School of Psychology

Head of School
Professor M D MacLeod

Taught Programmes

Postgraduate Certificate:
Adults with Learning Disabilities who have Significant and Complex Needs
Adults Support, Protection and Safeguarding

Postgraduate Diploma:
Adults with Learning Disabilities who have Significant and Complex Needs

M.Sc.:
Adults with Learning Disabilities who have Significant and Complex Needs
Conversion Course Psychology
Evolutionary and Comparative Psychology: The Origins of Mind
Health Psychology

M.Res.:
Psychology

Programme Requirements

Psychology
M.Res.:
180 credits from modules SS5101 - SS5104, PS5003, PS5005 & Dissertation module PS5002

Conversion Course Psychology
M.Sc.:
100 credits from SS5104, PS5005, PS5240, PS5231-PS5234, 10 credits from PS5235 - PS5236, and 10 credits from PS5237 - PS5238 and 60 credits from PS5002

Adults with Learning Disabilities who have Significant and Complex Needs
Postgraduate Certificate:
60 Postgraduate SCOTCAT Points from any four modules from CE5001-CE5006 (15 Points per module)
Postgraduate Diploma:
60 credits from PS5101 - PS5106 Plus 60 credits from CE5001-CE5006 or equivalent (10 Points per module)
M.Sc.:
60 credits from PS5101 - PS5106 Plus 60 credits from CE5001-CE5006 or equivalent plus PS5199

Adults Support, Protection and Safeguarding
Postgraduate Certificate:
60 credits from PS5401 - PS5420

Evolutionary and Comparative Psychology: The Origins of Mind
M.Sc.:
150 credits from PS5005, PS5010, PS5011, PS5012, PS5013, plus 30 additional credits to be chosen from PS4085, PS4086, PS5003, PS5031, or other approved 4000 level modules.

Health Psychology
M.Sc.:
120 credits from MD5001, MD5002, MD5003, MD5004, MD5090 plus 60 credits from PS5003, PS5005
M.Res. and M.Sc. (Evolutionary and Comparative) Psychology Programme

These modules are designed to constitute an M.Res. Programme and also as training for students who are accepted into a higher research degree in Psychology, in order both to equip them with the specific skills necessary for the completion of their research and to provide them with the general skills necessary for undertaking a career as an research psychologist. The M.Res. Programme in Psychology is appropriate for students who wish to pursue research in psychology that is related to the social sciences. The programme is recognized by the UK Economic and Social Research Council.

Co-requisite: All seven modules are to be taken together in the same session. In the case of part-time students, students arriving at non-standard times, or other special circumstances, the 'same session' requirement may be waived at the discretion of the Head of School.

Modules

A set of postgraduate interdisciplinary modules in the social sciences (Economics, Management, International Relations, Psychology, Geography and Social Anthropology) composes the core of the basic research training. Complementary modules specific to psychology are offered for advanced training in research design, analysis and professional skills.

PS4085 Evolution and Development of Social and Technical Intelligence

Credits: 15  
Semester: 1  
Programme(s): Optional module for M.Sc. - Evolutionary and Comparative Psychology: the Origins of Mind.  
Description: The last two decades have witnessed a surge of research on social and technical intelligence, both in humans and an increasingly wide range of non-human animal species. This module surveys the principal discoveries, integrating field and captive studies, as well as both observational and experimental methodologies, to trace the evolution and development of aspects of social intelligence such as imitation and theory of mind, and technical intelligence, such as tool use and understanding of causality. Key aims include appreciating the range of methodologies that have been developed and how these can be used to trace the evolution and ontogeny of the underlying psychological mechanisms.  
Class Hour: 11.00 am - 1.00 pm  
Teaching: Two hour seminar.  
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

PS4086 Origins and evolution of mind reading (Theory of Mind)

Credits: 15  
Semester: 1  
Programme(s): Optional module for M.Sc. - Evolutionary and Comparative Psychology: the Origins of Mind.  
Description: The module will offer a comparative approach to the emergence of the ability to understand mental states in children and non-human primates, and its alteration in autism. This ability (also known as Theory of Mind) is at the heart of many of humans unique cognitive achievements, but their origins can be traced back in evolution and development. The course will discuss the current state of research in this area, emphasizing both empirical and conceptual aspects posed by the combination of the evolutionary and developmental approaches.  
Class Hour: 11.00 am - 1.00 pm  
Teaching: Two hour seminar.  
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 25%, 2 Hour Examination = 75%
PS5002 Research Project

Credits: 60  
Semester: Whole Year

Prerequisite: M.Res: Acceptance into the M.Res. degree programme in Psychology plus satisfactory completion of modules SS5101 - SS5104; PS5003 and PS5005.  
M.Sc: Acceptance into the M.Sc Conversion Course in Psychology plus satisfactory successful completion of 120 credits taught modules (100 credits from SS5104, PS5005, PS5240, PS5231 - PS5234, 10 credits from PS5235 - PS5236, and 10 credits from PS5237 PS5238).

Co-requisite: None.

Programme(s): Compulsory module for M.Res. in Psychology and for the MSc Conversion Course in Psychology.

Description: The student will carry out a major piece of original and independent research under the guidance of an academic supervisor. Under normal circumstances the research will be planned during the academic semesters and then conducted during the summer after successful completion of the other M.Res. modules. Supervision will be regular and will normally average approximately one hour every two weeks. The aim of the module is to give the student an opportunity to develop expertise in designing, conducting and analysing psychological research, and also to learn how to present such work in writing.

Class Hour: To be arranged with the supervisor

Teaching: Personal tutorials at approximately two-weekly intervals

Assessment: 15,000 word (maximum) research report

PS5003 Generic Research and Professional Skills in Psychology

Credits: 30  
Semester: Whole Year

Prerequisite: Acceptance into a research degree in Psychology

Co-requisite: All seven modules are to be taken together in the same session. In the case of part-time students, students arriving at non-standard times, or other special circumstances, the ‘same session’ requirement may be waived at the discretion of the Head of School.

