

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

Module Title

Forensic Psychology

Reference	SS4029	Version	6
Created	February 2022	SCQF Level	SCQF 10
Approved	June 2005	SCQF Points	15
Amended	February 2022	ECTS Points	7.5

Aims of Module

To introduce the student to the application of psychological theory within the particular context of the legal system, including an assessment of the role of the forensic psychologist.

Learning Outcomes for Module

On completion of this module, students are expected to be able to:

- 1 Critically analyse psychological perspectives on criminal behaviour.
- 2 Critically evaluate the contribution of theoretical and applied psychology to the legal setting.
- 3 Critically evaluate potential treatments, disposals, outcomes available along with the relevant psychological techniques.

Indicative Module Content

Introduction to forensic psychology and theoretical overview of the role of the forensic psychologist. Introduction to legal systems. Juries and decision making. Psychological theories of crime. Interviewing techniques: eyewitness testimony, police interviewing, type of questions, detection of deception, assessing competency to stand trial. Memory: disorders of memory, false or recovered memory debate, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and dissociative disorders, false confessions. Profiling. Offenders: risk and recidivism. Children and crime. Individual differences in criminal behaviour. Role of bias in the CJS.

Module Delivery

This is a mainly lecture based module with supporting seminars/workshops and student-centred learning. The on-campus activities will be supplemented and supported with online activities where appropriate.

Indicative Student Workload

	Full Time	Part Time
Contact Hours	24	N/A
Non-Contact Hours	126	N/A
Placement/Work-Based Learning Experience [Notional] Hours	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	150	N/A
<i>Actual Placement hours for professional, statutory or regulatory body</i>		

ASSESSMENT PLAN

If a major/minor model is used and box is ticked, % weightings below are indicative only.

Component 1

Type:	Coursework	Weighting:	100%	Outcomes Assessed:	1, 2, 3
Description:	Component 1 will be assessed by written coursework				

MODULE PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTOR**Explanatory Text**

There is one coursework which contributes 100% to the module total.

Module Grade	Minimum Requirements to achieve Module Grade:
A	The student needs an A in C1.
B	The student needs a B in C1.
C	The student needs a C in C1.
D	The student needs a D in C1.
E	The student needs an E in C1.
F	The student needs an F in C1.
NS	Non-submission of work by published deadline or non-attendance for examination

Module Requirements

Prerequisites for Module	None, in addition to SCQF 10 entry requirements or equivalent.
Corequisites for module	None.
Precluded Modules	None.

INDICATIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 1 BLACKBURN, R., 2002. *The psychology of criminal conduct: theory, research and practice*. 8th ed. Chichester: John Wiley and Sons Ltd.
- 2 BULL, R., and CARSON, D., eds., 2003. *Handbook of psychology in legal contexts*. 2nd ed. Chichester: John Wiley and Sons Ltd.
- 3 GAVIN, H., 2014. *Criminological and forensic psychology*. London: Sage Publication Ltd.
- 4 GUDJONSSON, G. H., 2003. *The psychology of interrogations, confessions and testimony*. 2nd ed. New York: John Wiley and Sons Ltd.
- 5 HOWITT, D., 2013. *Forensic and Criminal Psychology*. 4th ed. Harlow: Pearson Education Ltd.
- 6 HOWITT, D., 2018. . 6th Edition. Essex: Pearson Education Ltd..
- 7 WALKER, L. E., SHAPIRO, D. & AKL, S. 2020. *Introduction to forensic psychology clinical and social psychological perspectives*. . 2nd Ed. Cham : Springer