Psychology 3 Introductory Session

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Course secretary: Simon Cann
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How to find course information

www.psy.ed.ac.uk then Undergraduates, Current Students, Manage Your Courses

• Course Handbook – all the detail about Psychology 3
• Supplementary documents – literature review and project topic lists
• PPLS Undergraduate Student Handbook – general information about student support, submitting coursework, etc.
Course Aims

• To develop advanced knowledge both of the core areas of Psychology and of the methodological framework underpinning psychological research.

• To develop skills in reading and critically appraising the research literature in core areas of Psychology.
Transition from pre-honours

• Expectation of working independently, taking responsibility for your own learning.
• Expectation of independent study in addition to attending lectures.
• Think in terms of 3-4 hours of independent study per lecture hour. (Official university time model is 100 hours per 10 credit course.)
• Primarily reading course material, but other activities as well, e.g. attend research seminars, discussions with other students.
Honours Teaching Coordinator – Marieke Gartner

- New role created this year
- Objective – provide similar support to y3,y4 as is already in place for y1,y2
- TC should be first point of contact for questions or concerns about the course
- Location of TCs’ office – G10
Advantages of having one contact person

- Queries collated, so course team get a clear idea of what student concerns are (e.g. need to provide more information or re-word handbook)
- Particularly important for a course with 16 different components!
- Required information gets back to whole class
- Creation of an on-line FAQ resource for y3
List of modules

Unlike y1, y2 – 16 separate courses, each with a different course/module organiser

11 psychology topic lecture courses (10 credits each)

Two methodology lecture courses (10 credits each):

- Methodology 1 (S1)
- Methodology 2 (S2)

Three coursework components:

- Literature Review (S1) – tutorial groups meet with supervisor,
- Group project (S2) – groups meet regularly with supervisor
- Critical Analysis (S1 & S2) – tutorials approx once per fortnight
Course registration

• Option choice forms for topic courses should have been completed over the summer

• If you have not completed your course registrations or want to make changes, do this ASAP; must be finalised by the end of Week 2 for courses running this semester
Lecture timetable

• Topic courses run once per week (Mon or Tue or Fri) over a five-week block 14.10-16.00
• Methodology courses run once per week, Thur 16.10-18.00 over the whole semester
• Two Critical Analysis lectures – S1 week 1 and S2 week 3, Wed 1-3 pm

All in F21 except Metho 1, Metho 2 - Old College, Lecture Theatres 270 and 183 respectively
Additional event – Perception course

A special Psychology 3 performance of the Bizarre Bodies show that was part of the Edinburgh Fringe Festival this year.

The session will introduce some of the key concepts of this course in an accessible way, through a series of live demonstrations, and will provide a useful gentle introduction for the course to follow. There will also be the opportunity for Psychology 3 students to get involved in wider public engagement and science communication, related to this show, throughout this academic year.

Wed, Week 1. Anatomy Lecture Theatre, Teviot Doorway 3, 5-6pm
2\textsuperscript{nd} additional event

**Transition to Honours**  Friday 26\textsuperscript{th} (Week 2)
10:30-13:30 in F21

Will include sections on study skills, essays/writing, the literature review, Q&A with staff and y4 students
COURSE STRUCTURE FOR DIFFERENT STUDENT GROUPS
Single Honours Students

• Standard set of courses is Methodology 1, Methodology 2, Project, Literature Review, Critical Analysis + select 7 of the topic courses

• Limited scope for taking outside courses – see course handbook.
British Psychological Society (BPS) Accreditation

• Over the honours years (y3+y4), students* must take at least one course in each of the BPS core areas: Cognitive, Biological, Individual Differences (Differential), Social, Developmental

• Methodology 1 and Methodology 2 are required for BPS accreditation

* Single and combined hons
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>BPS area(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biological Psychology</td>
<td>Biological</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cognitive and Social Development in Children*</td>
<td>Developmental</td>
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<tr>
<td>Development of Language, Literacy and Communication</td>
<td>Developmental</td>
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<td>Human Personality</td>
<td>Individual Differences</td>
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<td>Individual Differences in Intelligence and Related Constructs</td>
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<td>Learning and Memory</td>
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<td>Perception</td>
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<td>Psychology of Language</td>
<td>Cognitive</td>
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<td>Social Psychology: Experimental and Applied Approaches</td>
<td>Social</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Psychology: The Social Psychology of Identities</td>
<td>Social</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thinking and Reasoning</td>
<td>Cognitive</td>
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*Renamed, was Conceptual Development in Children: Thinking, Reasoning and Social Cognition*
Combined Honours Students

- Take Methodology 1, Methodology 2 and 20-40 further credits of Psychology courses. Check DPT for your course for details.
- Generally don’t take lit review, CA, project – emphasis on topic courses. Project NOT required for BPS accreditation.
- Generally don’t cover all of BPS core in 3rd year, so some constraints on 4th year option selection.
Intercalated Medical Students

• Two psychology topic courses, Methodology 1, remaining credits from 4\textsuperscript{th} year courses, including dissertation.

• See 4\textsuperscript{th} year handbook for further information.
Humanities and Social Science BA Students

• 60-80 credits Psychology taken from the lecture courses (literature review, project only with special permission).
• Remaining credits from non-psychology courses.
• Your Personal Tutor can advise on course selections for this degree
Visiting Students

• Students select Psychology 3 courses, outside courses.
• Psychology 4 courses by permission.
• Billy Lee b.lee@ed.ac.uk can advise on course selections.
General Admin Stuff

• Check course handbook for assessment details (exam/coursework/both) and coursework deadlines.
• Check Learn course sites and university email regularly for course information.
• Coursework word count policy:
  Being able to produce a piece of work which is within a specified word limit is an important professional skill, so all coursework should comply with the stated word limit.
Exams

Don’t make any arrangements to travel away from Edinburgh until the FINAL exam timetable is published.
Feedback on coursework and exam scripts

Numerous feedback opportunities, e.g. comments on coursework, exam script review session.

Purpose of feedback meetings is to see what led to the mark and how to improve – NOT to argue mark up!

All honours – level work is moderated or double marked. Marking is also reviewed by external examiners. Grounds for appeal of honours mark are very limited. (See course handbook.)
Project, Literature Review Information

• Literature review – three tutorials. List of topics/supervisors now available online. Complete a preference form by 12 noon this Thursday. Students assigned highest preference topic possible.

• Project – (usually) weekly meetings of group. Online signup for projects groups later in Semester 1 (week 8).
The Psychology Library is located in this building (ground floor), available to Psychology 3 students.

See the Librarian (Karen Fleet) for more information/introduction to the library facilities.
Class representatives

- Attend SSLC meetings, represent student views on the course
- Liaise with Teaching Coordinator
- Training available from EUSA
- Teaching office will email for expressions of interest
EUYSRA
Edinburgh University Young Scientific Researchers Association

Chemistry Biology Psychology Informatics Physics Medicine Engineering

Main Meetings:
Every Wednesday in Appleton Tower Lecture Theatre 4,
from 18:30-19:30
(Starting from September 17th)

NUS Scotland and EUSA
“Best Society of the Year”

http://euysra.wix.com/euysra
Open Facebook Group