Programme(s):  Compulsory module for M.Res. in Psychology.  
Optional module for M.Sc - Evolutionary and Comparative Psychology: the Origins of Mind.

Description: This module introduces students to the various skills and issues which are of importance to academic psychologists irrespective of their particular area of research. Weekly seminars will cover the various topics, such as academic presentations (published writing, talks, posters), the use of technology in order to enhance communication, how to read research reports, how to gain ethical approval for research, and how to build an academic career.

Class Hour: To be arranged

Teaching: Seventeen 2 hour seminars

Assessment: Ten elements of Continuous Assessment

PS5005 Methods of Data Analysis in Psychology

Credits: 30  
Semester: 2

Prerequisite: Acceptance into a research degree in Psychology

Co-requisite: All seven modules are to be taken together in the same session. In the case of part-time students, students arriving at non-standard times, or other special circumstances, the ‘same session’ requirement may be waived at the discretion of the Head of School.

Programme(s): Compulsory module for M.Sc - Evolutionary and Comparative Psychology: the Origins of Mind, M.Sc Conversion Course in Psychology and for M.Res. in Psychology

Description: This module aims to ensure that students are competent in the use of advanced data analysis in psychology. This includes advanced training in common statistics (including regression, analysis of variance and multivariate techniques) plus additional training in qualitative methods. Students will also study more complex topics such as statistical modeling.

Class Hour: To be arranged

Teaching: Eleven 2-hour workshops

Assessment: Ten elements of Continuous Assessment
PS5010 Principal Approaches to the Origins of Mind

Credits: 30  Semester:  Either
Co-requisites:  PS5005, PS5011, PS5012, PS5013
Programme(s):  Compulsory module for M.Sc. - Evolutionary and Comparative Psychology: the Origins of Mind.

Description:  This module serves to introduce distinct ways of studying the origins of mind within a comparative Tinbergenian framework, emphasizing both functional and mechanistic accounts; why capacities exist, how they are implemented, how they evolved and how they develop. Lectures will cover general evolutionary theory and: (1) Comparative/Phylogenetic, (2) Developmental, (3) Mechanistic/causal, and (4) Functional/adaptive approaches. ‘Hot’ research topics will be presented using particulars of these frameworks and will exemplify the spectrum of methods possible to address the origins of mind.

Class Hour:  10.00 am Seminars, 2.00 pm Practicals/Tutorials
Teaching:  seminar and tutorial/practical each week
Assessment:  Continuous Assessment = 100%

PS5011 Empirical Approaches to the Evolution of Communications

Credits: 15  Semester:  Either
Co-requisites:  PS5005, PS5010, PS5012, PS5013
Programme(s):  Compulsory module for M.Sc. - Evolutionary and Comparative Psychology: the Origins of Mind.

Description:  This module will explore the evolution of human language and animal communication through the comparative study of communication and cognition in humans and a variety of non-human species. The module will include detailed analysis of multiple empirical approaches used in cutting-edge research in both field and laboratory. The module integrates evolutionary theory, behavioural ecology, ethology, linguistics and psychological theory to account for how and why humans and other species have evolved their unique communication skills. An important focus will be on empirical methods of testing various theories proposed for the evolution of communication and language.

Class Hour:  9.00 or 11.00 am Seminars, 2.00 pm Practicals/Tutorials
Teaching:  Two hour seminars, tutorials and practicals
Assessment:  Continuous Assessment = 100%

PS5012 The Origins of Human Cognition

Credits: 15  Semester:  Either
Co-requisites:  PS5005, PS5010, PS5011, PS5013
Programme(s):  Compulsory module for M.Sc. - Evolutionary and Comparative Psychology: the Origins of Mind.

Description:  This module focuses on the origins of human cognition from evolutionary and developmental perspectives. How do we come to parse the ‘blooming buzzing confusion’ of cues from our physical and social environments into meaningful representations that support functionally adaptive behaviour? In the physical world are objects, their properties and the causal underpinnings of their interactions. The social world contains agents, their actions, and their mental states. How does cognitive processing reveal cues and build representations about the causal structure of the physical and social world? This course examines how these features are perceived and processed by developing humans and other animals for adaptive behaviour, and investigates the evidence for the proximate mechanisms underlying the abilities seen. The module links together the evolution and development of different cognitive abilities with a focus on empirical comparative research.

Class Hour:  9.00 am Seminars, 2.00 pm Practicals/Tutorials
Teaching:  Two hour seminars, one-and-a-half hour tutorials and practicals
Assessment:  Continuous Assessment = 100%
PS5013 Research Project

Credits: 60  
Semester: Summer

Co-requisites: PS5005, PS5010, PS5011, PS5012

Programme(s): Compulsory module for M.Sc. - Evolutionary and Comparative Psychology: the Origins of Mind.

Description: This aim of this module is to acquire research skills within the domain of evolutionary psychology. Students will conduct and report a research project from an evolutionary perspective. Projects may comprise field and/or laboratory-based studies, the analysis (including meta-analysis) of extant data, or the critical review and evaluation of existing literature. Students will need to demonstrate substantive contribution to the project and that the work is original. The thesis can be in any area of evolutionary psychology agreed by the student's supervisor and course coordinator, and approved by ethical review.

Class Hour: not applicable
Teaching: not applicable
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

PS5031 Review

Credits: 15  
Semester: Either

Anti-requisite: Students completing non-empirical research projects (e.g. meta-analytic review) for PS5013

Co-requisites: PS5005, PS5010, PS5011, PS5012, PS5013

Programme(s): Optional module for M.Sc. - Evolutionary and Comparative Psychology: the Origins of Mind.

