

## BA (Hons) Applied Psychology & Criminology for 2018 entry

### LEVEL 4

|            |                                             |                                   |                                                         |
|------------|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Semester 1 | SS413<br>Introduction to Applied Psychology | SS427<br>Criminal Justice Matters | SS430<br>Contemporary Social Inequalities               |
| Semester 2 | SS423<br>Developmental Psychology           | SS425<br>Theories of Crime        | SS448<br>Introduction to Psychological Research Methods |

### LEVEL 5

|             |                                                    |                                                |                                                        |                               |                                                     |
|-------------|----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Semester 1m | SS539<br>Critical Perspectives on Criminal Justice | SS509<br>Psychology, Cognition & Social Worlds | SS510<br>Psychology, the Body & Individual Differences | SS511<br>Empirical Psychology | SS526<br>Community Engagement: Theory into Practice |
| Semester 2  | SS563<br>Punishment, Power and the State           |                                                |                                                        |                               | OR<br>SS528 Critical Analysis <sup>1</sup>          |

### LEVEL 6

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|------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Semester 1 | SS658<br>Violence and Society | SS628<br>Forensic Psychology                                                                                                                                                                                                              | SS635<br>Global Issues: Harm, Crime and Power <sup>2</sup><br><b>OR</b><br>SS660<br>Criminology of Borders | SS603<br>Psychology Dissertation <sup>3</sup><br>(40 credits)<br><b>OR</b><br>SS629<br>Dissertation<br>(40 credits) |
| Semester 2 |                               | <i>Option choice<sup>4</sup>:</i><br>SS619 Critical Addiction Studies<br><b>OR</b><br>SS649 Mental Disorder & Anthropology<br><b>OR</b><br>SS606<br>Cyberpsychology<br><b>OR</b><br>SS617 Ecopsychology<br><b>OR</b><br>SS655 Sexualities | <b>OR</b><br>SS659<br>Critical Addiction Studies for Criminology                                           |                                                                                                                     |

<sup>1</sup> Indicative topic options include violence, motherhood, drinking cultures, child development & consumer culture, psychology of human-animal relations

<sup>2</sup> Students select one from SS635, SS660 and SS659 but cannot take SS659 if they have opted for SS619.

<sup>3</sup> Please note that in order to be eligible for Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership of the British Psychological Society (GBC), you must take and pass SS603 Psychology Dissertation. Students must also gain at least a Second-Class Honours degree. Achieving Second Class Honours or better is the equivalent of receiving an average overall grade of approximately 50% or higher.

<sup>4</sup> Psychology option availability may vary depending on staff availability and expertise. This is an indicative list.

## **LEVEL 4**

### **SS413 Introduction to Applied Psychology**

This module will introduce students to the basic approaches and theories within psychology and to consider issues of application in the field.

### **SS427 Criminal Justice Matters**

The module introduces the criminal justice system in England and Wales by exploring its main institutions and agencies: e.g. police, courts, prison and probation. It also explores some of the key debates and policies in relation to sentencing, victims and crime prevention. Students will gain an understanding of the politics and controversies in criminal justice and develop their skills in identifying/analysing information and presenting coherent arguments.

### **SS425 Theories of Crime**

The purpose of this module is to examine criminological theories from an historical perspective. The module also aims to understand the political, social and cultural context in which different theories were developed, as well as the strengths and weaknesses of their current application

### **SS430 Contemporary Social Inequalities**

This module provides the foundations for undertaking a course of study in social sciences by providing students with the theoretical and conceptual tools to confront normative/ normalising explanations of difference and inequality. Students will understand the ways that 'differences' and inequalities are formed and their consequences for everyday lived realities.

### **SS423 Developmental Psychology**

The module is compulsory for all Psychology students. It introduces some key theories and topics in child development and lifespan development. It examines issues from infancy through middle-childhood to adulthood to explore how people develop through time. It provides a historical, biological, social and cultural context for studying child development, and life-span development, to help students frame the theoretical perspectives presented. Students are assessed on their broad knowledge of the discipline, as well as on one specific area.

