

## Psychology 1B Class Handbook

Site: [myplace.strath.ac.uk](https://myplace.strath.ac.uk)  
Class: C8106: Psychology 1B  
Book: Psychology 1B Class Handbook

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## 1. Class Handbook

Class handbook

## 1.1. Welcome

### Welcome

A very warm welcome to Psychology at the University of Strathclyde. Psychology is a course offered within the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences by the School of Psychological Sciences and Health. The school is housed on the fifth and sixth floor of the Graham Hills building in the John Anderson campus. The general office is on the sixth floor, located in room 6.76 of the Graham Hills building, and its telephone number is 0141-552 4400 extension 2700 (direct line 0141-548-2700). Whilst we are delivering teaching online, if you need to contact the general office you should use the following email address: **[hass-courses-psh@strath.ac.uk](mailto:hass-courses-psh@strath.ac.uk)**.

### Important Class Announcements

Please be aware that important announcements will be made by email, through posts on Myplace and during lectures. Students are responsible for checking their university email account and Myplace regularly. Students should also check their account in Pegasus (<http://pegasus.strath.ac.uk>) for University announcements.

## 1.2. Points of contact

When studying first year Psychology there are several significant points of contact you should be aware of.

**If you have a general question regarding C8106, please post it on the Forum.** If you email the class leader and your question is a general question you will be asked to post it in the forum and an answer will be given there.

### The First Year Tutor

Each year of the BA Psychology degree has a Year Tutor, who is the person you must contact in the following situations:

- If you are unable to submit your coursework on time
- If you are falling behind due to personal difficulties or illness etc.
- Matters relating to progression into second year
- Any other matter if in doubt

In first year Psychology, the Year Tutor is **Dr Hazel Anderson**, who can be contacted by:

Email, at [hazel.anderson@strath.ac.uk](mailto:hazel.anderson@strath.ac.uk)

To note, you should only contact Dr Anderson directly by email if it is a personal matter. If you have a general question about the class then these questions should be posted in the Discussion Forum which can be found on the C8106 Psychology 1B Myplace page. If you email Dr Anderson and your question is a generic question you will be asked to post it in the forum and an answer will be given there.

### The class leader

Additionally, each class (such as C8106) has a class leader, who is the person you should contact if you have a question relating to that class, for example if you have a question about the class tests, or other such issue. The class leader this semester for C8106 is also **Dr Hazel Anderson**.

### Lecturers

General enquiries about lecture content should be addressed to the lecturer concerned via the discussion forums. Their email addresses are also noted below:

- Dr Allan McGroarty ([a.mcgroarty@strath.ac.uk](mailto:a.mcgroarty@strath.ac.uk))
- Dr Steve Kelly ([steve.kelly@strath.ac.uk](mailto:steve.kelly@strath.ac.uk))
- Dr Hazel Anderson ([hazel.anderson@strath.ac.uk](mailto:hazel.anderson@strath.ac.uk))
- Dr Stephen Butler ([stephen.butler@strath.ac.uk](mailto:stephen.butler@strath.ac.uk))

### IT Technical Enquiries.

Questions relating to technical difficulties (such as problems with installing SPSS) should be sent to Strathclyde IT support ([help@strath.ac.uk](mailto:help@strath.ac.uk)).

### SONA Enquiries.

There is information regarding SONA on the Myplace page Psychology: Research Participation/SONA/Qualtrics/E-Prime/Ethics. If you do not have SONA log in details, please contact Dr David Robertson ([hass-psy-participantpool@strath.ac.uk](mailto:hass-psy-participantpool@strath.ac.uk)).

### Administrative Enquiries.

If you have a question about administrative matters (e.g. problems with submitting work), please direct your inquiry to the Course Support Team for the School of Psychological Sciences and Health ([hass-courses-psh@strath.ac.uk](mailto:hass-courses-psh@strath.ac.uk)).

### Library Resources.

For questions related to difficulties accessing library resources (e.g. books/journals), please contact the library (<https://helpdesk.strath.ac.uk/support/home>).

### Improving Academic Performance.

For queries about how to improve your academic performance (e.g. understanding or addressing feedback, improving academic writing, preparing for exams), please contact Study Skills (email: [studyskills@strath.ac.uk](mailto:studyskills@strath.ac.uk); or book an appointment here: <https://studentsupport.strath.ac.uk/studyskills/>).

<https://www.strath.ac.uk/studywithus/strathlife/academicsupport/>

### Strath Union

Strath Union, the Strathclyde student union, has a lot of useful information or links, including for advice regarding topics such as housing, health and wellbeing, or money.

<https://www.strathunion.com/>

**Other contacts**

Other contacts, as required, can be found on our webpage: <https://www.strath.ac.uk/humanities/psychologicalscienceshealth/psychology/>.

### 1.3. Class Discussion Forum.

**What is the 'Class Discussion Forum' on the class Myplace page?**

This is a general discussion forum on the C8106 Myplace page. Use of the forum is encouraged as it allows the whole class – students and staff – to stay in touch with each other. If you have a general question about the class you should be posting it in this forum not emailing the class leader. Messages posted in this area can be seen by the whole class and the teaching staff. You can use this board for general discussions and queries about the class. Use it to ask, and answer if you can, questions of interest to the whole class. You are also welcome to use this area for general chat. There is only one rule for use of this system – don't post anything which might offend someone in any capacity.

