

## ***Module outline and Timetable PS5240 Academic Year 2019-20***

Course Controller: Barbara Dritschel

Contact details:

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This handout provides general notes relating to PS5240 but if after reading this handout you have any questions regarding any aspect of this module then please ask.

The aim of PS5240 (15 credit module) in relation to the essay is for students to develop the ability to critically analyze and review current thinking in an area of psychology by reading, digesting, critically evaluating and synthesizing the evidence of the chosen topic. The topic of investigation can be inspired by work presented by an external speaker at the School of Psychology and Neuroscience Seminar series, which students attend as part of this module. Essay topics can be selected also on students own interests unrelated to the school seminars.

Students will be required to conduct a literature search to identify relevant research in their chosen field. This will include relevant publications by seminar speakers and other researchers working in the field. Students should consider both the theoretical significance and the real world relevance of the work they

examine. The essay will be supported by regular tutorials arranged by the module controllers.

Each student will be assigned to a supervisor by end of week two of semester. Each student will be able to submit an outline as well as a first draft to their supervisor. Thus the purpose of the tutorials is provide guidance on general skills that will facilitate execution of the review.

### **Objectives**

1. For students to develop their skills in conducting literature searches using the university's library and electronic database facilities
2. For students to develop their skills in reading, digesting and critically evaluating psychological research articles
3. To familiarize students with the ways in which psychological concepts, theories and research are described and presented
4. To enable students to identify and extract key elements of written reports of psychological research
5. For students to develop their skills in writing about psychological concepts, theories, and data.

### **Assessment**

The review essay should be presented as follows:

A title page stating the title of the work, student's matriculation number, and the module number and the word count.

The essay itself should be double spaced and contains no more than **5000** words. For any word overlength up to 5% a mark will be deducted, then a mark for every further 5 percent. Late submission will be punished by 1 mark deduction per day. The reference list does not count towards the word limit. Footnotes should be avoided.

**Deadline for submission is likely to be February 21. The document must be submitted on MMS. The date for handing in the draft is the end of the first teaching week in Semester 2 in order to obtain feedback from your**

supervisor.

## Schedule for PS5240 plus Professional development skills seminars

Week no	Date	Time, Topic (lecturer)
Week 1	September 18	<b>Taught postgraduate away day Byre theatre 915 to 330 pm</b>
Week 2	September 23  September 25	<b>PS 5240 Tutorial 11 to 12 Introduction</b>  <b>Planning a career in Psychology</b> <i>Dr. Maggie Ellis</i> <u>Seminar Room School of Psychology (Room 1.0) 9 to 10 AM</u>
Week 3	September 30  October 3	<b>PS 5240 Tutorial 11 to 12 The Importance of a title</b>  <b>Preparing and giving conference talks</b> <i>Dr. Tom Otto</i> <u>Seminar Room ( Room 1.0) 9 to 11 am</u>
Week 4	October 10	<b>Planning a project</b> <i>Prof Klaus Zuberbuhler</i> <u>Seminar room 9 to 11 am</u> <b>Practical: Online presence</b> <i>Ken Mavor and Akira O Connor</i> <u>Butts Wynd 2 to 5 pm</u>
Week 5	October 14	<b>PS 5240 Tutorial 11 to 12 How to make an outline</b>

	October 16	<p><b>Communication beyond academia</b>  <i>Dr Cat Hobaiter</i> <u>Seminar Room ( Room 1) 9 to 11AM</u></p> <p><b>Practical Bibliographic searching Hilda Mac Nae 11 to 1 OLD LIBRARY School of Psychology and Neuroscience</b></p>
Week 6	October 21	<p><b>Independent learning week: Microsoft Office online self-study</b></p>
Week 7	October 28  Oct 30 and Nov 1	<p><b>PS 5240 Tutorial 11 to 12 Critical evaluation of an article</b></p> <p><b>Mini Conference 9 to 1 pm (both Wednesday and Friday Seminar Room 1)</b></p>
Week 8	November 4	<p><b>Writing and publishing</b>  <u>Seminar Room (Room 1) 9 to 11 am</u></p>
Week 9	November 11  November 13	<p><b>PS 5240 Tutorial 11 to 12 How to write a review</b></p> <p><b>Designing a poster presentation</b>  <i>Prof David Perrett</i> <u>Seminar room 9 to 11 am</u></p>
Week 10	November 18  November 20	<p><b>PS 5240 Tutorial 11 to 12 Critical evaluation of an article and final questions</b></p> <p><b>Getting funding for your research</b>  <i>Prof Julie Harris</i> <u>Seminar room 9 to 11 am</u></p>
Week 11	27 <sup>th</sup> November	<p><b>Ethics and risk assessment</b>  <i>Dr Eric Bowman</i> <u>Seminar room 9 to 11 am</u></p>

		<b>Poster session</b> <u>Seminar room – 2 to 4 pm</u>
Week 12	December 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>All teaching ends this week, revision period</b>
Week 13,14	9th December to December 20th	<b>Exam period</b>
Week 1	January 27  January 29	<b>PS 5240 Tutorial 11:15 to 12 Project Discussion</b>  <b>CVs and Interviews</b> Prof Steve Reicher <u>Seminar Room 9 to 11 am</u>
Week 2	February 3	<b>Mock Interview</b> Prof Steve Reicher Seminar Room 9 to 11 AM
Week3	February 10	<b>Professional Conduct</b> Dr. Eric Bowman Seminar Room ( Room 1.0) 9 to 11 am
Week 4	February 17	<b>Impact and commercialisation</b> Prof Verity Brown Sseminar Room Seminar Room 9 to 11 am
Week 5	February 24	<b>PS 5240 Identifying special needs for the project</b>
Week 6	March 2	
Week 7	March 9	
Week 8	March 30	
Week 9	April 6	<b>PS 5240 Tutorial 11 to 12 Project Workshop - tips for writing</b>
Week 10	April 13	

Week 11	April 20	<b>PS5240 Tutorial 11 to 12 Project workshop</b>
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## **Pre-module preparation: Read Communication Skills for the Biosciences: a graduate guide 1st Edition**

by [Aysha Divan](#) (Author)

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