

MODULE CODE ECAP6003

TITLE: Forensic Psychology and the Criminal Mind

DATED: 26/04/2018

LEVEL: 6

CREDITS: 20

JACS CODE: C810

AIM(S)

- To enable students to critically appraise the complex biological, environmental and psychological factors which impact upon criminality, judicial and rehabilitative processes, and the investigation of crime.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon the successful completion of this module, the student should be able to:

- critically consider how psychological knowledge and research has informed our understanding of the causes and consequences of criminality;
- critically appraise the role of psychology in informing judicial processes;
- critically apply evidence- based practice in an attempt to identify and respond effectively to a range of criminal populations;
- take responsibility for their own learning and skill development; including effective personal planning, self-reflection and project management skills.

INDICATIVE CONTENT

- An examination of both historical and contemporary explanations of the causes of criminality, including biological, psychological and environmental influences.
- Consideration of the role of psychology in informing the investigation of crime; for example offender profiling, diagnostic evaluation and criminal investigation analysis.
- Exploration of the psychological processes which underpin behaviour and decision-making in judicial contexts; for example juries, expert testimonies and eyewitnesses.
- Consideration of both theory and evidence guiding and informing judicial sanctions, psychological interventions and rehabilitative techniques.
- An examination of the moral and ethical issues often involved in offending behaviour; for example, diminished responsibility and competency to stand trial.

LEARNING AND TEACHING STRATEGY

Topics will be introduced in weekly lectures and consolidated through seminars which will vary in format from group exercises and discussions to small group exercises in order to further develop students' critical appraisal for the complexities involved in understanding and responding to crime.

The study time for the module is divided as follows:

Activity type	Hours	Percentage
Scheduled learning	30	15%
Independent learning	170	85%
Placement learning	0	0%
TOTAL	200	100%

ASSESSMENT

Assessment Component 1

☐ Written exam
 ☒ Coursework
 ☐ Practical

Mode of assessment	Volume	Weighting
Written assignment	3,000 words	50%

Assessment Component 2

☐ Written exam
 ☒ Coursework
 ☐ Practical

Mode of assessment	Volume	Weighting
Written assignment	2,500 words	50%

Assessment Summary

Activity type	Percentage
Written exam	
Coursework	100%
Practical	
TOTAL	100%

This module is not linked to a PSRB

READING LIST

Please note that at Level Six students will be expected to engage significantly with empirical journal articles in addition to the reading list below.

Module Code	ECAP6003	
Module Title	Forensic Psychology and the Criminal Mind	
Classification	Reading List entry	Electronic*
Essential	Adler, J., & Gray, J. (2010). Forensic psychology: Concepts, debates, and practice (2nd ed.). Abingdon, Oxon; New York, NY: Willan.	☐
Essential	Bartol, C., & Bartol, Anne M. (2016). Current perspectives in forensic psychology and criminal behavior (Fourth ed.). London: Sage.	☐
Essential	Crighton, D., Towl, G., & British Psychological Society, issuing body. (2015). Forensic psychology (2nd ed.). Chichester, West Sussex, UK; Malden, MA: John Wiley & Sons.	☐

Essential	Newburn, T. (2013). Criminology (Second ed.).Oxon, Routledge.	☐
Essential	Pirelli, G., Beattey, R., & Zapf, P. (2017). The ethical practice of forensic psychology: A casebook (American Psychology-Law Society series).	☒
Further	Bartol, C., & Bartol, Anne M. (2015). Introduction to forensic psychology: Research and application (Fourth ed.). London: Sage	☐
Further	Fanetti, Daly, Fondren Happel, O'Donohue, Daly, Kresta, & O'Donohue, William T. (2015). Forensic child psychology: Working in the courts and clinic. Hoboken, New Jersey; Wiley.	☐
Further	Kapardis, A., & NetLibrary, Inc. (2003). Psychology and law a critical introduction (2nd ed.). Cambridge, U.K.; New York: Cambridge University Press.	☒
Further	Pirelli, G., Beattey, R., & Zapf, P. (2017). The ethical practice of forensic psychology: A casebook (American Psychology-Law Society series).	☒
Further	Sparta, S., & Koocher, G. (2006). Forensic mental health assessment of children and adolescents. Oxford; New York: Oxford University Press.	☒
Journal	Applied Psychology in Criminal Justice	☒
Journal	Journal of Criminal Psychology	☒
Journal	Journal of Forensic Practice	☒
Journal	Journal of Forensic Psychiatry and Psychology	☒
Journal	Journal of Police and criminal Psychology	☒
Journal	Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency	☒
Journal	Juvenile Justice	☒
Journal	The Journal of Behavior Analysis of Offender and Victim Treatment and Prevention	☒