Module Descriptor

Critical Psychology and Mental Health: Methods and Applications

Module Code: SAC5007-B  
Academic Year: 2018-19  
Credit Rating: 20  
School: School of Social Sciences  
Subject Area: Sociology and Criminology  
FHEQ Level: FHEQ Level 5  
Module Leader: Dr Paul Sullivan

Additional Tutors:

Pre-requisites:  
Co-requisites:  

Contact Hours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lectures</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tutorials</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directed Study</td>
<td>165</td>
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<tr>
<td>Examinations</td>
<td>2</td>
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Availability Periods

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occurrence</th>
<th>Location/Period</th>
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<tr>
<td>BDA</td>
<td>University of Bradford / Semester 2 (Feb - May)</td>
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Module Aims

This module aims to develop an understanding of contemporary and historical debates around mental health issues in psychology as they relate to current critical psychology.

Outline Syllabus
Historical and political definitions of abnormality; schizophrenia from an existentialist perspective; the anti-psychiatry movement; hearing voices from a dialogical perspective; Freud and case histories; feminism and the construction of eating disorders; ethnography and life in the mental asylum; post-psychiatry; the social construction of depression.

Module Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this module, students will be able to...

1. a) demonstrate an understanding of, and be conversant with, some of the fundamental concepts, issues and debates concerning mental health and its associated methods;
   b) understand the main outlines of the history of the subject;
   c) understand difficulties in making mental health diagnosis and possible solutions to these;
   d) understand the difficulties in treatment for mental health problems and possible solutions to these.

2. a) appraise and evaluate methods in psychological research;
   b) develop a critical awareness of issues in mental health and the problems posed for contemporary psychology.

3. a) apply analytical skills in relation to social theory;
   b) prepare and present information in front of your peers;
   c) work independently as well as part of a team.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy

The lectures will provide overviews of the core principles and concepts in the study of critical psychology and mental health (LO1a-d, LO2a-b). Seminars and small group discussion will allow such knowledge to be embedded, clarified and deepened (LO1a-d, LO2a-b). In parallel with lectures, you will deepen your knowledge through independent guided reading of relevant texts (LO1a-d). The subsequent group discussion and assessed presentation allows students to explore concepts with each other and with the tutor (LO3a-c). You will be offered a choice of group or individual presentation (LO3b). Lectures and seminars will also include use of material from a virtual learning environment. These three layers of learning, practised weekly, are designed to encourage reflexivity and to encourage you to draw on your own concerns and interests. The combination of exam and presentation in the assessment allows for the development of knowledge and its expression in two different but complementary contexts (LO1a-d, LO2a-b).

Mode of Assessment

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Final Assess'</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Summative</td>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>Group or individual presentation</td>
<td>30%</td>
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**Summative Examination** - open book or seen paper

2 hour seen examination

2 hours

70%

Yes

**Legacy Code (if applicable)**

SJ-5008D

**Reading List**

To view Reading List, please go to rebus:list.