

BSc (Hons) Psychology - SH341

1. Objectives

At the University of Mauritius, we offer you a degree that provides a thorough grounding in the theories and methods of psychology. In the first two years, you will be introduced to the main areas of Psychology: Developmental Psychology, Cognitive Psychology, Biological Bases of Behaviour and Social Psychology. In your final year, you will study more specialised topics in Psychology such as Industrial Psychology and will carry out a dissertation. The latter is aimed to help you develop your research skills and apply the theories and methods learnt to specific social contexts.

The programme:

- is designed to provide in-depth knowledge of Psychology as a science that students understand from an applied and personal perspective;
- provides fertile ground to develop your analytical and critical skills;
- gives a broad general education that is appreciated by employers in a number of professions requiring social analysis in a changing society, both in the public and private sector; and
- can be the first step to further studies at postgraduate level and beyond either locally or abroad.

2. General Entry Requirements

In accordance with the University General Entry Requirements for admission to undergraduate degree Programmes.

3. Programme Requirements

Credit in English and Mathematics at GCE 'O' Level and any 2 'A' Levels.

4. Programme Duration

	Normal (Years)	Maximum (Years)
Degree:	3	5

5. Minimum Credits Required for Award of Degree: 103

Breakdown as follows:

CREDITS FROM				
Core	Elective	Dissertation	GEMs	IT Module
75	6	10	9	3

6. Credits per Year

Minimum 18 Credits, Maximum 48 credits, subject to regulation 4.

7. Assessment

Each module will be assessed over 100 marks with details as follows (unless otherwise specified):

Assessment will be based on a written examination of 2 to 3-hour duration (normally a paper of 2 hour duration for modules carrying less or equal to three credits, and 3 hour paper for modules carrying six credits) and on continuous assessment done during the semester or year.

Written examinations for all modules will be carried out at the end of the academic year except for GEMs and semester modules (unless otherwise stated). Relevant information will be provided to the students prior to delivery of the modules.

The continuous assessment will count for 10-40% of the overall percentage mark of the module, except for a Programme where the structure makes for other specific provision(s).

Continuous assessment may be based on laboratory work, seminars and/or assignments and should include at least 1 class test.

A minimum of at least 30% should be attained in each of continuous assessment and written examination, with an overall total of 40% for a candidate to pass a module.

Special examinations (e.g. class tests) will be arranged at the end of semester 1 or semester 2 for exchange students who have registered only for one semester. In case of yearly modules, credits will be assigned on a pro-rata basis.

8. Submission Deadline for Dissertation

Final copy: To be specified by the Department.

9. Repeat and Termination of Registration

If the CPA of a student is < 40 for an academic year, s/he will have to repeat the entire academic year, and retake modules as and when offered. However, s/he will not be required, if s/he wishes, to retake module(s) for which **Grade C** or above has been obtained.

Students will be allowed to repeat **only once** over the entire duration of the Programme of Studies.

Registration of a student will be terminated if

- (i) the CPA < 40 at the end of an academic year and the student has already repeated one year of study; or
- (ii) the maximum duration allowed for completion of the Programme of Studies has been exceeded.

10. Modules of Special Nature

A student can take a maximum of 9 credits of Self-Study Subjects and Independent Study, subject to approval of the Department.

