

2024 / 25

School of Science and Computing

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🌐 [www.wit.ie/schools/science\\_computing](http://www.wit.ie/schools/science_computing)



**SE  
TU**

Ollscoil  
Teicneolaíochta  
an Oirdheiscirt

South East  
Technological  
University

## Module Descriptor

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### Introduction to Psychology (Computing and Mathematics)

# Introduction to Psychology (A09941)

**Short Title:** Intro to Psychology  
**Department:** Applied Arts  
**Credits:** 5

**Level:** Introductory

## Description of Module / Aims

This module aims to: Develop an appreciation of how psychology can be used to understand human behaviour. It will introduce students to the main theories, concepts and ideas used within psychology and provide an overview of the different areas of psychology and their relationship to human behaviour.

## Programmes

			stage/semester/status
PSYC-0065	BSc (Hons) in Software Systems Development (WD_KCSDV_B)		2 / 1 / E
PSYC-0103	BSc (Hons) in Software Systems Development (WD_KDEVP_B)		2 / 3 / E
PSYC-0103	BSc in Software Systems Development (WD_KCOMC_D)		2 / 3 / E
PSYC-0103	BA (Hons) International (WD_HARTI_B)		1 / 1 / M
PSYC-0103	BA (Hons) (WD_HARTS_B)		1 / 1 / M
PSYC-0121	BA (Hons) in Criminal Justice Studies (WD_HCRJU_B)		1 / 1 / M
PSYC-0118	BA (Hons) in Early Childhood Studies (WD_HECHS_B)		1 / 1 / M
PSYC-0103	BA (Hons) in Psychology (WD_HPSYC_B)		1 / 1 / M
PSYC-0103	BA (Hons) in Psychology with Arts (International) (WD_HPSYI_B)		1 / 1 / M
PSYC-0127	BA (Hons) in Social Science (WD_HSOSC_B)		1 / 1 / M

## Indicative Content

- Introduction and Overview
- Psychological Perspectives
- Sensation and Perception
- Motivation and Emotion
- Learning and Memory
- States of Consciousness
- Sexuality and Gender
- Personality
- Intelligence
- Current Controversies and Debates in Psychology
- Conclusion/Recap

## Learning Outcomes

*On successful completion of this module, a student will be able to:*

1. Recognise how the science and discipline of psychology can be used to understand human behaviour.
2. Explain the factors which influence human behaviour.
3. Differentiate the key areas of psychology and their relationship to human behaviour.
4. Examine the contributions of psychological theories to understanding human behaviour.

## Learning and Teaching Methods

- A two-hour lecture and a one-hour tutorial per week.
- Tutorial/seminar work encompasses small group meetings that function to revise the lecture material. Additional resources/ audio/ video materials are utilised within the tutorial hours.
- Students engage in exercises/ quizzes relating to the lecture material of the previous week.
- Students are introduced to current research applications of the theoretical concepts/ students are encouraged to participate in small group exercises relating to identifying research ideas for example identifying research questions/variables and engaging in searching for psychological research across various media through library searches both online and off line.
- Tutorials introduce students to the academic environment and basic research skills.

## Learning Modes

Learning Type	F/T Hours	P/T Hours
Lecture	24	
Tutorial	12	
Independent Learning	99	

## Assessment Methods

	Weighting	Outcomes Assessed
Final Written Examination	100%	1,2,3,4

## Assessment Criteria

Fail (0-39) Fails to address the question, key issues, and concepts. Poor writing and organisation; Evidence that basic material is misunderstood.

Pass (40-49) Limited consideration of main points and concepts addressed; Direct attempt at the question but some context lacking. Some understanding of how to structure and presentation of ideas; Limited evidence of the relevant texts and literature.

50–59 (2.2) A satisfactory answer but without the range of reading and interpretation deserving of a higher honours mark; Sparse or highly selective coverage of the relevant material. Assertions not suitably supported by argument or evidence; Limited discussion and reflection, but showing knowledge of the underpinning principles.

60-69 (2.1) A well-organised, well-written answer, demonstrating that the material is critically analysed; Evidence of reading beyond essential course material. Addressing and analysing the main points and showing evidence of a good grasp of the underpinning knowledge; some evidence of evaluation and synthesis of the relevant issues.

70% and over (1.1) Excellent answer that combines an exceptional degree of independent reading and thinking with a high degree of integration; A depth of insight into theoretical issues, demonstrating a concise and clear analytical style. Excellent level of critical analysis and originality of thought; excellent critical evaluation and synthesis of relevant issues, showing an ability to integrate and apply theory in a precise manner.

## Essential Material(s)

- Burns, T. and S. Sinfield. *Essential Study Skills : The complete guide to Success at University*. 4th ed.. London: Sage, 2016.
- Hock, R. *Forty Studies that changed Psychology*. 7th ed.. London: Pearson , 2012.
- Passer, M. and R. Smith . *Psychology: The Science of Mind and Behaviour*. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2015.

## Supplementary Material(s)

- Fairholm, I. *Issues, Debates and Approaches in Psychology....* Houndsmills: Palgrave MacMillan, 2012.
- Gross, R. *Psychology, The Science of Mind and Behaviour....* 7th Edition . London: Hodder Education, 2015.
- Schacter, D., D. Gilbert, D. Wegner and B Hood. *Psychology: European Edition* . Houndsmills: Palgrave MacMillan, 2012.