

Introduction to Psychology

10 credits

Flexible learning - single subject module

Application:	IADT
Duration:	12 January – 7 May 2010
Places:	25
Lecturer:	Dr Ciaran McMahon

What is an Introduction to Psychology?

This course is designed to introduce students of any background to the study of psychology at third level. It aims to provide an overview of psychology, introduce the component sub-disciplines and chart the relationship of scientific psychology to other branches of learning and practice.

Aims and Objectives

By the end of this course, you will be able to understand the history and development of the discipline, be able to explain some of its theories and major findings, understand the difference between it and other related fields and put some of its ideas into operation in their everyday lives.

At the end of the module you will be able to:

- Outline the shape of the discipline of psychology
- Give examples of theories and research findings from various branches of the discipline
- Distinguish between psychology as an empirical discipline and other methods for accounting behaviour
- Describe and perform some simple experiments and observations
- Apply psychological principles to real-life situations, for example, their own educational experience

What is Flexible Learning?

This flexible learning course will be delivered through a combination of online multimedia with managed support and regular tutorials. You attend IADT for five sessions. In between the classroom sessions you log on regularly to the Institute's virtual learning environment and work through the learning tasks. You need access to a computer with Internet access for this course.

What Will I Study?

This module provides introductory content in topics such as:

Overview of Psychology

What is psychology? History of Psychology

Misconceptions of psychology: media representations

Evolution, genetics, and behaviour

Psychobiology and neuroscience

Learning and Cognition

Learning, Behaviour modification, memory, mnemonics, studying, attention and consciousness, language, intelligence and thinking

Personality and Social Psychology

Personality, Emotion and motivation, Social cognition and attitudes, interpersonal and group behaviour

Applied Psychology

Stress and health

How is the course assessed?

You write a reflective note for each topic in the module regularly. You do two assignments that help think critically about psychology research and explain psychology theory to a lay audience. The two assignments are worth 50% of the course. You do an exam worth 50% between 26th April – 27th May. Attendance at exam is essential.

What will I be able to do when I complete the course?

If you do not hold an Honours Degree, you may be interested in our BSc (Hons) in Applied Psychology (CAO Code: DL141). You will be eligible for an exemption from the Introduction to Psychology module in Year 1.

What are the Entry Requirements?

Leaving Certificate Examination or equivalent (NQF Level 5). Applicants without this can also be considered based on their prior experience and learning (APEL).

What are the fees?

For this first running of Introduction to Psychology in a flexible learning mode there is a reduced fee of €100.

What is the closing date?

Applications must be made directly to IADT by **4pm on Tuesday, 5th January 2010**

For more information please contact our eLearning Project Officer Muiris O'Grady at 01-239 4774 or by email at ogradym@iadt.ie

Please note: This programme is subject to reaching 14 participants in order for it to proceed.