11. List of Modules - BSc (Hons) Psychology

Code	Module Name	Hrs/Wk	Credits
<u>CORE</u>			
PSYC 1003Y(3)	Cognitive Psychology	3+0	6
PSYC 1004Y(3)	Developmental Psychology	3+0	6
PSYC 1005(1)	Biological Bases of Behaviour	3+0	3
PSYC 1102(1)	Approaches to Psychology	3+0	3
STAT 1101(1)	Statistics for Social Science	3+0	3
SCPL 1101(1)	Social Problems and Social Policy	3+0	3
CSE 1010e(1)	Introduction to Information Technology	O.E.	3
PSYC 2001Y(3)	Research Methods	3+0	6
PSYC 2002Y(3)	Social Psychology	3+0	6
PSYC 2003Y(3)	Theories of Personality	3+0	6
PSYC 2004Y(3)	Industrial/Organisational Psychology	3+0	6
PSYC 2101(3)	Psychology of Gender	3+0	3
PSYC 2107(3)	Advance Developmental Psychology	3+0	3
STAT 2101(3)	Inferential Statistics in Psychology	3+0	3
PSYC 3001Y(5)	Educational Psychology	3+0	6
PSYC 3003Y(5)	Health and Clinical Psychology	3+0	6
PSYC 3105(5)	Psychological Testing	3+0	3
PSYC 3202(5)	Psychology and Contemporary Issues	3+0	3
PSYC 3000(5)	Dissertation	-	10
<u>ELECTIVES</u>			
COMS 1010(1)	Communication Skills	D.E.	3
SWRK 1101(1)	Human Behaviour and the Environment	3+0	3
SOCI 1101(1)	Understanding Society	D.E.	3
ECON 1215(1)	Economics	3+0	3
PSYC 2205(3)	Introduction to Counselling Skills	3+0	3
PSYC 2206(3)	Psychology and the Community	3+0	3

GEMS

12. Programme Plan - BSc (Hons) Psychology

YEAR 1

Code	Module Name	Hrs/Wk	Credits
<u>CORE</u>			
PSYC 1003Y(3)	Cognitive Psychology**	3+0	6
PSYC 1004Y(3)	Developmental Psychology**	3+0	6
PSYC 1005(1)	Biological Bases of Behaviour ²	3+0	3
PSYC 1102(1)	Approaches to Psychology ¹	3+0	3
STAT 1101(1)	Statistics for Social Science ¹	3+0	3
SCPL 1101(1)	Social Problems and Social Policy ¹	3+0	3
CSE 1010e(1)	Introduction to Information Technology ²	O.E.	3
<u>ELECTIVES</u>			
<u>CHOOSE ONE</u>			
COMS 1010(1)	Communication Skills ¹	D.E.	3
SWRK 1101(1)	Human Behaviour and the Environment ¹	3+0	3
SOCI 1101(1)	Understanding Society ¹	D.E.	3
ECON 1215(1)	Economics ²	3	3

***ONE GEM** - 3

YEAR 2

Code CORE	Module Name	Hrs/Wk L+P	Credits
PSYC 2001Y(3)	Research Methods	3+0	6
PSYC 2002Y(3)	Social Psychology	3+0	6
PSYC 2003Y(3)	Theories of Personality	3+0	6
PSYC 2004Y(3)	Industrial/ Organisational Psychology	3+0	6
PSYC 2107(3)	Advance Developmental Psychology ¹	3+0	3
PSYC 2101(3)	Psychology of Gender ¹	3+0	3
STAT 2101(3)	Inferential Statistics in Psychology ²	3+0	3

ELECTIVES CHOOSE ONE

PSYC 2205(3)	Introduction to Counselling Skills ¹	3+0	3
PSYC 2206(3)	Psychology and the Community ¹	3+0	3

***ONE GEM** - 3

YEAR 3

Code CORE	Module Name	Hrs/Wk L+P	Credits
PSYC 3001Y(5)	Educational Psychology	3+0	6
PSYC 3003Y(5)	Health and Clinical Psychology	3+0	6
PSYC 3105(5)	Psychological Testing ²	3+0	3
PSYC 3202(5)	Psychology and Contemporary Issues ¹	3+0	3
PSYC 3000(5)	Dissertation	-	10
* ONE GEM		-	3

Note:

- (1)¹ - to be run in semester 1.
- (2)² - to be run in semester 2.
- (3) All semester modules would be examined at the end of the semester they are taught.
- (4) An elective will only be offered subject to availability of resources and critical mass. The Department reserves the right to offer additional electives.
- (5) *GEM modules will normally carry a weighting of one.
- (6) ** These modules are important Psychology modules, hence weighting is three (3).

13. Outline Syllabus

COMS 1010(1) - COMMUNICATION SKILLS

Writing skills, non-verbal communication, modes of speech delivery and presentation aids, speeches, perception and listening skills, business and technical writing.