### **SS448 Introduction to Psychological Research Methods**

The module introduces students to the range of research methods used in psychology and enables students to develop the skills necessary to collect and analyse quantitative data. It also provides an introduction to qualitative data collection and analysis.

## **LEVEL 5**

### **SS509 Psychology, Cognition & Social Worlds**

This module introduces two core areas of psychology: cognitive and social psychology. The module explores a range of theory and research concerned with our thinking, behaviour and experiences in the social world. Students are introduced to core topics in social and cognitive psychology, related empirical findings, varied theoretical positions and applications that seek to explain human behavior in a social environment. The module meets the British Psychological Society accreditation requirements for coverage and assessment of cognitive and social psychology.

### **SS510 Psychology, the Body & Individual Differences**

Through the in-depth exploration of key applied topics in psychology the module provides students with knowledge and understanding of two core areas of psychology: biological psychology and the psychology of individual differences. It covers classic and contemporary theory, research, debate and real-world applications in these areas, and addresses related social, cultural, conceptual and historical issues. The module meets the British Psychological Society accreditation requirements for coverage and assessment of biological psychology and the psychology of individual differences.

### **SS511 Empirical Psychology**

Students learn about quantitative and qualitative research methods in psychology including advanced experimental design, multivariate analyses, and qualitative research techniques. Students gain experience in small-scale research projects and develop skills in reviewing literature, research design, data collection, data analysis, and report writing. The module meets the British Psychological Society (BPS) accreditation requirements for coverage and assessment of empirical research methods in psychology.

### **SS526 Community Engagement: Theory into Practice**

This module aims to provide a different experience from other modules available at university. It offers the opportunity to explore personal values and aspirations while taking a 50 hour project/ voluntary engagement with a local not for profit organisation. The assessments encourage students to look at their personal journey as well as the policy and practice of the organisation in which their project is based.

### **SS528 Critical Analysis**

In this module students are introduced to different modes and techniques of academic criticism and debate, in particular: methodological, theoretical, and ethical or ideological. Beyond this, the content of the module is chosen by each student from a list of psychology-oriented topics offered by the module team. Each topic is contextualized in wider social science debates and set within current academic debate in its field. Students are introduced to the broad parameters of research and theory in the field of their chosen topic.

### **SS539 Critical Perspectives on Criminal Justice**

The module considers both long-standing and emerging debates in criminal justice in the UK and elsewhere through the lens of critical criminology. It focuses particularly on how neo-liberal values have reshaped contemporary criminal justice and seeks to uncover the varied consequences of this change. The module also explores the challenges facing the criminal justice system as it wrestles with new risks and persistent concerns.

### **SS563 Punishment, Power and the State**

This module is designed to give students the opportunity to engage with, learn and apply critical thinking and key criminological concepts to the use of punishment and the wider instrumental role of penology and prison in the criminal justice process. The course will offer insight into the history, structure and role of prisons, from a range of perspectives, and will give thought to both the implications of this and the alternatives.

## **LEVEL 6**

### **SS619 Critical Addiction Studies**

This module provides a focus of study and research across the sciences. Analysing and critically engaging with interpretations of addiction will enable students to develop an understanding of the role of discourse in directing both addiction research and policy. This critical engagement with addiction discourses will enable students to critically evaluate society's response to Addiction, and to determine

the relative effectiveness of drug policy in different countries, and the theories underpinning their approaches.

### **SS606 Cyberpsychology**

This module introduces students to a specialist area which explores psychological phenomena within the context of human-technology interaction. It examines how interactive technologies mediate individual's sense of self, experience of relationships, and psychological well-being.

### **SS617 Psychology, Nature & Ecological Crisis**

The focus of this module is the relationship between humans, wellbeing and the natural environment; against the backdrop of climate change and wider ecological crisis. The module critically considers work in psychology and the social sciences addressing these issues, how they interrelate, and related practical interventions.

### **SS649 Mental Disorder & Anthropology**

This module introduces students to theories and methods in psychological, psychiatric and medical anthropology. It will explore core topics, debates and research related to mental health, illness and recovery. Students will examine varied interpretations; and linkages between professional and academic accounts of mental illness and individuals' experiences. This involves exploring cultural assumptions of mental illness; their relation to religious institutions and cosmologies, migration, modernity, neo-liberal globalisation; and assemblages of harm inflicted by political, economic and institutional power on people's lives.

