

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS 科目簡介

COURSES FOR TAUGHT POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

PSY501 Research Methods in Psychology (3 credits)

This course provides an overview of advanced research methods used in various areas of psychology including research ethics. Students will learn to determine whether the data investigation approaches are the best ones for the research purpose. Conventions of writing research articles are also discussed. Students will have hands-on practice in actual data analyses using statistical software and in research report writing.

PSY502 Cognitive Psychology (3 credits)

Cognitive psychology is a sub-field of psychology that is concerned with how the human mind works. Cognitive psychologists attempt to address questions such as:

- How do we remember things?
- How do we multitask?
- How do we understand language?
- How do we solve problems and make decisions?

This course will discuss major theories and findings from areas such as visual perception, attention, memory, language, problem solving and decision making. It will show how cognitive psychologists attempt to understand the human mind via the use of computers (this is related to the field of artificial intelligence also known as A.I.). It will also explore the relation between cognitive psychology and everyday experiences.

PSY503 Lifespan Developmental Psychology (3 credits)

This course introduces theories on human development across the life span and explain how people change (and how they remain unchanged) over time. The course also highlights the psychology of adulthood (including young, middle, and late adulthood) in the most interesting way. Issues relating to developmental problems will be discussed.

PSY504 Personality Psychology (from 2023-24)/ Personality and Individual Differences (in 2022-23 or before) (3 credits)

This course introduces students to individual differences in both personality and intelligence by examining theories, research, measurements, and practical applications in daily life. We will examine, compare and evaluate the major theoretical perspectives on personality, and review relevant research supporting or refuting the theoretical formulations. Students will learn to appreciate the contributions and limitations of each personality paradigm, and how it has impacted on other areas of specialisation in psychology. We will also learn the implicit theory of intelligence, and its impacts on students' learning motivation and performance. The issue of emotional intelligence will also be discussed.

PSY505 Social Psychology (3 credits)

Social psychologists examine how the self and the social context interplay, as well as how individuals influence one another. In other words, social psychology is the study of the influences on and consequences of social interaction. Topics covered in this course include theories and research on social cognition (attitude, stereotypes, and judging others), social influences (conformity, obedience to authority, and persuasion) and social relations (prejudice, altruism, and aggression).

PSY511 Psychology & Work Today: An Introduction to Work Psychology (3 credits)

This course introduces key concepts, theories and practices of psychology applied to the workplace. Students will be equipped with basic knowledge of work psychology that helps our understanding and management of the world of work today.

PSY512 Personnel Psychology (3 credits)

This course is designed to expose postgraduate students to personnel psychology. It will cover key areas in the field of personnel psychology, including job analysis, performance evaluation, employee selection, training, etc. Practical and legal implications of the personnel practices will be discussed.

PSY513 Organisational Psychology (3 credits)

This course introduces students to the field of Organisational Psychology, which is the study of human behaviour and social processes in groups and organisations. Students will learn about the dynamics between individuals and groups, and how these dynamics affect individual's behaviours in organisational contexts. Students will build their knowledge by learning the principles underlying the analysis and understanding of human behaviours in organisations.

PSY514 Occupational Health Psychology (3 credits)

This course will provide students with an introduction to theories and practices in occupational health psychology. The important dynamic relationship between work and the workers is highlighted. This course offers a platform for an impressive blend of research, discussion and training in promoting workers' health and well-being, thereby enhancing the experience and consequences of work itself.

PSY515 Research Methods in Work Psychology (3 credits)

This course provides an overview of advanced research methods used in industrial and organisational psychology including research ethics. Students will learn to determine whether the data investigation approaches are the best ones for the research purpose. Tips on writing research articles are also discussed. Students will have hands-on practice in actual data analyses using statistical software and in research report writing. This course may also include extensive fieldwork experience at a selected site in the local community.

PSY601 Psychology of IT at Work (3 credits)

Human computer interaction (HCI) is a sub-discipline of psychology that is concerned with understanding human capabilities and limitations in interacting with technology. The goal is to understand how we can optimise artifact design for human operation. Many information technology (IT) systems do not perform as effectively as intended because their designs are not compatible with the way people attend, perceive, think, memorise, decide and act.

In this course, we will examine principles, techniques and methods in HCI research in relation to practical IT applications. An overarching theme of this course is to teach students to think about technology in relation to organisational psychology, safety, work efficiency and effectiveness.

PSY602 Human Relationship and Interpersonal Skills in Organisations (3 credits)

This course emphasises the understanding and application of effective interpersonal communication skills in organisation settings. Video clips will be used to demonstrate effective and ineffective communication. Class activities (e.g., field experiment, communication task, self-assessment) will be conducted. Group discussion will be facilitated to discuss factors which may influence the interpersonal communication process in organisations.

PSY603 Seminar on Selected Issues in Work and Organisational Psychology (3 credits)

The focus of this seminar is to critically examine current issues and controversies in the areas of work and organisational psychology. Recent theoretical developments and emerging viewpoints are emphasised.

PSY604 Consumer Psychology (3 credits)

(Prerequisite(s): Knowledge of general psychology or social psychology preferred)

This course aims at providing a clear understanding of the principles and concepts of consumer behaviours. The course mainly focuses on the consumer as an individual and provides both the micro and macro perspectives of the factors influencing consumers. It emphasises how the basic psychological processes (e.g., personality, perception, memory, persuasion, etc.) and social and cultural factors (e.g., group dynamics, family, social class etc.) affect consumer behaviors (e.g., brand attitudes, brand loyalty, decision making etc.). Students will learn how to use the knowledge of consumer psychology to develop effective marketing tactics. It is hoped that after completing the course, students will be able to think like marketers and be better consumers.