CSE 1010e(1) - INTRODUCTION TO INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

IT and Computers; Stepping in the Computer; Input and Output Devices; Secondary Storage; Programming; Systems Software; Applications Software; Systems Development; Computer Networks; The Internet; Computer Security; Software Utilities; Issues and Trends in IT.

ECON 1215(1) - ECONOMICS

Economic problem; demand and supply; Market mechanism, Theory of production, market structure and firm, factor market, microeconomic issues and regulations, public goods and social welfare, International trade and national income, money and financial system, exchange rate and balance of payments, macroeconomics objectives and tools, Overview of mauritian economic problems, impact of globalisation and liberalisation.

PSYC 1003Y(3) - COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY

Introduction to Cognitive Psychology, Cognitive neuroscience, attention and consciousness, perception, memory models and research methods, memory processes, knowledge representation (images, propositions), knowledge representation and organisation, language, problem solving and creativity, decision making and reasoning, human and artificial intelligence.

PSYC 1004Y(3) - DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY

This module introduces the students to key theories of development and critical issues in human development. It takes a life-span perspective on development looking at the cognitive, emotional and social changes that take place in infancy, childhood, adolescence, adulthood and old age. Developmental milestones that are related to each specific period of development will be considered such as language acquisition, cognitive skills, identity formation and the concept of 'mid-life crisis'.

PSYC 1005(1) - BIOLOGICAL BASES OF BEHAVIOUR

Introduction to biological bases of behaviour, Evolution, genetics and experience, Nervous system, Neural conduction and synapses, Research methods, Visual system, Mechanisms of perception, The sensori-motor system, Eating, drinking and sex, Sleep, dreaming and circadian rhythms, Memory, Neuroplasticity, Lateralisation and language.

PSYC 1102(1) - APPROACHES TO PSYCHOLOGY

This module considers the main theoretical orientations that underlie the study of Psychology. It aims to critically consider the Psychodynamic, Behaviouristic, Cognitive, Humanistic and Biological Perspectives on key issues in Psychology. A historical perspective on how the theories evolved will be taken. The module engages the student to discuss the validity of each theory as an explanatory framework to human behaviour.

PSYC 2001Y(3) - RESEARCH METHODS

Introduction to scientific method, ethical issues, observation, survey research, unobtrusive measures of behaviour, independent group designs, repeated measures design, complex designs, single case, quasi-experimental designs, data analysis, describing and confirming what data tell us, qualitative research methods, focus group discussions, ethnographic and action research, communication in research.

PSYC 2002Y(3) - SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

Introduction to Social Psychology, methodology, social cognition, social perception, attitudes, social identity, prejudice and discrimination, interpersonal attraction, social influence, prosocial behaviour, aggression, group processes, applications of social psychology.

PSYC 2003Y(3) - THEORIES OF PERSONALITY

This module introduces the students to critical issues in the study of Personality. How to develop a common framework on which to explain the individual differences in Personality? This question will be looked at from the Psychodynamic approach, Trait theories, Humanistic theories, Behaviourist approaches, and Social Cognitive approaches. We will consider how each theory explains personality structure, development, motivation, and psychopathology. Critical discussion of the validity of the different theories of Personality.

PSYC 2004Y(3) - INDUSTRIAL/ORGANISATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

This module aims to provide an understanding of people's behaviour at work from aspects of the individual, to groups, and finally to the organisational level. It also attempts to solve problems of human behaviour at work with focus on the practical and the applied rather than the scientific ideal. We will begin with the foundations of individual behaviour at work such as personality characteristics, cognitive processes, work-related attitudes, motivation and then proceed with group processes such as the nature of groups, leadership, communication, conflict. We will also look at the implications and management of stress at work and how to design effective work organisations. Finally, we will attempt to define ways of establishing an effective workforce.

PSYC 2101(3) - PSYCHOLOGY OF GENDER

The study of gender. Researching sex and gender; Intelligence and mental abilities; Gender development: psycho-analytic approach, social learning theory, cognitive developmental theory, gender schema theory, gender script theory, gender identity, stereotypes, emotions, relationships, sexuality, school, career, health and stress.

