COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

Academic School / Department: Psychology

Programme: MSc Psychology (Conversion)

FHEQ **Level:**   7

Course Title: Social & Developmental Psychology

Course Code: PSY 7105

Total Hours: 200
Timetabled Hours: 39
Guided Learning Hours: 21
Independent Learning Hours: 140 hours

Credits: 20 UK CATS credits
                            10 ECTS credits
                            4 US credits

Course Description:
Social and Developmental Psychology will illustrate the relationship between the developing individual and the society around them, with reference to both classical and contemporary theory. The course will explore how socio-cultural contexts influence development of self and identity throughout the lifespan, with particular focus on development from infancy to adolescence. The course will also discuss social psychological processes which influence interpersonal interaction in order to illustrate how these processes shape, and are shaped by, our social expectations, social roles and social goals. Students will have the opportunity to engage in independent research and academic writing on a topic related to the course material.

Prerequisites:
MSc Psychology (Conversion) students only

Aims and Objectives:
This course introduces students to a wide variety of social and developmental theory and research, which will provide students with knowledge of related contributions, implications and limitations. Related key concepts such as good research practice and research ethics will be discussed in relation to research findings covered in the course. Additionally, this course will demonstrate to the student how social and developmental research can be applied to

real life issues, such as prejudice and discrimination. Furthermore, the course aims to develop students' critical thinking skills in relation to research, as they will be given the opportunity to examine research methods used to understand social and developmental psychology.

Programme Outcomes:
7A.i, 7A.ii, 7B.iii, 7C.i, 7C.iii, 7D.i, 7D.iii

A detailed list of the programme outcomes is found in the Programme Specification. This is maintained by Registry and located at: https://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/

Learning Outcomes:
By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:
- Develop an understanding and critique of various developmental theories

- Critically evaluate the major theoretical frameworks in which social psychologists have described and explained human behaviour in a social context

- Demonstrate a critical awareness of the relationship between theoretical perspectives and research methodologies
- Identify and evaluate key issues, philosophical debates and controversies within social and developmental psychology

Indicative Content:
- Social Self and Social Identity
- Socialisation: Family and Peers
- Attachment Theory
- Theory of Mind
- Obedience and Conformity
- Prejudice and Pro-sociality
- Research outcomes in the 'real-world'

Assessment:
This course conforms to the Richmond University Standard Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board and are located at https://www.richmond.ac.uk/university-policies/

Teaching Methodology:
- Lectures

- Discussion of key concepts and journal articles in seminars

- Recommended readings

- VLE used for lecture notes, some readings, and revision materials

- Film on related topic

Indicative Text(s):
- Hogg, M. A. & Vaughan, G. M. (2014). *Social Psychology* (7th ed.). Harlow, Prentice Hall.

- Slater, A. & Bremner, J.G. (2011). *An Introduction to Developmental Psychology* (2nd ed). Oxford: Blackwell.

Journals
- British Journal of Social Psychology
- European Journal of Social Psychology
- Journal of Developmental Psychology
- Child Development

Web Sites
- Scholarly search sites such as EBSCOHost and Google Scholar to find academic articles

See syllabus for complete reading list

Change Log for this CSD:

Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or AB)	Change Actioned by Registry Services
Revision – annual update	May 2023	
Total hours updated	April 2024	