Description: This supervised review will compare and contrast different theoretical and methodological approaches to a particular topic in the study of the mind. The aim of this module is to encourage students to gain a clear picture as to what is unique about an evolutionary approach to the study of the mind, how it differs from other psychological approaches, and to gain an appreciation of the strengths and weaknesses of such an approach. Suitable topics for review will be chosen by agreement with the student's supervisor and the Course Controller.

Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Four tutorials across the semester
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

SS5101 Being a Social Scientist: Skills, Processes and Outcomes

Credits: 15  
Semester: 1 & 2

Programme(s): Compulsory module for M.Res. in Psychology.

Description: This module focuses on developing students’ specific research thinking and writing skills in a practically based way. Thus, the module will address the nature of being a research social scientist including exploring some of the ethical issues involved. The module will also consider selecting suitable research questions and framing these as appropriate for Masters and PhD dissertations.

Class Hour: To be arranged
Teaching: Eleven 2.5-hour sessions
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

SS5102 Philosophy and Methodology of the Social Sciences

Credits: 15  
Semester: 1

Programme(s): Compulsory module for M.Res. in Psychology.

Description: Beginning with a discussion of the evolution of the social sciences, this module addresses central philosophical questions of social science including discussion of epistemological and methodological aspects of positivism and interpretivism.

Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Twelve 2-hour sessions
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%
SS5103 Qualitative methods in Social Research

Credits: 15  
Semester: 2

Programme(s) Compulsory module for M.Res. in Psychology.

Description: This module offers both a theoretical and practical introduction to qualitative research. The diversity of the approaches to qualitative research will be addressed but the focus of the module is primarily practical necessitating the active participation of students.

Class Hour: To be arranged

Teaching: Nine 2-hour sessions

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

SS5104 Quantitative Research in Social Science

Credits: 15  
Semester: 1

Programme(s) Compulsory module for M.Sc. Conversion Course in Psychology and the M.Res. in Psychology.

Description: This module will cover basic concepts and approaches to quantitative research in the social sciences in order to provide students with the basic quantitative tools for collecting, organising and analysing data.

Class Hour: To be arranged

Teaching: Ten 2-hour workshops

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%
Postgraduate Certificate/Diploma/MSc. by Distance Learning: Adults with Learning Disabilities who have Significant and Complex Needs Programme

These modules are designed as training for staff working in learning/intellectual disability services, to update current knowledge and good practice, and to teach the specific skills necessary to undertake a career as a research practitioner in learning disability services.

Co-requisite: All four Postgraduate Certificate modules to be completed within 12 months. All six Postgraduate Diploma modules are to be completed within 12 months. Assessment of Postgraduate M.Sc. is by a 15,000-word Dissertation.

Modules

A choice of 4 from 6 postgraduate modules (CE5001-CE5006) delivered by distance learning, comprises the core of the Postgraduate Certificate. These modules (CE5001-CE5006) may also be taken as single modules. At Postgraduate Diploma level, a set of 6 modules (PS5101-PS5016) is the basic research practitioner training.

Postgraduate Certificate modules (CE5001-CE5006)

CE5001 Distance Learning Programme: Challenging Behaviour

Credits: 15 SCOTCAT  Semester: Either – Distance learning

Programme(s): Module for the Postgraduate Certificate programme: Adults with Learning Disabilities who have Significant and Complex Needs.

Prerequisites: A university degree or a professional qualification (/social work/nursing/professions allied to medicine). In some cases applicants with substantial relevant work experience in a cognate discipline, together with at least three years practical experience in staff management or supervision will be considered.

Co-requisites: Employed full or part-time in health, social or voluntary sector services to people with learning disabilities.

Description: This is a module concerned with the additional needs of adults with learning disabilities. This module considers definitions of challenging behaviour and how such behaviour is conceptualized in modern theories. It looks at: Types of challenging behaviour, prevalence, causation and theoretical perspectives, person-environment interactions, neurobiological explanations of challenging behaviour, behavioural phenotypes and challenging behavior, approaches to intervention, cognitive-behaviour therapy, service design, organizational culture, specialization in community settings, assessment and treatment units, support in integrated settings, support family carers, support in day opportunity settings.

Class Hour: 150 notional hours of learning time (delivered by online distance learning)

Teaching: One introductory seminar – Online teaching and learning materials supplied for distance learning, supported by online materials and access to WebCT, library electronic databases. University tutor support by email and telephone.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment =100%
CE5002 Distance Learning Programme: Mental Health

Credits: 15 SCOTCAT  
Programme(s): Module for the Postgraduate Certificate programme: Adults with Learning Disabilities who have Significant and Complex Needs.
Prerequisites: A university degree or a professional qualification (social work/nursing/professions allied to medicine). In some cases applicants with substantial relevant work experience in a cognate discipline, together with at least three years practical experience in staff management or supervision will be considered.
Co-requisites: Employed full or part-time in health, social or voluntary sector services to people with learning disabilities.
Description: The module investigates how mental health difficulties reveal themselves in people with learning disabilities and how they may be diagnosed. Also investigated, through evidence based practice: different types of mental health difficulties, a range of responses by front-line staff to such difficulties, methods of assessment and courses of treatment, residential and non-residential mental health services, and ethical and legal issues related to mental health difficulties.
Class Hour: 150 notional hours of learning time (delivered by online distance learning)
Teaching: One introductory seminar - Online teaching and learning materials supplied for distance learning, supported by online materials and access to WebCT, library electronic databases. University tutor support by email and telephone.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment =100%  

