

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: COGNITIVE AND BIOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY
Status: Definitive
Code: **5203PSYSCI** (121367)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2021

Owning School/Faculty: Psychology
Teaching School/Faculty: Psychology

Team	Leader
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Academic Level: FHEQ5 **Credit Value:** 20 **Total Delivered Hours:** 39

Total Learning Hours: 200 **Private Study:** 161

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Semester 2

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	32
Online	4
Seminar	2

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Essay	essay	2 x short answer written coursework (750 words each) covering materials from cognitive and biological sections	50	
Exam	exam	1 unseen exam covering cognitive and biological section	50	1

Aims

1. To explore how neurophysiological processes influence behaviour.
2. To investigate the structure and basic mechanisms of the brain.
3. To examine key advances in the understanding of individual differences in human cognition, including theories of perception, memory, language processing, thinking and attention.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Discuss key issues in cognitive and biological psychology (historical and contemporary), using evidence to evaluate strengths and limitations of current theories.
- 2 Demonstrate an understanding of how neurophysiological structures and processes contribute to theory development in cognitive and biological psychology.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

short essays cog & bio 1

Mutiple choice exam cog 2
& bio

Outline Syllabus

The biological psychology materials will explore the influence of biological processes on a range of behaviours in including, sensory and perceptual mechanisms, as well as more high level processes.

The cognitive psychology materials will explore current debate around mechanisms supporting recognition, attention, decision making, communication and everyday memory.

Both strands (cognitive and biological) will trace and evaluate both historical and contemporary perspectives.

Learning Activities

Lecture & seminar attendance, independent study, library search, essay preparation, online conferencing, discussion forum. The module will be delivered in large groups for lectures and small groups for seminars. Lectures are used to present key information and seminars will focus on activities and student readings.

Notes

This is a core psychology module covering key topics in the area of cognitive and biological psychology. This module builds on the biological and cognitive psychology materials introduced in level 4. Students will explore current research relating to

biological underpinnings that account for commonalities and individual differences in vision, touch, sleep, motivation, learning and consciousness. We will consider methods for investigating these topics as well as asking how biological psychology might contribute to a better understanding of cognitive processes. Students will also study current cognitive accounts of attention, recognition, problem-solving, thinking and communication, with particular reference to applications to 'real-world' problems, where appropriate.