

# PS117-15 Becoming a Psychologist

**24/25**

**Department**

Psychology

**Level**

Undergraduate Level 1

**Module leader**

Jagjeet Jutley-Neilson

**Credit value**

15

**Module duration**

10 weeks

**Assessment**

100% coursework

**Study location**

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

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## Description

### Introductory description

This module is designed to provide students with basic academic skills needed to succeed in a Psychology degree course.

[Module web page](#)

### Module aims

Topics will range from the practical (how to navigate an academic environment) to the theoretical (an in-depth look at the concept of 'evidence' in science), and will cover core course-related academic skills (how to efficiently and critically dissect original research papers, how best to communicate scientific content). Throughout the module, the emphasis will be on developing a coherent skill set based on critical thinking and a deeper understanding of empirical psychological science.

### 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.

The module will cover topics such as

- Effective approaches for learning in higher education
- Evaluation of research evidence
- Finding and reading scientific papers
- The meaning of science and evidence
- Effective referencing and academic integrity
- Planning and structuring essays writing and writing arguments in psychology
- Volunteering, study abroad, work experience and careers

## **Learning outcomes**

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

- Understand the difference between learning, teaching, and assessment methods in schools versus higher education.
- Understand the importance of academic integrity and demonstrate appropriate referencing techniques in psychology.
- Understand the basics of scientific thinking, and how they apply to Psychology as a scientific discipline.
- Critically evaluate empirical and theoretical scientific texts and communicate the outcome effectively.
- Understand the basic logic of empirical and qualitative research.
- Understand how to plan and write evaluatively

## **Indicative reading list**

Parson, V. (2012) Communication and Study Skills for Psychology. Oxford University Press.

Smyth, T. R. (2004). The principles of writing in psychology. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Selection of Weekly Journals

[View reading list on Talis Aspire](#)

## **Subject specific skills**

Understand the basics of scientific thinking, and how they apply to Psychology as a scientific discipline.

Critically evaluate empirical and theoretical scientific texts and communicate the outcome effectively.

Understand the basic logic of empirical and qualitative research.

## **Transferable skills**

evaluation of evidence

evaluation of scientific papers

critical thinking

formation of effective and structured arguments

effective written communication and paraphrasing

## Study

### Study time

Type	Required	Optional
Lectures	10 sessions of 1 hour (7%)	
Seminars	10 sessions of 1 hour (7%)	
Tutorials	10 sessions of 1 hour (7%)	
Online learning (scheduled sessions)	4 sessions of 15 minutes (1%)	2 sessions of 15 minutes
Online learning (independent)	2 sessions of 15 minutes (0%)	
Private study	38 hours 30 minutes (25%)	
Assessment	80 hours (53%)	
Total	150 hours	

### Private study description

private guided student study.

## 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 A2

	Weighting	Study time
On-line Test 1	40%	20 hours
Online test taken outside class time via Moodle		
Research Training vidoes	5%	10 hours
Participation Marks - Training vidoes		
Participation mark in online training (5% for completion of all three training videos; staggered completion participation mark - 1 training video= 1%, completion, 2 training videos= 2%, completion of three online training videos = 5%)		
Group Vlog Submission	25%	20 hours

	<b>Weighting</b>	<b>Study time</b>
Students will work together in groups to create a vlog		
Essay	30%	30 hours
Essay marked by personal tutor		

### **Feedback on assessment**

Academic guidance for assessed work online via Moodle and Tabula, assessment and feedback hours, through tutorials, and seminars.

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## **Availability**

### **Courses**

This module is Core for:

- Year 1 of UPSA-C800 Undergraduate Psychology
- Year 1 of UPSA-C801 Undergraduate Psychology (with Intercalated year)
- Year 1 of UPSA-C804 Undergraduate Psychology with Education Studies
- Year 1 of UPSA-C802 Undergraduate Psychology with Linguistics