CE5003 Distance Learning Programme: Offenders with Learning Disabilities

Credits: 15 SCOTCAT  
Programme(s): Module for the Postgraduate Certificate programme: Adults with Learning Disabilities who have Significant and Complex Needs.
Prerequisites: A university degree or a professional qualification (social work/nursing/professions allied to medicine). In some cases applicants with substantial relevant work experience in a cognate discipline, together with at least three years practical experience in staff management or supervision will be considered. Co-requisites: Employed full or part-time in health, social or voluntary sector services to people with learning disabilities.
Description: The module investigates how services support people who have a learning disability and/or mental health condition and who have either been convicted of an offence indicating a risk to the public or have exhibited behaviour indicating pro-active management is required. It aims to improve students’ ability to assess social and healthcare needs and management of forensic services in order to enhance quality of life and preserve individual rights as the person with learning disabilities. Case studies of individuals and of services are used to illustrate the complexity of this area of work, and to demonstrate best practice.
Class Hour: 150 notional hours of learning time (delivered by online distance learning)
Teaching: One introductory seminar - Online teaching and learning materials supplied for distance learning, supported by online materials and access to WebCT, library electronic databases. University tutor support by email and telephone.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment =100%
CE5004 Distance Learning Programme: Profound and Multiple Disabilities

Credits: 15 SCOTCAT  Semester: Either – Distance learning
Programme(s): Optional module for the Postgraduate Certificate programme: Adults with Learning Disabilities who have Significant and Complex Needs.
Prerequisites: A university degree or a professional qualification (social work/nursing/professions allied to medicine). In some cases applicants with substantial relevant work experience in a cognate discipline, together with at least three years practical experience in staff management or supervision will be considered.
Co-requisites: Employed full or part-time in health, social or voluntary sector services to people with learning disabilities.
Description: The module aims to increase understanding of the complex social and health care needs of adults with profound and multiple learning disabilities. Students will investigate the requirements of good service provision for this group and provide examples of how community presence and participation can be achieved. The role of family carers in long term support is also researched.
Class Hour: 150 notional hours of learning time (delivered by online distance learning)
Teaching: One introductory seminar - Online teaching and learning materials supplied for distance learning, supported by online materials and access to WebCT, library electronic databases. University tutor support by email and telephone.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment =100%

CE5005 Distance Learning Programme: Vulnerability, Victimisation and Abuse

Credits: 15 SCOTCAT  Semester: Either – Distance learning
Programme(s): Module for the Postgraduate Certificate programme: Adults with Learning Disabilities who have Significant and Complex Needs.
Prerequisites: A university degree or a professional qualification (social work/nursing/professions allied to medicine). In some cases applicants with substantial relevant work experience in a cognate discipline, together with at least three years practical experience in staff management or supervision will be considered.
Co-requisites: Employed full or part-time in health, social or voluntary sector services to people with learning disabilities.
Description: The module investigates the history of and settings for victimisation and abuse of vulnerable individuals, in the context of adult support and protection. Students are asked analyse their own service setting with respect to arrangements that minimise the possibility of victimisation and abuse and develop strategies to deal with suspected or identified incidents of abuse. A number of illustrative case studies are explored. There is also an investigation of the knowledge and skills needed to respond to the needs of those who have been abused in a constructive manner.
Class Hour: 150 notional hours of learning time (delivered by online distance learning)
Teaching: One introductory seminar - Online teaching and learning materials supplied for distance learning, supported by online materials and access to WebCT, library electronic databases. University tutor support by email and telephone.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment =100%
CE5006 Distance Learning Programme: Older People with Learning Disabilities

Credits: 15 SCOTCAT  
Semester: Either – Distance learning  
Programme(s): Module for the Postgraduate Certificate programme: Adults with Learning Disabilities who have Significant and Complex Needs.

Prerequisites: A university degree or a professional qualification (social work/nursing/professions allied to medicine). In some cases applicants with substantial relevant work experience in a cognate discipline, together with at least three years practical experience in staff management or supervision will be considered.

Co-requisites: Employed full or part-time in health, social or voluntary sector services to people with learning disabilities.

Description: The module investigates knowledge and skills needed to support people with learning disabilities as they get older and in their later years with respect to their social and health needs (including dementia). The course aims to improve the ability to assess social and healthcare needs and management of services in order to enhance quality of life and preserve individual rights as the person with learning disabilities gets older and to increase knowledge of the role and expectations of older family carers.

Class Hour: 150 notional hours of learning time (delivered by online distance learning)

Teaching: One introductory seminar - Online teaching and learning materials supplied for distance learning, supported by online materials and access to WebCT, library electronic databases. University tutor support by email and telephone.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment =100%

Postgraduate Diploma modules (PS5101-PS5106)

PS5101 Intellectual Disability Research

Credits: 10  
Semester: Whole Year - Distance learning  
Prerequisite: 60 credits from CE5001 - CE5006 or 60 credits from an equivalent Postgraduate Certificate in Learning Disabilities

Programme(s): Compulsory module for Postgraduate Diploma in Adults with Learning Disabilities who have Significant and Complex Needs.

Description: This distance-learning module is one of six in the postgraduate Diploma programme Adults with Learning Disabilities who have Significant and Complex Needs. It introduces students to the core skills necessary for research in the field of Intellectual Disability, including the following:

Unit 1: What kinds of questions can be addressed in ID research?

Unit 2: The practitioner-research

Unit 3: What are the principal paradigms through which questions may be addressed?

Unit 4: Research, evaluation and audit

Unit 5: Theories, concepts and operationalisation

Unit 6: Ethical issues and ethical permission

The module is appropriate for professionally qualified staff who wish to develop research skills with a view to improving their professional practice.


