findings in contemporary biological psychology

Disciplinary skills - able to:	
B1	This module will develop students' understanding of biological psychology, focusing on brain and behaviour relationships
B2	Topics will be examined in-depth so student's gain a thorough understanding of the proximate mechanisms which deliver behaviour and cognition
B3	Students will be able to critically evaluate the traditional and latest methods used in this area. Students will also gain knowledge of practical research in this area and communicating their findings through laboratory report writing

Attributes:	
C1	This module will enhance students' scientific understanding of a cutting-edge area of 21 st century psychological science; the biological basis of behaviour
C2	Through lectures, private study and related practical components students will improve their generic quantitative research skills, planning skills, and competencies in experimental design
C3	The module will improve students' ability to handle information, to conduct independent study and to extract and evaluate information from scientific literature

4) Reading List

Provide an indicative reading list for the module. This should include key texts and/or journals but **should not** be an exhaustive list of materials.

Wickens, A. (2004). *Foundations of biopsychology*. 2nd Edition. Harlow: Prentice Hall

Carlson, N. R. (2007). *Physiology of behavior* (Int. Edition). Boston, MA: Allyn & Bacon.

Or

Pinel, J. P. (2006). *Biopsychology*. 6th edition. Boston, MA: Allyn & Bacon.

5) Teaching and Learning Profile

Provide details of the method of delivery (lectures, seminars, fieldwork, practical classes, etc.) used to enable the achievement of learning outcomes and an indicative number of hours for each activity to give an overall picture of the workload a student taking the module would be expected to undertake. This information will form the Key Information Set for each undergraduate programme and will be used to populate the KIS widget found on the QMUL programme information pages. More information can be found [online](#) about KIS. You may also wish to refer to the [QAA guidance on contact hours](#) when completing this section.

Activity Type	KIS Category	Time Spent (in hours)
Lecture	Scheduled	22
Practical Workshops	Scheduled	10
Total		32

Specify the total module notional study hours. This should be a total of the hours given for each activity. The notional study hours for each academic credit point is 10. A 15 credit point module therefore represents 150 notional study hours.

Activity Type	Total Time Spent (in hours)	Percentage of Time Spent
---------------	-----------------------------	--------------------------

Scheduled learning and teaching	32	21.3
Placement	0	0
Independent Study	118	78.7
Total	150	100

Use the information provided in the box above to specify the total time spent and the percentage time spent in each category of teaching and learning activity.

6) Assessment Profile

Provide details of the assessment methods used to assess the achievement of learning outcomes.

Description of Assessment	Assessment Type	KIS Category	Duration/Length	Percentage Weighting	Final element of assessment	Qualifying Mark
Written Examination	Examination	Written Exam	1 Hours and 30 Minutes	75%	Yes	
Coursework	Written assignment	Coursework		25%	No	

Final element of assessment: The assessment that takes place last. **There should normally be only one element of assessment marked as final unless two assessment or submission dates occur on the same day.**

Qualifying mark: A specified minimum mark that must be obtained in one or more elements of assessment in order to pass a module. **This is in addition to, and distinct from, the requirement to achieve a pass in the module mark to pass the module.**

Reassessment

Provide details of the reassessment methods used, specifying whether reassessment is either standard reassessment or synoptic reassessment.

- Standard Reassessment
 Synoptic Reassessment

Synoptic reassessment details (if you have indicated synoptic reassessment above, please give details)		
Brief Description of Assessment	Assessment Type	Duration/Length of Examination/ Coursework
Resit Examination	Written Exam	1 Hours and 30 Minutes