

Master of Science Health Psychology

Programme Requirements

Health Psychology - MSc

120 credits from Module List: MD5001 - MD5004, MD5090 and
60 credits from: PS5003, PS5005

Compulsory modules:

MD5001 Theories of Health Psychology and Behaviour Change

SCOTCAT Credits:	15	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	1
Planned timetable:	To be arranged.			
This module will consist of the knowledge base that covers the context and perspectives of health psychology including an historical overview and current theories and approaches in health psychology. It will include an awareness of other related disciplines, and acknowledgement of social and cultural factors. Theoretical models of health behaviour and behaviour change will be introduced including associated health-related beliefs and cognitions.				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for MSc in Health Psychology Postgraduate Programme.			
Co-requisite(s):	MD5002, PS5003			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 3 lectures and a 2-hour tutorial.			
Assessment pattern:	2-hour Written Examination = 60%, Coursework = 40%			
Module coordinator:	Prof G Humphris			

MD5002 Quality of Life, Communication and Chronic Illness

SCOTCAT Credits:	15	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	1
Planned timetable:	To be arranged.			
This core module will contain the knowledge base for understanding the conceptual underpinnings of the quality of life field and its importance in generating a debate about the success of health care interventions, assessment of care and definitions of health and illness. The relevance of psychological issues to the person suffering acute and chronic illness will be covered and the important role of communication processes in the interface between patient, clinical staff and care-givers will be included as a key theme. Some practical observation of clinical-related communication processes will be an additional feature of this module.				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for MSc in Health Psychology Postgraduate Programme.			
Co-requisite(s):	MD5001, PS5003			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 3 lectures, a 2-hour tutorial and a practical.			
Assessment pattern:	2-hour Written Examination = 60%, Coursework = 40%			
Module coordinator:	Dr A Laidlaw			

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MD5003 Biological Systems and Development				
SCOTCAT Credits:	15	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	To be arranged.			
This core module will introduce the importance of biological and developmental systems to the understanding of people's perceived and actual health status including methods of assessing health behaviour and intervening to change health behaviour. This module will consist of learning a generalisable tool to analyse and pool the effects of interventions, namely meta-analysis.				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for MSc in Health Psychology Postgraduate Programme.			
Pre-requisite(s):	MD5001, MD5002			
Co-requisite(s):	PS5003, PS5005			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 3 lectures, a 2-hour tutorial and a practical.			
Assessment pattern:	2-hour Written Examination = 60%, Coursework = 40%			
Module coordinator:	Dr J Cecil			
Module teaching staff:				

MD5004 Health Information, Prevention and Decision Making				
SCOTCAT Credits:	15	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	To be arranged.			
This core module introduces the student to the expanding field of health information, prevention and decision making. Members of the public, whether they are patients or not are bombarded with health information and mis-information, via various media, from which they may process and make decisions about entering or remaining in the health care system, or embarking on new health or self care interventions designed to improve outcome. Students will acquire understanding on how to assess the influence of these interventions through detailed examination of a mixture of theoretical and practical steps.				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for MSc in Health Psychology Postgraduate Programme.			
Pre-requisite(s):	MD5001, MD5002			
Co-requisite(s):	PS5003, PS5005			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 3 lectures, a 2-hour tutorial and a practical.			
Assessment pattern:	2-hour Written Examination = 60%, Coursework = 40%			
Module coordinator:	Dr G Ozakinci			
Module teaching staff:				

MD5090 Research Project in Health Psychology				
SCOTCAT Credits:	60	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	Whole Year
Planned timetable:	To be arranged.			
The dissertation will consist of a written report of original, empirical health psychology research, up to 5,000 words in length. It will consist of an appropriate literature review, statement of aims, methods, results, discussion and conclusion sections with supporting bibliography. The project will be supervised and receive ethical approval.				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for MSc in Health Psychology Postgraduate Programme.			
Co-requisite(s):	MD5001, MD5002, MD5003, MD5004, PS5003, PS5005			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: Individual supervision.			
Assessment pattern:	Project report (Dissertation) = 100%			
Module coordinator:	Prof G Humphris and Dr J Cecil			

PS5003 Generic Research and Professional Skills in Psychology				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	Whole Year
Planned timetable:	To be arranged.			
This module introduces students to the various skills and issues that are of importance to academic psychologists irrespective of their particular area of research. Weekly seminars will cover the various topics, such as academic presentations (published writing, talks, posters), the use of technology in order to enhance communication, how to read research reports, how to gain ethical approval for research, and how to build an academic career.				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for Research Methods in Psychology (MSc) Compulsory for MSc in Health Psychology. Optional for MSc - Evolutionary and Comparative Psychology: the Origins of Mind.			
Co-requisite(s):	All seven modules are to be taken together in the same session. The 'same session' requirement may be waived at the discretion of the Head of School.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 17 x 2-hour seminars.			
Assessment pattern:	4 elements of Coursework = 100%			
Module coordinator:	Dr S Pehrson			

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PS5005 Methods of Data Analysis in Psychology				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	12.00 noon Mon			
This module aims to ensure that students are competent in the use of advanced data analysis in psychology. This includes advanced training in common statistics (including regression, analysis of variance and multivariate techniques) plus additional training in qualitative methods. Students will also study more complex topics such as statistical modeling.				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for MSc Evolutionary and Comparative Psychology: the Origins of Mind, MSc Psychology (Conversion), MSc in Health Psychology, Compulsory for Research Methods in Psychology (MSc)			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 11 x 3-hour workshops plus optional tutorials.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module coordinator:	Dr E Bowman			
Module teaching staff:	Dr E Bowman, Dr R Spence, Dr S Pehrson and Professor S Reicher			

