

PSYCHOLOGY HONOURS

YEAR 4

2019-2020



IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Course
Organizer:

Elena Gherri

elena.gherri@ed.ac.uk
Room S.41 (7GS)

Teaching
Coordinator:

Hannah Cornish

Room G.10 (7GS)

Course
Secretary:

Stephanie Fong

psyinfo@ed.ac.uk
Room G.06 (DSB)
(when emailing this address
make sure you identify
yourself as a Y4 student!!)



CAREERS TALKS

- Rebecca Valentine from the Careers Service
- Lunchtime Fridays in G32 in Semester 2



YEAR 4 REPS FOR SSLC

- The **staff-student liaison committee (SSLC)** needs 2 student representatives
- 2 meetings per semester
- Collect student comments, feed back to staff and vice versa.
- A great way to have your (and other students') voice heard!!
- Deadline for applying: end of Week 2 (27th September)
- Contact (ppls.sso@ed.ac.uk) to apply



ONLINE HANDBOOK

- Handbook materials are now online
 - Still new... Might contain bugs (let us know!)
 - FAQ
- Links, updates and news will be posted in the online handbook - you'll get emails alerting you to changes
- <http://www.handbooks.psy.ed.ac.uk/psychology-4>



COURSE STRUCTURE - SINGLE HONOURS

- 3 Optional Courses
(20 credits each)
- Tutorial Course
(10 credits)
- General paper
(10 credits)
- Dissertation
(40 credits)



COURSE STRUCTURE - JOINT HONOURS

- 1-2 Optional Courses
- No General Paper
- For BPS accreditation, you need to
 1. choose a Dissertation in psychology
 2. make sure that your Optional courses across years 3 and 4 cover the 5 BPS core areas:
 - Social, developmental, cognitive, differential, biological
 - also RMS 2 and 3



COURSE STRUCTURE - JUNIOR YEAR ABROAD STUDENTS

- If you are interested in BPS accreditation, you need to make sure that you take courses in the 5 core areas across your JYA and year 4.
- If you didn't take a stats course in your overseas institution, or didn't take a comprehensive enough stats course, you should register for RMS2 and/or RMS3 this year.
- If you're unsure about methodology courses, contact Nic Chevalier at (nicolas.chevalier@ed.ac.uk)



COURSE STRUCTURE - MEDICAL STUDENTS

- 3 Optional Courses
(20 credits each)
- RMS 2
(10 credits)
- 10 credits, choose one from
RMS 3/Tutorial Course/Critical
Analysis/Psychology in Action
- Dissertation
(40 credits)



OPTIONAL COURSES

- 16 different Optional Courses
- Mid-course assessment
variety of assessments, different submission deadlines:
 - S1 -> 17th - 31st October
 - S2 -> 10th - 27th February
- Final assessment
 - Some assessed by exam in December (S1 courses), others
in May (S2 courses)
 - Some assessed in other ways, online submission
 - S1 -> 12th December
 - S2 -> 9th April
- Waiting list (email the Teaching Office)
- Deadline for course changes is 27th September



GENERAL PAPER

- 10 credits module, assessed by exam in May
- In the exam, you need to answer 2 essay questions
on general topics in psychology
- No specific teaching for the general paper
 - but general paper topics are often covered in tutorials
 - And staff members will offer a workshop on the
general paper in S2
- Examples of past questions can be seen in the online
exam papers (accessed via library website)

<https://exampapers.ed.ac.uk/>



TUTORIAL COURSE

- 10 credits
- Small group teaching in blocks 2 and 3
- Assessment (one in each block)
 - 1000-word written work OR PowerPoint presentation
OR poster
 - Assessment should be submitted via learn, deadlines:
 - S1 -> 4th December
 - S2 -> 19th February
- You will receive an email (week 1 or 2) listing all staff
members teaching on the tutorial course and you will be
asked to rank your preferences
- You will have a different lecturer in block 2 and in block
3



