

IB9PK-15 Advances in Behavioural Science

26/27

Department

Warwick Business School

Level

Taught Postgraduate Level

Module leader

Nicholas Chater

Credit value

15

Module duration

10 weeks

Assessment

100% coursework

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

This is a seminar based module in which students (and researchers) closely read key articles in behavioural science. The format will be demanding and interactive. Students will be expected to come prepared, having read and thought about each paper, so that the seminar is always highly interactive. The faculty member will expect to be discussing the paper with enthusiastic junior colleagues, and not lecturing to them. Several members of the behavioural science group will take part each year, providing students with a broad range of perspectives and approaches.

Module aims

This module aims to show students how researchers think, and to enable them to think that way. They will discover what questions colleagues (e.g., reviewers) are likely to ask about their research, what constitutes an important research question in behavioural science, how to critically examine not just the results but the methods and analyses of research studies, and how to write a research article so that someone will want to read it.

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 syllabus will change from year to year by its very nature. However, it will always be composed of 10 meetings each revolving around from one to three major research articles. A single topic may span two or three meetings. The meetings will be led by a member of the behavioural science group who is a leading expert in her field. During the meetings, all aspects of the papers will be examined: rationale, theory, statistical analysis and even writing. The goal will be to enable students to write papers like those being read and studied.

Possible topics:

Behavioural change (and nudging)

Bias and discrimination

Modelling choice processes

Preference instability

Endowment effect

Lying and deception

Intertemporal choice

Field data

Research integrity

Learning outcomes

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

- Knowledge of behavioural science themes and how they are studied
- Non experimental design
- Experimental design
- Statistical analysis

Indicative reading list

[Reading lists can be found in Talis](#)

Research element

The 3,500 word assessment will involve developing research ideas based on one of the themes discussed during the seminars.

Interdisciplinary

Economics, psychology, statistics, philosophy and neuroscience.

Subject specific skills

Knowledge of behavioural science themes and how they are studied.

Statistical analysis.

Experimental design.

Non-experimental design.

Transferable skills

Critical reasoning.

Academic writing and argumentation for a target audience.

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Seminars	10 sessions of 3 hours (38%)
Private study	48 hours (62%)
Total	78 hours

Private study description

Self study and reflective learning.

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You must pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group A

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Assessment component			
Individual assignment	100%	72 hours	Yes (extension)

Weighting Study time Eligible for self-certification

Reassessment component is the same

Feedback on assessment

Module leader feedback.

Availability

There is currently no information about the courses for which this module is core or optional.