Class Hour: 100 notional hours of learning time (delivered by online distance learning)

Teaching: One introductory seminar - Teaching materials supplied for distance learning, supported by online materials and access to WebCT, library electronic databases. University tutor support by email and telephone.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%
PS5102 Data Collection and Sampling

Credits: 10  
Semester: Whole Year - Distance learning

Prerequisite: 60 credits from CE5001 - CE5006 or 60 credits from an equivalent Postgraduate Certificate in Learning Disabilities

Programme(s): Compulsory module for Postgraduate Diploma in Adults with Learning Disabilities who have Significant and Complex Needs.

Description: This distance-learning module is one of six in the postgraduate Diploma programme Adults with Learning Disabilities who have Significant and Complex Needs. It introduces students to the core skills necessary for research in the field of Intellectual Disability, including the following:

Unit 1: Quantitative data: types of measurement; issues in sampling
Unit 2: Qualitative data: sources; issues in sampling
Unit 3: Surveys and Questionnaires
Unit 4: Interviews
Unit 5: Use of standardised assessment instruments
Unit 6: Observational methods
Unit 7: Experimental measurement

The module is appropriate for professionally qualified staff who wish to develop research skills with a view to improving their professional practice.


Class Hour: 100 notional hours of learning time (delivered by online distance learning)

Teaching: One introductory seminar - Teaching materials supplied for distance learning, supported by online materials and access to WebCT, library electronic databases. University tutor support by email and telephone.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

PS5103 Quantitative Data Analysis: Fixed Designs

Credits: 10  
Semester: Whole Year - Distance learning

Prerequisite: 60 credits from CE5001 - CE5006 or 60 credits from an equivalent Postgraduate Certificate in Learning Disabilities

Programme(s): Compulsory module for Postgraduate Diploma in Adults with Learning Disabilities who have Significant and Complex Needs.

Description: This distance-learning module is one of six in the postgraduate Diploma programme Adults with Learning Disabilities who have Significant and Complex Needs. It introduces students to the core skills necessary for research in the field of Intellectual Disability, including the following:

Unit 1: General design issues
Unit 2: Experimental design
Unit 3: Quasi-experimental designs
Unit 4: The analysis of quantitative data
Unit 5: Analysis of single subject data
Unit 6: Graphical presentation

The module is appropriate for professionally qualified staff who wish to develop research skills with a view to improving their professional practice.


Class Hour: 100 notional hours of learning time (delivered by online distance learning)

Teaching: One introductory seminar - Teaching materials supplied for distance learning, supported by online materials and access to WebCT, library electronic databases. University tutor support by email and telephone.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%
PS5104 Qualitative Data Analysis: Flexible Designs

Credits: 10  
Semester: Whole Year - Distance learning

Prerequisite: 60 credits from CE5001 - CE5006 or 60 credits from an equivalent Postgraduate Certificate in Learning Disabilities

Programme(s): Compulsory module for Postgraduate Diploma in Adults with Learning Disabilities who have Significant and Complex Needs.

Description: This distance-learning module is one of six in the postgraduate Diploma programme *Adults with Learning Disabilities who have Significant and Complex Needs*. It introduces students to the core skills necessary for research in the field of Intellectual Disability, including the following:

*Unit 1:* Background to qualitative research
*Unit 2:* Grounded theory studies
*Unit 3:* Case study methods
*Unit 4:* Ethnographic studies
*Unit 5:* Analysing qualitative data
*Unit 6:* What to avoid in reporting qualitative research

The module is appropriate for professionally qualified staff who wish to develop research skills with a view to improving their professional practice.


Class Hour: 100 notional hours of learning time (delivered by online distance learning)

Teaching: One introductory seminar - Teaching materials supplied for distance learning, supported by online materials and access to WebCT, library electronic databases. University tutor support by email and telephone.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

PS5105 Writing a Research Report

Credits: 10  
Semester: Whole Year - Distance learning

Prerequisite: 60 credits from CE5001 - CE5006 or 60 credits from an equivalent Postgraduate Certificate in Learning Disabilities

Programme(s): Compulsory module for Postgraduate Diploma in Adults with Learning Disabilities who have Significant and Complex Needs.

Description: This distance-learning module is one of six in the postgraduate Diploma programme *Adults with Learning Disabilities who have Significant and Complex Needs*. It introduces students to the core skills necessary for research in the field of Intellectual Disability, including the following:

*Unit 1:* Reporting data from a quantitative study
*Unit 2:* Reporting data from a qualitative study
*Unit 3:* Types of report (empirical, review, case study etc)
*Unit 4:* Organisation and content in reporting research
*Unit 5:* Referencing
*Unit 6:* Submitting papers for journal publication

The module is appropriate for professionally qualified staff who wish to develop research skills with a view to improving their professional practice.


Class Hour: 100 notional hours of learning time (delivered by online distance learning)

Teaching: One introductory seminar - Teaching materials supplied for distance learning, supported by online materials and access to WebCT, library electronic databases. University tutor support by email and telephone.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%
PS5106 Undertaking a Small Scale Study

Credits: 10 Semester: Whole Year - Distance learning
Prerequisite: 60 credits from CE5001 - CE5006 or 60 credits from an equivalent Postgraduate Certificate in Learning Disabilities
Programme(s): Compulsory module for Postgraduate Diploma in Adults with Learning Disabilities who have Significant and Complex Needs.
Description: This distance-learning module is one of six in the postgraduate Diploma programme *Adults with Learning Disabilities who have Significant and Complex Needs*. It introduces students to the core skills necessary for research in the field of Intellectual Disability, including the following:

*Unit 1:* Developing your idea
*Unit 2:* Undertaking a literature review
*Unit 3:* Writing a research proposal
*Unit 4:* The practitioner-researcher re-visited
*Unit 5:* Requirements for course assignment
*Unit 6:* Working through the model answer

The module is appropriate for professionally qualified staff who wish to develop research skills with a view to improving their professional practice.


