

MODULE CODE: ECPS4007

TITLE: Psych Lab

DATED: 26/04/2018

LEVEL: 4

CREDITS: 20

JACS CODE: C856

AIM(S)

- To develop an understanding of a range of research design and methodological competencies in laboratory-based experimental psychology through hands-on practical skills experience.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

- identify appropriate design issues in experimental research and apply these appropriately;
- demonstrate the development of basic practical experimental research skills and ability to carry out a simple experimental research study in a laboratory environment in an ethical and controlled manner;
- demonstrate understanding of the requirements of empirical report-writing in psychology for experimental studies;
- take responsibility for their own learning and skill development; including effective personal planning, self-reflection and project management skills.

INDICATIVE CONTENT

This module will introduce students to the rigours of experimental psychological research. The module will be laboratory-based and students will be expected to engage with practical problem solving and development of their practical research skills. Students will be taught about key methodological and design issues and research competencies in experimental research including:

- Consideration of ethical requirements for lab-based research

- Principles of sound research design for experimental research
- Creation of experimental stimuli
- Understanding and development of practical skills relating to controlling and conducting research in a lab environment
- Control and management of research data in experimental settings

LEARNING AND TEACHING STRATEGY

The module will be delivered through lab-based instruction. Students will be provided with on-line instruction (via Moodle) of the readings required covering the topic area under investigation. They will then be provided with guidance and instruction in the laboratory environment to produce materials that will allow them to carry out a research project. The project set will be suitable for Level Four students in content and materials required.

The study time for the module is divided as follows:

Scheduled learning: 30 hours (15%)

Independent learning: 170 hours (85%)

Placement learning: 0 hours (0%)

TOTAL: 200 hours (100%)

ASSESSMENT

Assessment Component 1

☐ Written exam ☐ Coursework ☒ Practical

In-class Practical: 3 hours (50%)

Students will be assessed on their practical skills developed during the module, including simple study creation, recruitment materials (e.g., debrief, consent), consideration of ethics, data collection protocol and conduct of the researcher in a laboratory environment.

Assessment Component 2

☐ Written exam ☒ Coursework ☐ Practical

Research Report 1,500 words 50%

Students will work in groups to design, create and carry out a research study replicating a

classic study from the psychological literature. This research will then be written up individually in a research report.

Assessment Summary

Written exam: 0%

Coursework: 50%

Practical: 50%

TOTAL: 100%

This module is not linked to a Professional, Statutory and regulatory Body (PSRB).

DELIVERY STRUCTURE

Taught content is delivered through three modes of learning:

1. Weekly attendance at lab-based practical sessions.
2. Viewing of asynchronous pre-recorded information on Moodle.
3. Carrying out prescribed readings.

All information relating to weekly lab sessions, recorded information, and readings can be found on the ECPS4007 Psych Lab Moodle page.