PS349-15 Psychology of Ageing

21/22

Department
Psychology
Level
Undergraduate Level 3
Module leader
Elizabeth Maylor
Credit value
15
Module duration
12 weeks
Assessment
33% coursework, 67% exam
Study location
University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

The module studies the capabilities and psychological functioning of older people.

Module web page

Module aims

It aims to provide a critical analysis of the methods and theories that have been applied to the study of human ageing; to discuss several aspects of performance, from decline in sensory processes to changes in intellectual functions, including attention, memory and language; and it provides the opportunity to study cognition in an important (but often neglected) section of the population

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

1 Introduction: Definitions, descriptions and demographics
2 Methodological issues
3 Sensory, physiological and motor changes

4 Attention
5 Memory
6 Intelligence
7 Language
8 Theories of ageing
9 Audio/video presentations + feedback on group assignment
10 Abnormal ageing
11 Revision
12 Revision

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- demonstrate a critical appreciation of methodological issues associated with the study of ageing
- describe sensory and intellectual changes that accompany both normal and abnormal ageing
- discuss these changes in relation to current theories and debate in cognitive ageing

Indicative reading list

Birren, J. E., & Schaie, K. W. (Eds.). (1996, 2001, 2006, 2010, 2015). Handbook of the psychology of aging (4th, 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th eds.). San Diego, CA: Academic Press.
Cavanagh, J. C., & Blanchard-Fields, F. (2011). Adult development and aging (6th ed.). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth.
Craik, F. I. M., & Salthouse, T. A. (Eds.). (2000, 2008). The handbook of aging and cognition (2nd and 3rd eds.). Mahwah, NJ: Erlbaum/Psychology Press.
Erber, J. T. (2013). Aging and older adulthood (3rd ed.). Chichester: Wiley-Blackwell.
Park, D. C., & Schwarz, N. (Eds.). (2007). Cognitive aging: A primer (2nd ed.). Hove, East Sussex: Psychology Press.
Perfect, T. J., & Maylor, E. A. (Eds.). (2000). Models of cognitive aging. Oxford, England: Oxford University Press.
Rabbitt, P. (2015). The aging mind: An owner’s manual. Hove, East Sussex: Routledge.
Salthouse, T. A. (1991). Theoretical perspectives on cognitive aging. Hillsdale, NJ: Erlbaum.
Salthouse, T. A. (2010). Major issues in cognitive aging. New York: Oxford University Press.
Stuart-Hamilton, I. (2012). The psychology of ageing: An introduction (5th ed.). London: Jessica Kingsley.
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View reading list on Talis Aspire

Subject specific skills

- critical appreciation of methodological issues associated with the study of ageing
- understanding of the sensory and intellectual changes that accompany both normal and abnormal ageing

- understanding of current theories and debate in cognitive ageing
- evaluation of psychological theory and research

Transferable skills

- effective communication skills to develop a cogent argument supported by relevant evidence and being sensitive to the needs and expectations of an audience;
- familiarity with collecting and organising stored information found in library book and journal collections, and online, critically evaluating primary and secondary sources;
- effective personal planning, and team working skills

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	12 sessions of 2 hours (16%)
Seminars	10 sessions of 1 hour (7%)
Private study	116 hours (77%)
Total	150 hours

Private study description

116 hours guided student study

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You do not need to pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Students can register for this module without taking any assessment.

Assessment group D2

	Weighting	Study time
Assessed work	33%	

The title and abstract for Paper A will be produced in groups for formative assessment.The titles and abstracts for Papers B and C will be produced individually for summative assessment (33%).

	Weighting	Study time
Everyone taking the module must participate in the group assessment otherwise a mark of zero will be awarded for the individual assessment.		
Online Examination	67%	

- Online examination: No Answerbook required

Feedback on assessment

Assessed via annotated copy and academic guidance form; exam performance via personal \r\ntutor or online.

Past exam papers for PS349

Availability

Courses

This module is Optional for:

- Year 1 of TPSS-C8P9 Postgraduate Taught Psychological Research
- Year 3 of UPSA-C800 Undergraduate Psychology
- Year 4 of UPSA-C801 Undergraduate Psychology (with Intercalated year)
- Year 3 of UPSA-C804 Undergraduate Psychology with Education Studies
- Year 4 of UPSA-C806 Undergraduate Psychology with Education Studies (with Intercalated Year)

This module is Option list A for:

- Year 3 of UPSA-C804 Undergraduate Psychology with Education Studies

This module is Option list B for:

- Year 3 of UPHA-VL78 BA in Philosophy with Psychology
- Year 4 of UPHA-VL79 BA in Philosophy with Psychology (with Intercalated year)
- Year 1 of TPSS-C8P9 Postgraduate Taught Psychological Research

This module is Option list C for:

- Year 3 of UPSA-C802 Undergraduate Psychology with Linguistics