Module code	PSY727			**Level**	7
Module title	**Biological and Cognitive Psychology**				
Status	Core				
Teaching Period	Spring				
Courses on which the module is taught	MSc Psychology (Conversion)				
Prerequisite modules	NA				
Notional learning hours	200	**Credit value**	20	**ECTS Credits**	10
Field trips?	*There will be field trip(s) which be covered by the fees (i.e., museum tickets)*				
Additional costs	*Students will have to cover personal expenses (travel, meals, etc.)*				
Content notes	*Occasional materials containing scenes and/or images of neuroanatomical dissection*				

1. Module description

This module explores the complex interplay between biological mechanisms and cognitive processes that underpin human behaviour. In class, you will engage in discussing the underlying principles of the fields, including neuroanatomy, neuropsychology, and methods of investigation. You will delve into the main topics in the field, including genetics and evolutionary psychology, attention, perception, memory, language, problem-solving and decision-making. Relevant contemporary issues in the field will also be explored across these topics, such as artificial intelligence, technology use, psychopharmacology, and neuroplasticity. Relevant theories from both Biological and Cognitive Psychology domains will be critically appraised and applied to real world examples of human behaviour.

At the end of this module, you will be able to systematically apply knowledge of theoretical and methodological approaches in the fields of Biological and Cognitive Psychology. You will be capable of communicating advanced information and ideas as well as developing innovative proposals to address issues in the discipline.

2. Learning Outcomes

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

Innovation (MLO2)
Create and implement new value propositions to create ideas for research in Bio-Cognitive Psychology, combining intellectual curiosity and creativity.

Communication (MLO5)
Communicate persuasively orally and in writing in international settings, when describing and appraising psychological theories concerning Biological and Cognitive Psychology.

Discipline knowledge (MLO7)
Critique and synthesise theories, concepts, and findings at the forefront of Biological and Cognitive Psychology.

Discipline skills (MLO8)
Combine and employ advanced knowledge, techniques and tools from Biological and Cognitive Psychology.

3. Learning and teaching methods, and reasonable adjustments

This module will balance active learning with practical and experiential activities to consolidate and apply knowledge. Classes will involve a range of methods to promote curiosity, creativity, and innovation. These will include individual and group work, practical tasks, equipment and software demonstrations, class discussions, debates, micro-lectures, and independent reading. The combination of these activities will help you acquire, communicate, and appraise disciplinary knowledge and skills and innovate through new ideas.

Learning hours			**200**
Directed learning			48
Workshops/ classes/ seminars/ lead events	Supervision	Studio time	Other
48	0	0	0
Guided/Self-guided learning			152

4. Assessments and weighting, reasonable adjustment, and feedback methods

Assessment component 1:
Essay
Weight (%): 40%
Word count: A maximum of 2000 words

You will write an essay, comparing, appraising and synthesising diverse perspectives, theories and research from Biological and Cognitive Psychology.

Reasonable adjustments for the assessment will be confirmed with students that have a support plan in place.

Assessment component 2:
Individual Presentation
Weight (%): 60%
Word count or equivalent: A maximum of 15 minutes

You will design and present a proposal for an innovative study that addresses a gap or issue in the field of Biological and/or Cognitive Psychology. This will be in the form of an individual presentation, in which you explain, justify and appraise your proposed research orally and visually. This will be followed by question and answers from the audience.

Reasonable adjustments for the assessment will be confirmed with students that have a support plan in place.

Mapping of assessment tasks:

Assessment components	LO2	LO5	LO7	LO8
Essay			X	X
Individual Presentation	X	X		X

The above assessment components are summative. Students will have the opportunity for formative assessment and feedback before each summative assessment.

5. Indicative resources

Ball, L. J., Butler, L. T., Sherman, S. M., & St Clair-Thompson, H. (2023). *Cognitive Psychology in a Changing World*. Routledge.

Buss, D. M. (2025). *Evolutionary Psychology: The New Science of the Mind* (7th ed.). Routledge.

Carlson, N. R. (2020). *Foundations of Behavioral Neuroscience* (10th ed.). Pearson.

Cartwright, J. (2016). *Evolution and Human Behavior: Darwinian perspectives on Human Nature* (3rd ed.). The MIT Press.

Eysenck, M. W., & Keane, M. T. (2020). *Cognitive Psychology: A Student's Handbook* (8th ed.). Routledge.

Kalat, J. W. (2023). *Biological Psychology* (14th ed.). Cengage.