PSY605 Coaching and Counselling in the Workplace (3 credits)

This course is intended as an introduction to the basic concepts and issues of workplace coaching and counselling. Various problems faced by employees that hinder their professional and personal growth are also examined to promote performance, teamwork, well-being, and career development in work settings.

PSY606 Applied Positive Psychology at Work (3 credits)

This course introduces the new developments in positive psychology, specifically the applied positive psychology perspective to enhance happiness, resilience, well-being, individual health, and performance/productivity of institutions. The course also highlights positive psychology ideas and science, and some psychological capacities such as Psychological Capital to psychological intervention in different work settings.

PSY607 Social Problem Solving and Decision Making in the Modern World (3 credits)

This course introduces students to social problem solving models to help them find ways to deal with problems effectively in their day-to-day lives. Life is a dynamic process, filled with many flourishing experiences which make life meaningful. However, when some experiences become troublesome or involve problems, people may face uncertainty and be unable to cope effectively. Hence, the study of social problem solving deals innovatively with different types of problems including intrapersonal problems (such as emotional or personal health), interpersonal problems (such as marital conflict, domestic violence), and impersonal problems (such as insufficient finances). Topics of interest include conflict management, suicide risk, decision-making, and financial investment.

PSY608 Guided Research (3 credits)

This course aims to provide students with hands-on research experience. In particular, a research project related to work and applied psychology will be conducted. In their projects, students will implement research ideas by extending theories and research skills that they have learned and acquired. They will produce a research report under the supervision of the instructor.

PSY609 Workplace Diversity and Inclusion (3 credits)

Contemporary organizations are witnessing sharp increases in workplace diversity. Workplace diversity is described as differences based on any characteristic (e.g., age, gender, ethnicity, educational and functional backgrounds) on which employees differ or perceive themselves to be different from their co-workers. Employees work with colleagues who come from different countries and areas, have different educational and cultural backgrounds, and have different areas of expertise and roles. The concept of diversity is becoming a strategic priority for organizational leaders and policy makers as they hope to attract more international talents, boost technological innovation, and promote economic and societal prosperity. Even more relevant, how to make use of AI and big data to enhance and adapt diversity in the workplace is a managerial trend for organizational leaders.

PSY611 Theories and Models of Counselling Psychology (3 credits)

This course is an introduction to counselling psychology. Counselling approaches and interventions will be examined from various theoretical perspectives, with an emphasis on therapeutic intervention strategies and applications that promote personal growth and change. In this course, students will be exposed to therapeutic interventions which will increase their awareness of common themes/principles that evoke client change and growth. Major theories of counselling psychology such as cognitive behavioural, humanistic and positive psychological are presented and evaluated. This course also addresses a variety of topics of special relevance to counselling psychology including assessment of client problems, analysis of psychological status, intervention for people in crisis situations, assessment of suicidal risk, and the process of behavioural change. Core facilitative skills of counselling are acquired and demonstrated via coursework.

PSY612 Psychopathology (3 credits)

This course will introduce the bases of clinical and counselling psychology through a broad survey of various aspects of abnormal behaviour. The course will cover common psychological disorders, such as mood disorders, eating disorders, personality disorders, and schizophrenia. Assessment and treatment of these psychological disorders will also be discussed.

PSY613 Principles of Psychological Assessment (3 credits)

(Prerequisite(s): PSY501 Research Methods in Psychology)

This course will provide an overview of basic issues involved in the field of psychological testing, as well as examine the application of various psychological assessments. The course is organised around three domains relevant for psychological testing and assessment: (1) principles of psychological testing; (2) application of psychological assessments in various contexts, particularly in clinical setting; and (3) professional issues related to psychological assessment. This course will require that students have some knowledge of statistics and quantitative methods prior to taking this course.

PSY614 Interventions and Professional Ethics in Counselling (3 credits)

This course is divided into two parts. First, it covers principles and issues of professionalism and ethics in counselling. This course offers a platform for the students to critically examine relevant counselling theories, trends, strategies and techniques with a conscious reference to cultural and contextual issues. Second, it introduces the skills and process of person-centred counselling. It concentrates on the theory and practice of developing a therapeutic relationship from a humanistic perspective using micro-skills. Framed in counselling, the skills taught relate to relationship building and communication in many interpersonal contexts outside formal counselling relationships. It is hoped that this course will assist students in their future daily work as professional counsellors.

PSY617 Guided Study in Psychology (3 credits)

(Prerequisite(s): PSY501 Research Methods in Psychology)

The guided study requires students to independently propose a research on a psychology topic of their choice under the supervision of a faculty member. Students will be guided to apply concepts, research tools and techniques in designing and writing up an independent research report in this course.

PSY618 Personal Growth (3 credits)

This course aims to promote among students an interest and readiness for taking charge of their personal growth. It draws attention to the significance of mental and physical health, and the pathway to living a more meaningful and fulfilling life. Some of the topics to be covered include reviewing one's childhood and adolescence, body and wellness, career development, stress, coping and mindfulness, love and relationships, meaning and values, death and loss, and finding happiness. Special emphasis will be placed on helping students identify some of the significant influences of personal growth and recognizing options to optimize one's development. Current trends and issues in personal growth such as sleep hygiene, wellness through exercise and healthy diets and setting digital boundaries will also be discussed.

PSY619 Educational Psychology: Theory and Practice (3 credits)

This course is designed to introduce students to psychological theories and principles as applied to learning and teaching. Topics include student development, learning theories from both behavioural and cognitive traditions, effective teaching methods and practices, learners' individual differences, achievement motivation, and classroom assessment. Students will also be introduced to professional practices of educational psychologists. Students are encouraged to reflect on their own learning and teaching by integrating what they learn in this course with their real life experience. This course is suitable for those who are interested in a career in education or understanding how to become more efficient learners.