

Module code	PSY419	Level	4
Module title	Roots and Branches in Psychology	Credit value	20
Common/Core/Elective	Core	ECTS Credits	10
		Notional learning hours	200
Courses on which the module is taught	BA (Hons) Psychology	Teaching Period	Autumn

1. Module description

What are the core perspectives in classical and contemporary psychology? This module provides you with a whistle-stop tour through psychology's early philosophical and historical beginnings, schools of thought, and key innovators ("roots"), through to its emergence as a multi-faceted group of academic disciplines, and onwards towards the future of contemporary psychology ("branches"). You will explore fundamental approaches and ideas, including your own, to tease out their similarities and differences, and familiarise yourself with the explanatory theories of the classical psychology curriculum – cognitive psychology, social psychology, biological psychology, developmental psychology and individual differences. You will debate contemporary, real-world problems such as the nature-nurture debate, free will versus determinism and the mind-body problem.

2. Learning outcomes

Upon successful completion of this module you will be able to:

Decision-making (MLO 04)

Investigate and contrast different approaches and ideas in psychology, including your own, to inform decision making.

Communication (MLO 05)

Communicate your arguments, both orally and in writing, in class debates.

Discipline Knowledge (MLO 07)

Explain core theories, concepts and real-world psychological issues applied to contemporary topics.

3. Learning and teaching methods

This module will be taught via a contemporary lens and contemporary materials. It will adopt an experiential workshop approach and will aim to provoke learning through curiosity and creativity. Classes will involve a range of interactive methods and practical activities to engage with the material, including individual and group work, class discussions and debates, readings, micro-lectures and practical activities. These activities will help investigate and contrast different approaches, communicate your ideas, and explain core theories, and will contribute to your learning for the group presentation assessment.

Learning hours	
Directed learning	48 hours
Workshops/classes	48
Guided/Self-guided learning	152 hours
Total	200 hours

4. Assessment, formative feedback and relative weightings

Assessment: Presentation (Group Assessment)

Weight (%): 100%

Word Count or Equivalent: 20 minutes.

Working in pairs, you will present opposing sides of a key debate in psychology, clearly communicating your arguments orally and visually. The presentation will be followed by questions and answers with peers.

This summative assessment will be preceded by an opportunity for formative assessment accompanied by formative feedback.

Mapping of assessment tasks for the module				
Assessment tasks	MLO4	MLO5	MLO7	
Group Presentation	X	X	X	

5. Indicative resources

- Benjamin, L. T., (2021). *A brief history of modern psychology* (3rd ed.) Wiley.
- Bem, S., & de Jong, H.L. (2013). *Theoretical issues in psychology: An introduction* (3rd ed.). Sage.
- Goodwin, C.J. (2010). *Annotated readings in the history of modern psychology*. Wiley.
- Gross, R. (2014). *Themes, issues and debates in psychology* (4th ed.). Hodder Education.
- Piekkola, B. (2016). *Conceptual and historical Issues in psychology*. Sage.
- Shiraev, E. (2015). *A history of psychology: A global perspective*. (2nd ed.). Sage.