Class Hour: 100 notional hours of learning time (delivered by online distance learning)
Teaching: One introductory seminar - Teaching materials supplied for distance learning, supported by online materials and access to WebCT, library electronic databases. University tutor support by email and telephone.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

Postgraduate Masters (MSc.)

PS5199 Dissertation for Adults with learning Disabilities who have Significant and Complex needs M.Sc. Programme

Credits: 60 Semester: Whole Year
Prerequisite: 4 modules from CE5001 - CE5006, plus PS5101 - PS5106
Programme(s): Compulsory module for M.Sc. in Adults with Learning Disabilities who have Significant and Complex Needs.
Description: A member of the teaching staff in the School of Psychology, who will advise on the choice of subject and provide guidance during the work, will supervise this dissertation. The completed dissertation of not more than 15,000 words must be submitted within 12 months of the starting date.

Class Hour: To be negotiated with supervisor.
Teaching: Individual Supervision.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%
Postgraduate Certificate by Distance Learning: Adult Support, Protection and Safeguarding Programme

This programme of 6 modules is designed for staff working in supervisory or professional positions in services for older people and adults with learning disabilities or mental health problems. The focus of the programme is on how services can best support and protect vulnerable adults, with reference to legislation, policy and practice.

Co-requisite: All 6 Postgraduate Certificate modules (PS5401-PS5406) to be completed within 12 months.

Modules

A set of postgraduate modules delivered by distance learning composes the core of the basic research practitioner training.

PS5401 The Evidence on the Abuse of Adults

Credits: 10  
Programme(s): Compulsory module for the Postgraduate Certificate programme: Adult Support, Protection and Safeguarding.

Prerequisites: A university degree or a professional qualification (social work/nursing/professions allied to medicine). In some cases applicants with substantial relevant work experience in a cognate discipline, together with at least three years practical experience in staff management or supervision will be considered, if they are working in supervisory or professional positions.

Co-requisites: Employed full or part-time in health, social or voluntary sector services to older people and adults with learning disabilities or mental health problems.

Description: This is a module concerned with the historical evidence and prevalence of abuse of vulnerable adults. We consider definitions of abuse, the nature of harm and people most at risk from harm. The topics studied include sexual harm, physical harm, financial exploitation, neglect and self-neglect, emotional harm and discriminatory harm.

Class Hour: 100 notional hours of learning time (delivered by online distance learning)

Teaching: One introductory seminar - Online teaching and learning materials supplied for distance learning, supported by online materials and access to WebCT, library electronic databases.

University tutor support by email and telephone.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment =100%

PS5402 The Ecological Model of Adult Protection

Credits: 10  
Programme(s): Compulsory module for the Postgraduate Certificate programme: Adult Support, Protection and Safeguarding.

Prerequisites: A university degree or a professional qualification (social work/nursing/professions allied to medicine). In some cases applicants with substantial relevant work experience in a cognate discipline, together with at least three years practical experience in staff management or supervision will be considered, if they are working in supervisory or professional positions.

Co-requisites: Employed full or part-time in health, social or voluntary sector services to older people and adults with learning disabilities or mental health problems.

Description: This is a module concerned with an 'Ecological Model' of adult protection. We consider how characteristics of vulnerable adults, perpetrators, relationship and environmental factors must all be taken into account in service agency policies and regulatory frameworks. The topics studied include the individual at risk, settings, legislation and government policy, culture and philosophy and international influences.

Class Hour: 100 notional hours of learning time (delivered by online distance learning)

Teaching: One introductory seminar - Teaching materials supplied for distance learning, supported by online materials and access to WebCT, library electronic databases. University tutor support by email and telephone.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment =100%
PS5403 The Individual at Risk and Significant others

Credits: 10  
Semester: - Distance learning

Programme(s): Compulsory module for the Postgraduate Certificate programme: Adult Support, Protection and Safeguarding.

Prerequisites: A university degree or a professional qualification (/social work/nursing/professions allied to medicine). In some cases applicants with substantial relevant work experience in a cognate discipline, together with at least three years practical experience in staff management or supervision will be considered, if they are working in supervisory or professional positions.

Co-requisites: Employed full or part-time in health, social or voluntary sector services to older people and adults with learning disabilities or mental health problems

Description: This is a module focusing on the individual at risk and significant others, in the context of adult protection. We look at how investigations of allegations of harm need to be conducted systematically, taking into account issues of capacity and consent, training, and dealing with the consequences of harm.

Class Hour: 100 notional hours of learning time (delivered by online distance learning)

Teaching: One introductory seminar - Online teaching and learning materials supplied for distance learning, supported by online materials and access to WebCT, library electronic databases. University tutor support by email and telephone.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment =100%

PS5404 Protective Service Designs: The Setting and Service Agency

Credits: 10  
Semester: - Distance learning

Programme(s): Compulsory module for the Postgraduate Certificate programme: Adult Support, Protection and Safeguarding.

Prerequisites: A university degree or a professional qualification (/social work/nursing/professions allied to medicine). In some cases applicants with substantial relevant work experience in a cognate discipline, together with at least three years practical experience in staff management or supervision will be considered, if they are working in supervisory or professional positions.

Co-requisites: Employed full or part-time in health, social or voluntary sector services to older people and adults with learning disabilities or mental health problems

Description: This is a module focusing on protective service designs, in the context of adult protection. We look at the importance of service design, culture and policies in health, social services and the voluntary sector. The module analyses the impact of service design on the degree of risk of harm for adults with learning disabilities.

