

Level Four: Psychological Approaches and Perspectives ECAP4003**Semester One – BSc Applied Psychology****Assessments:**

1x essay

1x group presentation

Lectures: 10x asynchronous lectures (to be viewed in advance of each timetabled session).

Week/date	Lecture title and content
1.	An introduction to Psychological Approaches and Perspectives
2.	The Biological Approach within Psychology
3.	The Psychodynamic approach, Freud and the Neo-Freudian legacy
4.	Behaviourist Psychology and Social Learning Theory
5.	The Cognitive Revolution
6.	Humanistic Psychology, Positive Psychology and the notion of free will
7.	The Gene-Environment debate and Epigenetics
8.	The Status of Psychology as a science: applying the scientific method
9.	Gender bias and Culture bias in Psychology
10.	The Ethical practitioner: lessons from human and non-human research

Weekly Lectures/Seminars:

Relevant Lectures:	Live Seminar content:
1. An introduction to Psychological Approaches and Perspectives	The emergence of Psychology – Biology, Evolution and Experience. Topic 1 – general overview of the main approaches in Psychology and their chronological development. An outline of assessment proforma's, assessment protocol's etc. Activity – The case of Jake...
2. The Biological Approach within Psychology	The emergence of Psychology – Biology, Evolution and Experience. Topic 1 – Biological Psychology in action – exploring classical studies within Biological and Evolutionary Psychology. Video – TED talks – Your brain will not be the same...
3. The Psychodynamic approach, Freud and the Neo-Freudian legacy	The emergence of Psychology – Biology, Evolution and Experience.

	Topic 1 – Freud’s legacy – Bowlby, Harlow, Ainsworth and Gerhardt. Exploring the importance of childhood experiences.
4. Behaviourist Psychology and Social Learning Theory	From `Tabula rasa` to `Cogito ergo sum`. Topic 1 – Classical and Operant Conditioning – an application in the real world. Topic 2 – Using Social learning theory to explain criminal behaviour. A brief encounter with cognitive neuroscience.
5. The Cognitive Revolution	From `Tabula rasa` to `Cogito ergo sum`. Topic 1 – Cognitive Psychology in action; exploring a variety of treatments based on the cognitive approach. Topic 2 – Social cognition and interpreting our social world – how we form impressions.
6. Humanistic Psychology, Positive Psychology and the notion of free will	What does it mean to be Human? Topic 1 – Three human characteristics and knowing oneself. Activity – the Q sort technique. Exploring the concept of what it means to be happy: link to Seligman and Diener’s (2002) seminal work. Topic 2 – Discussion and debate - So are we ever really free? Why is the free will versus determinism debate so important after all?
7. The Gene-Environment debate and Epigenetics	What does it mean to be Human? Topic 1 - Gene and environment interactions; findings from early research – a discussion of classic and twin studies. Topic 2 – What are the implications of epigenetics? A consideration of the early research and more recent findings.
8. The Status of Psychology as a science: applying the scientific method	Psychology, Science and Ethics. Topic 1 – exploring the key concepts of the scientific method, can we ever really be totally objective? Science or pseudoscience and biases in the research process.

9. Gender bias and Culture bias in Psychology	Psychology, Science and Ethics. Topic 1 – Alpha bias and beta biases within psychological research – a review of the literature from social and developmental psychology.
10. The Ethical Practitioner: lessons from human and non-human research	Psychology, Science and Ethics. Topic 1 – Ethical practice is not just for research. Exploring the importance of an ethical mind-set within psychology.