DISSERTATION

- 40 credits
- Original Research
- Students usually work in pairs during data collection, data analysis and write-up is completed independently
- Usually structured like a research paper:
 - Introduction
 - Methods
 - Results
 - Discussion



DISSERTATION

- Most projects have already been allocated, but you can still change to another *if available*
- Deadline for finalising project (title+supervisor) is **Wednesday 2nd October, 4pm**
 - Paper form, with supervisor's signature (You will receive an email with instructions about this)



DISSERTATION

POSTER DAY - 20th November

- Make poster presentation of your dissertation
- Feedback on the design of your dissertation from staff and peers feedback (unassessed)
- Coordinator **Chris Egan**: c.egan@ed.ac.uk
- Talk on poster preparation: **4th October**
- You can submit your poster to be printed by us (deadline TBA - watch for emails!)



DISSERTATION

- FEED-BACK from your supervisor
- As your work progresses, you will be asked to complete a **STRUCTURED REPORT FORM** (major component of dissertation feedback)
 - Reports should be submitted to supervisors between week 8 of Semester 1 and week 3 of Semester 2, by mutual arrangement (5 Nov - 31 Jan; around the midpoint of your dissertation work)
- Supervisors will provide **written feedback** on the report and this will be supplemented by a **feedback meeting** where progress to date, and plans for completion and writing of the project, will be discussed



DISSERTATION

- Submission deadline:
Wednesday 25th March, 4pm
- Dissertation dinner - to celebrate the final submission of your dissertation
Wednesday 25th March
- The written report of your dissertation project is worth 100% of the mark
 - 2 independent markers (one is your supervisor), general feed-back on your work



WRITING CENTRE

- Designed to help our students grow as writers
- Has database of documents and articles to provide guidance and answer questions about writing
- Offers:
 - One-on-one appointments with personalised feedback
 - Group workshops on a variety of topics
- Great for dissertation writing prep (but not only!)
- <http://writingcentre.ppls.ed.ac.uk/>



TIMELINE FOR THIS YEAR

SEMESTER 1

- Block 1: Semester 1, Weeks 1-5 (Sep 16 - Oct 18)
 - Optional courses start
 - Start work on dissertation research
- Semester 1, Week 6: No classes
 - Mid-course assessment for optional courses (between 17 and 31 Oct)
 - Great opportunity to make progress on dissertation
 - Great time to arrange notes for exams
- Block 2: Semester 1, Weeks 7-11 (Oct 28 - Nov 29)
 - Optional courses resume
 - Y4 Tutorial course (single honours)
 - Continue dissertation research
 - Submit SRF (5 Nov 2019 - 31 Jan 2020)
 - Dissertation poster day, Nov 20
- Final assessment for Optional courses - 12 December
- Exams (9-20 December)
- Winter vacation



TIMELINE FOR THIS YEAR

SEMESTER 2

- Block 3: Semester 2, Weeks 1-5 (Jan 13 - Feb 14)
 - Optional courses start
 - Y4 Tutorial course (single honours)
 - Finalise dissertation research and begin write-up
 - Submit SRF (5 Nov 2019 - 31 Jan 2020)
- Flexible Learning Week: 17-21 Feb
 - Mid-course assessment for Optional courses (between 10 and 27 Feb)
- Block 4: Semester 2, Weeks 6-10 (24 Feb- 3 Apr)
 - Dissertation write-up and exam prep
- Dissertation deadline (and dinner!): 25 March
- Final assessment for Optional courses - 9 April
- Exams (27 April - 22 May, including General Paper)
- Late June or early July: **Graduation!!**



WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO - NOW

- Finalise your choice of dissertation project
- Finalise your choice of optional courses
 - Any changes to timetable
 - Requests for course changes should be directed to the course secretary, Stephanie Fong (psyinfo@ed.ac.uk)
 - Deadline for course changes is 27th September



WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO - IN GENERAL

- Check *university email* regularly and frequently - that's where official announcements about changes to courses, important dates, etc., come through
- We have a departmental Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/edinburghuni/psychology>
 - It is **NOT** an official communication channel, but is used to highlight events that may be of interest



STAY WELL

