

# PS372-15 The Psychology of Intellectual Disabilities and Sensory Impairments

**23/24**

**Department**

Psychology

**Level**

Undergraduate Level 3

**Module leader**

Jagjeet Jutley-Neilson

**Credit value**

15

**Module duration**

12 weeks

**Assessment**

33% coursework, 67% exam

**Study location**

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

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## Description

### Introductory description

This module covers fundamental areas and phenomena of Intellectual and Developmental disabilities, exploring competing perspectives, contemporary debates and important areas of application.

[Module web page](#)

### Module aims

To provide students with the opportunity to

- Become aware of the assessment and diagnosis of intellectual disabilities.
- Engage and evaluate psychological research and methods of measurement and diagnosis of intellectual disability and sensory impairments.
- Explore the types of research methods, theoretical perspectives and questions of value, culture and context

- Broaden understanding and knowledge of Intellectual disabilities and sensory impairments from a pre-natal, post-natal and a life-span perspective.
- Explore how knowledge from this module is an important area for educational or clinical psychologists.
- Understand the historical perspective of care, the dynamics of caring for a child with an intellectual disability and/or sensory impairment.
- Understand approaches to psychological intervention in relation to mental health, challenging behaviour and health promotion

## **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.

This module covers fundamental areas and phenomena of Intellectual and Developmental disabilities, exploring competing perspectives, contemporary debates and important areas of application. The module looks at Intellectual and sensory impairments pre-natal, post-natal and across the life-span. The module will explore the types of research methods, theoretical perspectives and questions of value, culture and context. The role of brain functioning will be considered throughout this module. This module will also identify how the skills and knowledge gained during this module are relevant to GBC competencies and training which are relevant to future work and studies in the area of Psychology. This module will be of particular interest for students who would like to explore a career as an educational or clinical psychologist.

In the context of contemporary societies and globalisation the field of Developmental Psychology is pivotal to understanding ourselves and others. It needs to be adequately theorised and researched to allow orientation to the psychological phenomena of contemporary individual, family and community lives. This module is aimed at developing in students the necessary knowledge to approach this.

The module will centre around the material being delivered in lectures as well as activities within seminar and Moodle work. All course materials, including all lecture power points and overheads will be available on Moodle. Use will be made of audio and video materials to give examples and explore the approaches and issues involved in the module. Opportunities will be provided for class discussion and consideration and reflection on the relationship of the teaching content to the students' experience.

## **Learning outcomes**

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

- Identify and appreciate differences in cognitive, social and emotional, behavioural development of individuals with intellectual disabilities and sensory impairments.
- Enter into theoretical and evidential debates, and evaluate positions taken by researchers on key issues in intellectual disability and sensory impairment research.
- Identify and analyse methodologies used for the measurement and diagnosis of intellectual disabilities by researchers, educational and clinical psychologists.
- Demonstrate an understanding of concepts, perspectives, and research methods in the

neurobiology of brain development and the effects of genetic and environmental factors in the development of intellectual disability and sensory impairments.

## **Indicative reading list**

Emerson, E. (2012). Clinical psychology and people with intellectual disabilities. Chichester: Wiley-Blackwell.

e-book - <http://lib.myilibrary.com/Open.aspx?id=361876&src=0>

### **Recommended**

Carr, A., Linehan, C., O'Reilly, G., Walsh, P. N., & McEvoy, J. (Eds.). (2016). The handbook of intellectual disability and clinical psychology practice. Routledge.

Harris, J.C., (2010). Intellectual Disability: a guide for families and professionals. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Goodey, C. F. (2016). A history of intelligence and 'intellectual disability': The shaping of psychology in early modern europe. Routledge.

Lightfoot, C. (2009). The Development of Children. 6th ed. New York: Worth Publishers.

Jacobson, J. W., Mulick, J. A., & Rojahn, J. (Eds.). (2007). Handbook of intellectual and developmental disabilities. Springer Science & Business Media.

Kaufman, A. S. (2018). Contemporary intellectual assessment: Theories, tests, and issues. Guilford Publications.

Roth, I. (2010). The Autism Spectrum in the 21st Century: exploring psychology, biology and best practice. London: Jessica Kingsley

## **Subject specific skills**

awareness of the assessment and diagnosis of intellectual disabilities

evaluation of psychological research and methods of measurement and diagnosis

Understand the historical perspective of care

Understand approaches to psychological intervention

## **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 skills

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## **Study**

## **Study time**

Type	Required
Lectures	12 sessions of 2 hours (16%)
Seminars	5 sessions of 1 hour (3%)
Other activity	5 hours (3%)
Private study	116 hours (77%)
Total	150 hours

### Private study description

116 hour guided independent study

### Other activity description

Reading Group alternate weeks.

### Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

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### Assessment

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

#### Assessment group D1

	Weighting	Study time
Essay	33%	
Online Examination	67%	

- Online examination: No Answerbook required

### Feedback on assessment

Written feedback and a provisional mark will be given within 20 working days following the submission date (as per the student charter) for coursework. The mark remains provisional until ratified by the External Examiner and the Examination Board.

[Past exam papers for PS372](#)

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### Availability

## Courses

This module is Optional for:

- UPHA-L1CA Undergraduate Economics, Psychology and Philosophy
  - Year 3 of L1CA Economics, Psychology and Philosophy
  - Year 3 of L1CC Economics, Psychology and Philosophy (Behavioural Economics Pathway)
  - Year 3 of L1CD Economics, Psychology and Philosophy (Economics with Philosophy Pathway)
  - Year 3 of L1CE Economics, Psychology and Philosophy (Philosophy and Psychology Pathway)
- UPHA-L1CB Undergraduate Economics, Psychology and Philosophy (with Intercalated Year)
  - Year 4 of L1CG Economics, Psychology and Philosophy (Behavioural Economics Pathway) (with Intercalated Year)
  - Year 4 of L1CH Economics, Psychology and Philosophy (Economics with Philosophy Pathway) (with Intercalated Year)
  - Year 4 of L1CJ Economics, Psychology and Philosophy (Philosophy and Psychology Pathway) (with Intercalated Year)
  - Year 4 of L1CB Economics, Psychology and Philosophy (with Intercalated Year)
  - Year 4 of L1CB Economics, Psychology and Philosophy (with Intercalated Year)
- 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 Unusual option for:

- Year 3 of UPHA-L1CA Undergraduate Economics, Psychology and Philosophy

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
- Year 4 of UPSA-C805 Undergraduate Psychology with Linguistics (with Intercalated Year)

This module is Unusual option for:

- Year 4 of UPSA-C805 Undergraduate Psychology with Linguistics (with Intercalated Year)