

PS922-15 Issues in Psychological Science

26/27

Department

Psychology

Level

Taught Postgraduate Level

Module leader

Gordon Brown

Credit value

15

Module duration

10 weeks

Assessment

100% coursework

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

This module covers core psychology and behavioural science content relevant to later modules, including memory, personality and individual differences, judgement and choice, and subjective well-being.

[Module web page](#)

Module aims

This module, together with PS923 Methods and Analysis in Behavioural Science, will provide students on the MScs in Behavioural and Economic Science with the psychological background to enable them to understand and critically evaluate material on the additional modules offered by the Psychology Department. Through a combination of lectures, seminars, and laboratory-based sessions, the students will learn about both models and data in the relevant areas of psychology (see list of lecture topics). They will also learn basic model implementation using R.

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.

Introduction

Economics and Happiness

Subjective well-being

Personality and individual differences

Models of Context Effects

Modelling with R

Attention

Memory

Agent-based Models and Polarisation

Income Inequality

Learning outcomes

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

- Understanding of the history of, and different methodological approaches within, psychology as relevant to Behavioural Science
- Ability to identify key areas where approaches from behavioural science either have been, or potentially can be, applied to real-world problems
- Understanding of how R can be used to build simple cognitive models

Indicative reading list

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

Subject specific skills

- Implementation of simple cognitive models in R programming language.
- Understanding of differences between approaches to both theory and experimentation in economics and psychology.
- Understanding of core concepts in memory, attention, perception, and social and evolutionary psychology.

Transferable skills

- Critical evaluation
- programming skills
- effective personal planning skills

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	8 sessions of 2 hours (11%)
Seminars	4 sessions of 2 hours (5%)
Practical classes	2 sessions of 2 hours (3%)
Private study	46 hours (31%)
Assessment	76 hours (51%)
Total	150 hours

Private study description

Self-directed study related to seminar preparation, case studies and background reading, and assignment preparation.

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

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

Assessment group A4

Assessment component	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Test 1 In-class test with mixture of multiple choice and short answer questions	12%	9 hours	No

Reassessment component is the same

Assessment component	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Test 2 In-class test with mixture of multiple choice and short answer questions	12%	9 hours	No

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
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Reassessment component is the same

Assessment component

Test 3	12%	9 hours	No
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In-class test with mixture of multiple choice and short answer questions

Reassessment component is the same

Assessment component

Test 4	12%	9 hours	No
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In-class test with mixture of multiple choice and short answer questions

Reassessment component is the same

Assessment component

Modelling Assignment R assignment	52%	40 hours	Yes (extension)
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Reassessment component is the same

Feedback on assessment

Formative feedback: during practical sessions/lab follow-up sessions and seminars.

Summative feedback: written feedback and comments on R assignments

Availability

Courses

This module is Core for:

- Year 1 of TPSS-C803 Postgraduate Taught Behavioural and Data Science
- Year 1 of TPSS-C8P7 Postgraduate Taught Behavioural and Economic Science (Science Track)
- Year 1 of TECS-C8P8 Postgraduate Taught Behavioural and Economics Science (Economics Track)