### **SS655 Sexualities**

The module aims to develop students' critical understanding of different theoretical and methodological approaches to sex and sexualities within psychology (including biological, sexological, postmodern, feminist and queer perspectives). The role of psychology in shaping definitions of 'normal' or 'transgressive' sexualities in changing historical and political contexts is examined. The module will explore social meanings and cultural representations of sexuality and their intersection with gender ideologies, and examine how these shape the sexual practices and subjectivities of individuals and collectives.

### **SS658 Violence and Society**

This module explores how issues of power, control and dominance permeate through society and impact on our understandings and experiences of violence. This module is designed to offer students a critical engagement on the key themes and issues around violence, offering a detailed understanding of its macro, cultural and embodied manifestations. By the end of this module, students will be able to demonstrate a critical awareness of violence as constructed at different levels of society and in different arenas.

### **SS659 Critical Addiction Studies for Criminology**

Addiction provides a focus of study and research across the sciences. Analysing and critically engaging with interpretations of addiction will enable students to develop an understanding of the role of discourse in directing both addiction research and policy. This critical engagement with addiction discourses will enable students to critically evaluate society's response to Addiction, and to determine the relative effectiveness of drug policy in different countries, and the theories underpinning their approaches

### **SS660 Criminology of Borders**

This module extends a criminological perspective to issues associated with migration, its control and its impact on society. It allows students to critically reflect on the limits of criminology as a discipline and to appreciate the involvement of criminal justice agencies and policies in border control and the criminalisation of migration. The module will explore the construction of irregular migration as 'deviant', consider the intersection of immigration and criminal law, and engage with theoretical understandings of race, colonialism and citizenship.

### **SS635 Global Issues: Harm, Crime and Power**

This module takes the study of criminology beyond mainstream conceptions of crime, power and harm to enable students to critically analyse a range of contemporary global issues from human rights abuses to corporate environmental harms and in so doing enable them to derive fresh insights into and arrive at new criminological understandings of these global phenomena.

### **SS628 Forensic Psychology**

The module offers coverage of key areas of growth and development in forensic psychology, introducing students to a range of psychological perspectives as applied to these areas. It encourages a deeper understanding of the application of psychology in the forensic field and the social and political context in which it is applied. It explores topics such as justice, expert testimony, witnesses, theories of offending behaviour, and psychological assessment of what is most effective, valued and fair in practice and policy.

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### **SS603 Psychology Dissertation\*\***

This enquiry-based module is designed to enable students taking Applied Psychology courses to competently initiate, design, conduct, analyse, interpret and report an empirical research study under

appropriate supervision. In addition to a series of initial lectures and workshops, and specially designed online resources, students attend tutorials with their allocated supervisor, which guide extensive independent study culminating in a written research report. The module meets the British Psychological Society (BPS) accreditation requirements that students complete an empirical dissertation project.

### **SS629 Dissertation**

This enquiry-based module is designed to enable students to show their ability to present fully developed and evidenced arguments of an academic nature on a topic of their choice in an extended written submission. It provides an opportunity to demonstrate the research, critical thinking, organisational and writing skills developed over the course of an undergraduate degree.

### **STUDENT CONSULTATION**

*Feedback has been elicited from students and provided by students to staff in a number of ways including module evaluations, through course reps at each level, and via level-wide meetings with the course leader. The planned changes set out above have been outlined in three student consultation meetings where students were asked for feedback (held in December 2018), as well as in a Courses Board attended by Applied Psychology and Criminology course reps.*

### **REQUEST FOR FURTHER STUDENT FEEDBACK ON PROPOSED CHANGES**

We invite you to submit any additional comments on the proposed changes or any other aspects of the Applied Psychology and Criminology BA (Hons) as part of the Curriculum Development Review.

Comments can be made via email to your Course Leader, Orly Klein: [O.Klein@brighton.ac.uk](mailto:O.Klein@brighton.ac.uk)

**Deadline for comments is 30<sup>th</sup> March 2018**