PSYC 2107(3) - ADVANCE DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY

This module will build on the module of Development Psychology and will consider specialised topics in developmental psychology such as the development of the national and ethnic identities in children, children and prejudice, children and the media, further language development in children, children's drawing, adolescence and intimacy, body image in adolescence, and the concept of generativity.

PSYC 2205(3) - INTRODUCTION TO COUNSELLING SKILLS

This module aims to evaluate the key psychological perspectives and assumptions in the development of counselling practice. It provides practical work with selected counselling skills where participants will engage in exploratory practical activities meant to help them reflect on the nature of counselling. The module is not however a formal training course in counselling skills.

PSYC 2206(3) - PSYCHOLOGY AND THE COMMUNITY

Interactions between persons and social setting systems. Seeking out and assessing needs in the community. Social intervention programmes.

PSYC 3000(5) - DISSERTATION

At the end of the third year of the programme, the students will be required to submit a project dissertation. The title of the dissertation has to be approved by the Psychology Unit and a project supervisor identified by the Programme Co-ordinator. The final copy should be submitted by end of April and the dissertation length should be in the range of 10000–12000 words.

PSYC 3001Y(5) - EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

This module aims to develop an understanding of selected issues in the psychology of education: theories of learning; learners in their contexts: importance of social interaction, metacognition and motivation, individuality in learning: intelligence, learning styles and creativity; the child-school interface: teacher expectations, pupils friendships and sex differences in achievement; and children with behavioural problems and special needs.

PSYC 3003Y(5) - HEALTH AND CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

This module introduces the student to the field of clinical psychology and health psychology. It will look at historical and current paradigms in psychopathology and therapy, classification, diagnosis and assessment. Psychological disorders will be considered in terms of their characteristics, prevalence, aetiology and therapy. Discussion of the concept of health and

illness. Defining health, stress and coping, risky and addictive behaviours and health-related behaviour and health promotion.

PSYC 3105(5) - PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTING

Introduction to psychological testing and assessment, historical and ethical perspectives, norms and basic statistics for testing, reliability, validity, correlation, writing and evaluating test items, Constructing, administering and using survey data, Interviewing techniques, Applications of tests in different setting: Using tests in educational settings, and Using tests in clinical and counseling settings.

PSYC 3202(5) - PSYCHOLOGY AND CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

Psychological perspectives on drugs, AIDS/HIV, gerontology, migration, peace and conflict resolution, multi-culturalism.

SCPL 1101(1) - SOCIAL PROBLEMS AND SOCIAL POLICY

This module is designed to introduce social policy from a social problem perspective. In other words, its main focus is on social policy - as a societal response to social problems. Some key areas to be covered are: Construction of social; Gender-based and Interpersonal Violence; Social exclusion and well-being; Sex, sexuality and Discrimination; Alcohol and Drug; Adolescent and Suicide; Housing and Homelessness; Mental Health Services; Prison management and Prisoner's welfare.

SOCI 1101(1) - UNDERSTANDING SOCIETY

Introduction to the course; Sociological perspectives; Culture; Socialisation; Social Interaction in Everyday Life; Sex and Gender; Population; Ageing and medicine; education; family, and stratification system.

STAT 1101(1) - STATISTICS FOR SOCIAL SCIENCE

Research and Statistics, variables, data collection, organisation and presentation of data, measures of central tendency, measures of variability, time series analysis, probability.

STAT 2101(3) - INFERENCE STATISTICS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Introduction to inferential statistics, Parametric Tests, Hypothesis Testing, Analysis of Variance, Correlation, Regression and Chi-Square.

SWRK 1101(1) - HUMAN BEHAVIOUR AND THE SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT

The module will focus on creating understanding of the social environment as the context for understanding human action and interaction as individuals, groups and communities. The three key theoretical frameworks analysed will be the ecosystem perspective; holistic biosocial perspective; developmental perspective.