Class Hour: 100 notional hours of learning time (delivered by online distance learning)

Teaching: One introductory seminar - Online teaching and learning materials supplied for distance learning, supported by online materials and access to WebCT, library electronic databases. University tutor support by email and telephone.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment =100%
PS5405 Regulatory Frameworks and Adult Protection Procedures
Credits: 10 Semester: Distance learning
Programme(s): Compulsory module for the Postgraduate Certificate programme: Adult Support, Protection and Safeguarding.
Prerequisites: A university degree or a professional qualification (social work/nursing/professions allied to medicine). In some cases applicants with substantial relevant work experience in a cognate discipline, together with at least three years practical experience in staff management or supervision will be considered, if they are working in supervisory or professional positions.
Co-requisites: Employed full or part-time in health, social or voluntary sector services to older people and adults with learning disabilities or mental health problems.
Description: This is a module looking at the international, national and local context of adult protection frameworks. We look at how legislation and policy are translated into regulatory frameworks to protect and safeguard vulnerable adults. Human Rights and ethical issues are considered in a wider international perspective.
Class Hour: 100 notional hours of learning time (delivered by online distance learning)
Teaching: One introductory seminar - Online teaching and learning materials supplied for distance learning, supported by online materials and access to WebCT, library electronic databases. University tutor support by email and telephone.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment =100%

PS5406 Adult Support, Protection and Safeguarding: Ecological Model Assignment
Credits: 10 Semester: Distance learning
Programme(s): Compulsory module for the Postgraduate Certificate programme: Adult Support, Protection and Safeguarding.
Prerequisites: A university degree or a professional qualification (social work/nursing/professions allied to medicine). In some cases applicants with substantial relevant work experience in a cognate discipline, together with at least three years practical experience in staff management or supervision will be considered, if they are working in supervisory or professional positions.
Co-requisites: Employed full or part-time in health, social or voluntary sector services to older people and adults with learning disabilities or mental health problems.
Description: This module provides information and instruction for completion of the written module assignment; a service-based audit of adult protection. This assignment will be based on either (a) an adult protection case from the student's own professional practice, or (b) a detailed adult protection case study provided for the purpose.
Class Hour: 100 notional hours of learning time (delivered by online distance learning)
Teaching: One introductory seminar - Online teaching and learning materials supplied for distance learning, supported by online materials and access to WebCT, library electronic databases. University tutor support by email and telephone.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment =100%
**Conversion Course Psychology M.Sc.**

**PS5231 Conceptual Issues and Theoretical Perspectives**

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<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td>Semester:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Programme:</td>
<td>Compulsory module for M.Sc. Conversion Course Psychology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Description:</td>
<td>This module addresses the historical and philosophical background to current debates in psychology. The module will be taught via lectures and seminars including student presentations. Emphasis will be placed on the development of critical analysis of alternative models and levels of explanations of behaviour, and the ability to relate conceptual debates in psychology to issues in the real world.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class Hour:</td>
<td>9.00 - 11.00 am and 2.00 - 5.00 pm.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teaching:</td>
<td>One 2 hour lecture and one 3 hour practical class</td>
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<td>Assessment:</td>
<td>Continuous Assessment = 100%</td>
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**PS5232 Assessment in Clinical Psychology**

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<td>Semester:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Programme:</td>
<td>Compulsory module for M.Sc. Conversion Course Psychology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Description:</td>
<td>This module presents psychopathological conditions and provides a basic understanding of the underlying neuronal and/or cognitive-behavioural mechanisms. Examples will be drawn from the field of clinical psychology and/or clinical neuropsychology. The module will further explore in detail the tools and procedures used to assess psychopathological conditions by discussing their theoretical/statistical background and by demonstrating how to use these tools in clinical and experimental settings. In addition, the use of these tools will be trained in small group settings.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class Hour:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teaching:</td>
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<td>Assessment:</td>
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**PS5233 Developmental Psychology**

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<td>Programme:</td>
<td>Compulsory module for M.Sc. Conversion Course Psychology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Description:</td>
<td>This module is designed to equip students with an appreciation of key principles, concepts, methods and discoveries in developmental psychology, with an emphasis on evolutionary and comparative perspectives that are a particular strength of such work in St Andrews. The module aims to offer a broad perspective spanning infancy to childhood, and a range of key topics in cognitive and social development.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class Hour:</td>
<td>9.00 - 11.00 am and 2.00 - 5.00 pm.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teaching:</td>
<td>One 2 hour lecture and one 3 hour practical class</td>
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<td>Assessment:</td>
<td>Continuous Assessment = 100%</td>
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**PS5234 Social Psychology**

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<td>Semester:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Programme:</td>
<td>Compulsory module for M.Sc. Conversion Course Psychology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Description:</td>
<td>This module explores in depth key topics across the breadth of social psychological enquiry. A variety of research approaches will be examined in order to develop the scientific understanding and critical skills in this field. Approaches that will be covered include social cognition, social identity and the study of intergroup relations. In each case, the strengths and limitations of the approaches are explored, and theoretical knowledge will be linked to current events.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class Hour:</td>
<td>9.00 - 11.00 am and 2.00 - 5.00 pm.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teaching:</td>
<td>One 2 hour lecture and one 3 hour practical class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assessment:</td>
<td>Continuous Assessment = 100%</td>
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PS5235 Cognitive & Behavioural Neuroscience

Credits: 10  
Semester: Either  
Programme: Either PS5235 or PS5236 is a compulsory module for M.Sc. Conversion Course Psychology  
Anti-requisite: PS5236  
Description: This module aims to provide an understanding of psychological knowledge in several interrelated domains concerned with the biological bases of behaviour. Emphasis will be laid on basic experimental science from analysis of molecular and synaptic events, single cell studies, brain activity scans, and clinical studies, and the relationship between cognitive, emotional, behavioural, neurological and physiological processes will be examined.  
Class Hour: 9.00 - 11.00 am and 2.00 - 5.00 pm.  
Teaching: One 2 hour lecture and one 3 hour practical class  
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

