2014/2015, Semester 2, Week 1

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GEK1064

Psychology in Everyday Life (AY2014-15 S2) (2014/2015, Semester 2)

Module

GEK1064: Psychology in Everyday Life (AY2014-15 S2)

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Created: 28-Nov-2014, Updated: 28-Nov-2014

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Announcement Workbin Module Code GEK1064

Module Title Psychology in Everyday Life (AY2014-15 S2)

Semester Semester 2, 2014/2015

Modular Credits 4

Faculty Arts & Social Sciences (Psychology)

Timetable Timetable

Module Facilitators

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Assessment | Preclusions | Workload

Aims & Objectives | Prerequisites | Teaching Modes | Schedule | Syllabus | Practical Work | Assessment | Preclusions | Workload

Aims & Objectives Top

The module is designed to equip students who are not planning to major in psychology with basic literacy in the discipline. Students will acquire basic understanding of common human experiences, such as sleep, dreams, learning, and memory from a psychological perspective; and apply psychological knowledge to understand some of the common problematic behaviours we encounter, such as forgetfulness, sleep problems, addiction, eating disorders, depression, and mental retardation. Students will also learn about some of the practical issues, such as whether it is beneficial to boost one's self-esteem, whether subliminal persuasion works, and how we could find happiness.

Caveat emptor: it may sway your decision about reading this module to know that the instructor is still searching for happiness himself.

Prerequisites <u>Top</u>

There is no prerequisite beyond an intrinsic desire to learn what psychology is about, and how it could be helpful in your everday life.

Preclusion: PL1101E

Let me say this again. This is NOT meant for psychology majors (as you would have acquired all these information somewhere, sometime, during your course of study).

Teaching Modes <u>Top</u>

Teaching mode:

Lecture is held on Fri 10-12pm at LT8.

Lecture note will be uploaded in pdf format on Thursday in the late afternoon (before 5.30pm).

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Tentative list of lecture topics

Week	Topics	Readings
1 (16 Jan)	Lecture 1 Brain's Building Blocks	Module 3 Assigned Reading
2 (23 Jan)	Lecture 2 Brain & Behavior	Module 4B/C/D/E/F/I
3 (30 Jan)	Lecture 3 Self	Assigned Reading
4 (6 Feb)	Lecture 4 Imperfect Decisions	Module 14 B/D Assigned Reading
5 (13 Feb)	Lecture 5 Learning	Module 9A - D/F Module 10A - C
6 (20 Feb)	Public Holiday (Gong Xi Fa Chye!)	
22 Feb	Recess	
7 (6 Mar)	Lecture 6 Circadian Rhythm & Sleep	Module 7A-E / H
8 (13 Mar)	Lecture 7 Curiosities Explained: Dream, Hypnosis and Subliminal Influence (e-lect)	Module 7G / 8A Assigned Reading
9 (20 Mar)	QUIZ (Lect 1-5)	
10 (27 Mar)	Lecture 8 Sensation, Visual System & The Psychology of Colors	Module 5A Assigned Reading

11 (3 Apr)	Public Holiday (GOOD Friday)		
12 (10 Apr)	Lecture 9 Perception & Attention	Module 6B-E Assigned Reading	
13 (17 Apr)	Lecture 10 Psychological Disorders	Module 23A/C	
GEK1064 Examination: 28th April (9am)			

Note:

- 1) As this is only the second time the module is offered, I am still tweaking the lecture topics to be covered (i.e., trimming those that don't work as well, and adding newer interesting topics). So the schedule that you are seeing now is tentative and there will very likely to be changes.
- 2) Additional readings may be assigned for each topic, especially topics that have no relevant readings in the textbook. Please check the Announcement for assignment of such readings..

<u>Top</u>

The textbook adopted for this module will be:

Plotnik, R., & Kouyoumdjian, H. (2014). Introduction to Psychology. Wadsworth, Cengage Learning. (e-book)

Something you may want to note about this textbook:

- 1) This is an e-book. You will receive details on where to acquire an e-copy online in due time.
- 2) The hardcopy will cost a bomb, In any case, you will not be able to purchase a hardcopy anywhere.
- 3) The textbook is presented in modular format, and is an easy read. I chose this book because of its flexible presentation that allows me to zoom in on certain sub-topics within a bigger topic. This is to prevent the module from becoming too much of an information overload for students. I will also complement this with readings from science magazines such as Scientific American Mind or New Scientist. They are equally easy read, and interesting too.

Practical Work Top

RP Programme

The RP Programme is an essential component of the Psychology Programme at the Department of Psychology at NUS. The Programme provides undergraduate students an opportunity to participate in and therefore observe current research, giving them a better understanding of how psychological knowledge is obtained. Students reading this module will have to fulfil research participation requirement in one of the two following ways:

Either

1. opting into the RP Programme, where you act as a participant in staff and student research projects. You will be required to accumulate 6 RP points (equivalent to 3 hours of participation). All research is reviewed and approved by the Institutional Review Board (or Departmental Ethics Review Committee) before any data collection begins;

Or

2. opting out of the RP Programme. To do so, you would have to notify the RP coordinator Ms Susheel Kaur via email by a certain deadline (to be announced). The RP coordinator will arrange for you to act as an observer for TWO studies. You will be required to write a report on each study.

For further details, please visit the RP Website http://courses.nus.edu.sg/course/psyks/rp.htm

Assessment <u>Top</u>

These are the weights for the various assessment components:

- 1) Examination (50%)
- 2) CA (50%) consisting of:
- a) Quiz 30%
- b) Journal Report 10%
- c) Tutorial Participation 10%

Tutorial participation could refer to any of the following behaviors: showing evidence of preparation before class, involvement in discussion, answering any questions that I may have, or asking good questions, Students should have ample opportunities to earn the 10% component across the 5 tutorials. It is thus very much a giveaway component as long as you come prepared for class.

This component is not confirmed yet, I am likely to make some changes which will be announced in the first lecture.

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NIL

Workload <u>Top</u>

2-1-0-0-7

Workload Components: A-B-C-D-E A: no. of lecture hours per week B: no. of tutorial hours per week

C: no. of lab hours per week
D: no. of hours for projects, assignments, fieldwork etc per week

E: no. of hours for preparatory work by a student per week

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