

Module Code	ECPS4019
Title	Conceptual and Historical Issues in Psychology
Date	15/10/2025
Level	4
Credits	20
Pre-Requisites	None
DBS Check	May be required ☐ Not required ☒

AIM(S)

- To introduce students to the conceptual, historical, and contemporary approaches and issues in psychology.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

- demonstrate understanding of conceptual and historical background of Psychology;
- demonstrate awareness of psychological perspectives and contemporary approaches in Psychology;
- demonstrate understanding of key debates and ethical considerations central to the study and application of Psychology.

INDICATIVE CONTENT

This module content maps onto the following BPS core curriculum areas: biological psychology, cognitive psychology, developmental psychology, individual differences, social psychology, conceptual and historical issues in psychology.

- Conceptual and Historical Paradigms and Models.
- The study of Psychology as a Science.
- Social and Cultural Construction of Psychology.
- Theoretical Approaches:
 - Biological Psychology.
 - Cognitive Psychology.
 - Social Psychology.

- Developmental Psychology.
 - Individual Differences.
- Classic and Current Debates in Psychology.
 - Ethical issues in Psychology.

Study Time Allocation

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
Visual Assessment	3 minutes	50%

Assessment Component 2

☒ Written exam ☐ Coursework ☐ Practical

Mode of assessment	Volume	Weighting
Exam	1 hour	50%

Assessment Summary

Activity type	Percentage
Written exam	50%
Coursework	0%
Practical	50%
TOTAL	100%

This module is a core requirement for Graduate Basis for Chartership (GBC) accreditation with the British Psychological Society (BPS) as set out in documentation to the BPS August 2023.

INDICATIVE READING LIST

Module Code	ECPS4019	
Module Title	Conceptual and Historical Issues in Psychology	
Classification	Reading List entry	Electronic*
Essential	Gross, R. (2020). <i>Psychology: the science of mind and behaviour</i> (8 th ed.). Hodder Education.	☒
Essential	Griggs, R. A., & Jackson, S. L. (2020). <i>Psychology: a concise introduction</i> (6 th ed.). Worth Publishers.	☐
Essential	Holt, N., Bremner, A., Sutherland, E., Vliek, M., Passer, M. W., & Smith, R. E. (2019). <i>Psychology: The Science of Mind and Behaviour</i> (4 th ed.). McGraw Hill	☒
Further	Farrell, M. (2014). <i>Historical and philosophical foundations of psychology</i> . Cambridge University Press.	☐
Further	Greenwood, J. D. (2015). <i>A conceptual history of psychology: exploring the tangled web</i> (2 nd ed.). Cambridge University Press.	☒
Further	Banyard, P. (2015). <i>Essential psychology</i> (2 nd ed.). Sage.	☐
Further	Martin, G., N. (2008). <i>Psychology: A beginner's guide</i> . Oneworld Publications.	☒
Further	Gross R. (2012). <i>Key studies in psychology</i> (6 th ed.). Hodder Education.	☐
Further	Eysenck, M.W., & Keane, M. T. (2020). <i>Cognitive psychology: a student's handbook</i> (8 th ed.). Routledge.	☒
Further	Kalat, J. W. (2018). <i>Biological psychology</i> (13 th ed.). Cengage.	☐