PS5236 Evolutionary and Comparative Psychology

Credits: 10  
Semester: Either  
Programme: Either PS5235 or PS5236 is a compulsory module for M.Sc. Conversion Course Psychology  
Anti-requisite: PS5235  
Description: This module will address evolutionary and comparative approaches to psychology. The aim is to provide an understanding of major evolutionary forces and how they have shaped animal and human behaviour and psychology. Key principles, concepts and methodologies will be introduced and related to specific topic areas such as the evolution of social behaviour and the evolutionary origins of language and cognition.  
Class Hour: 9.00 - 11.00 am and 2.00 - 5.00 pm.  
Teaching: One 2 hour lecture and one 3 hour practical class  
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

PS5237 Perception

Credits: 10  
Semester: Either  
Programme: Either PS5237 or PS5238 is a compulsory module for M.Sc. Conversion Course Psychology  
Anti-requisite: PS5238  
Description: The aim of this module is to develop an understanding of visual perception and its functions. Stress will be laid on the integration of findings from physiology, neuropsychology, anatomy, and psychophysics. Topic areas covered will include theories of human vision and their application to understanding our ability to perceive distinct visual properties, for example the shape, size, location and identity of objects. Emphasis will be placed on the development of the skill of critical evaluation of evidence and theory, with particular focus on awareness of the latest issues in the discipline.  
Class Hour: 9.00 - 11.00 am and 2.00 - 5.00 pm.  
Teaching: One 2 hour lecture and one 3 hour practical class  
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

PS5238 Cognition

Credits: 10  
Semester: Either  
Programme: Either PS5237 or PS5238 is a compulsory module for M.Sc. Conversion Course Psychology  
Anti-requisite: PS5237  
Description: The aim of this module is to develop an understanding of human memory and attention. Topic areas covered will include theories of attention, short and long term memory, processes involved in memory encoding, maintenance and retrieval. Emphasis will be placed on the development of the skill of critical evaluation of evidence and theory. Lectures will be accompanied by practical classes, in which students will gain experience of the experimental methods used in cognitive research, and seminars in which research papers will be critically evaluated.  
Class Hour: 9.00 - 11.00 am and 2.00 - 5.00 pm.  
Teaching: One 2 hour lecture and one 3 hour practical class  
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%
PS5240 Review

Credits: 15  
Semester: 2

Programme: Compulsory module for M.Sc. Conversion Course Psychology

Description: This review will critically analyse and review complex current material in one particular topic in the study of the mind. Students will be required to attend the School Seminar series and to elect the work presented by one of the speakers as the basis for this essay. As part of the essay they should read relevant publications both by the speaker and by others in the relevant field. Students should consider both the theoretical significance and the real-world relevance of the work.

Assessment: Review = 100%

Health Psychology

MD5001 Theories of Health Psychology and Behaviour Change

Credits: 15  
Semester: 1

Programme(s): Compulsory module for M.Sc. in Health Psychology

Description: This module will consist of the knowledge base that covers the context and perspectives of health psychology including an historical overview and current theories and approaches in health psychology. It will include an awareness of other related disciplines, and acknowledgement of social and cultural factors. Theoretical models of health behaviour and behaviour change will be introduced including associated health-related beliefs and cognitions.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Three lectures and a two hour tutorial.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 40%, Two Hour Examination = 60%

MD5002 Quality of Life, Communication and Chronic Illness

Credits: 15  
Semester: 1

Prerequisite: MD5001

Programme(s): Compulsory module for M.Sc. in Health Psychology

Description: This core module will contain the knowledge base for understanding the conceptual underpinnings of the quality of life field and its importance in generating a debate about the success of health care interventions, assessment of care and definitions of health and illness. The relevance of psychological issues to the person suffering acute and chronic illness will be covered and the important role of communication processes in the interface between patient, clinical staff and care-givers will be included as a key theme. Some practical observation of clinical-related communication processes will be an additional feature of this module.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Three lectures, a two hour tutorial and a practical.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 40%, Two Hour Examination = 60%

MD5003 Biological Systems and Development

Credits: 15  
Semester: 2

Prerequisite: MD5001, MD5002

Programme(s): Compulsory module for M.Sc. in Health Psychology

Description: This core module will introduce the importance of biological and developmental systems to the understanding of people's perceived and actual health status including methods of assessing health behaviour and intervening to change health behaviour. This module will consist of learning a generalisable tool to analyse and pool the effects of interventions, namely meta-analysis.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Three lectures, a two hour tutorial and a practical.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 40%, Two Hour Examination = 60%
MD5004 Health Information and Decision Making

Credits: 15  Semester: 2
Prerequisite: MD5001, MD5002, PS5003
Co-requisite: PS5005
Programme(s): Compulsory module for M.Sc. in Health Psychology

Description: This core module introduces the student to the expanding field of health information and decision making. Members of the public, whether they are patients or not are bombarded with health information and mis-information, via various media, from which they may process and make decisions about entering or remaining in the health care system, or embarking on new health or self care interventions designed to improve outcome. Students will acquire understanding on how to assess the influence of these interventions through detailed examination of a mixture of theoretical and practical steps.

Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Three lectures, a two hour tutorial and a practical.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 40%, Two Hour Examination = 60%

MD5090 Research Project in Health Psychology

Credits: 60  Semester: Whole Year
Programme(s): Compulsory module for M.Sc. in Health Psychology

Description: The dissertation will consist of a written report of original, empirical health psychology research, up to 15,000 words in length. It will consist of an appropriate literature review, statement of aims, methods, results, discussion and conclusion sections with supporting bibliography. The project will be supervised and receive ethical approval.

Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: Individual Supervision.
Assessment: Project Report = 100%