## 1.4. Studying first year Psychology: Second semester

In keeping with the aims of the preceding C8105 class, this class aims to introduce students to more key findings, theories, and debates in general contemporary Psychology.

C8106 runs in four modules:

- Developmental Psychology
- Cognitive Psychology
- Social Psychology
- Research Methods and Statistics

If you plan to continue on to second year Psychology you should take C8105 in the first semester and C8106 in the second semester. **Students applying to take second year Psychology are required to take both classes.**

### How many credits do I earn for this class?

This class (C8106) is worth 20 credits. Please note that this class runs for the full duration of the second semester.

### Are there any Prerequisites to the class?

No, there are none. Subject to the approval of their advisers, the class may be taken by students in any faculty.

### Learning Outcomes of C8106

Students will acquire a basic understanding of the breadth of study in Psychology. They should also begin to understand the importance of taking a critical approach to research findings and theory in the subject such that they become aware of the need to read around each piece of evidence with which they are presented, seeking alternative explanations of the significance of psychological phenomena. On completing the class, students should appreciate the usefulness of presenting balanced arguments on a range of psychological research questions, arguments which are supported or questioned, as appropriate, by evidence from a variety of sources.

### How the class fits with other Psychology classes

C8106 Psychology provides students who plan to continue with the subject an introduction to a number of specific areas of study within Psychology which are dealt with in more depth in the second, third, and fourth years of the BA Psychology course.



## 1.5. Syllabus

### **Developmental Psychology: Dr Allan McGroarty**

Classic theories of cognitive development. Piaget's and Vygotsky's contributions. Social and emotional development of children. Attachment theory. Development of moral reasoning. Development in adolescence and adulthood. Research methodologies used to test young infants and children.

### **Cognitive Psychology: Dr Steve Kelly and Dr Hazel Anderson**

Dr Kelly will delivered lectures on short and long term memory, schema theory, forgetting and mnemonic strategies. Dr Anderson will cover lectures on consciousness, what it is and different types of consciousness.

### **Social Psychology: Dr Allan McGroarty**

Social influence. Bystander apathy, social facilitation, social inhibition, conformity, normative and informational social influence, reason-based and emotion-based approaches to compliance.

Social cognition. Impression formation, configural model of person perception, social cognition models of person perception, stereotypes, socio-cognitive explanations for stereotype formation, ingroup favouritism, attribution theory, attributional bias.

### **Research Methods and Statistics: Dr Stephen Butler**

These lectures will cover the basics of research methods and statistics. This will include the different types of variables, and measurement scales, that are available to us when designing an experiment and which influence the statistical test we use for analysing our data. We will also look at issues of reliability and validity of the measures we choose, and the use of graphs for displaying our data in an easy to understand format.

## 1.6. Lectures.

### How are lectures delivered?

The class is delivered primarily by means of **live lecture sessions on campus**. Lecture sessions occur on the day, time, and location stated on the timetable. Some of the lecture sessions are supplemented by pre-recorded videos so please make sure you take note from the timetable which lectures are live or pre-recorded and live. **Lecture sessions conducted on campus will not be recorded**, therefore there will not be recordings shared on Myplace after lecture sessions have occurred. Attendance at lectures is required.

There is an introductory lecture and the remaining lectures are psychology based.

*Note, though this is the plan at the time of writing, Covid has created a changeable teaching situation. Should teaching format change, students will be informed.*

### Engaging with the lectures

It is very important that you keep up to date and engage with the lectures. Experience shows that students who engage with lectures and materials regularly perform much better on coursework and examinations than those who do not.

All students are reminded that holidays should be taken during the University holiday periods – you should not take time off during the teaching semesters. When you registered, you agreed to comply with University statutes and regulations. For those that this applies to, you have also made a contract with SAAS and your fees are paid on the understanding that you will comply with University regulations.

### What if I miss a lecture?

Students who miss a lecture can catch up independently by doing the reading for the lecture. Lecturers generally share lecture slides for their lecture. These can be used, along with the recommended reading stated by the lecturer (see lecture slides or the reading list link on the C8106 Myplace page). Lectures are not recorded, so videos will not be available.

### Lecture etiquette.

Students are expected to attend their lectures and to listen quietly while the lecturer is speaking - talking during lectures is highly distracting for both students and the staff member giving the lecture. Students should not be watching videos/ viewing social media content. It is expected that students will not be photographing/ video recording other students or staff - students are provided with lecture slides and required reading. In addition students take notes during lectures - the ability to summarise verbally shared information efficiently is a skill important to many jobs and one that is developed during University. If a lecture is missed, notes can be taken based on the reading for that lecture.

## 1.7. Tutorials

### Overview of C8106 Psychology 1b Tutorials

During these you will have the opportunity to interact with other students and ask the tutorial instructor questions. Tutorials are for students on C8106. C8107 students are welcome to form their own study groups.

### Week structure.

Students on Psychology 1b will take part in four tutorials. Depending on the assigned tutorial group, this will occur in weeks 1, 3, 5, 7 or weeks 2, 4, 6, 8. The structure and content of tutorials will vary. Some focus more on a particular skill (such as problem solving or essay writing) whereas some are linked to particular topics (such as sensation and perception).

### Tutorial Topics.

Term Week 1/2- Statistics and Research Methods.

Term Week 3/4- Developmental.

Term Week 5/6- Cognitive.

Term Week 7/8- Social.

### When are tutorials?

Students sign up for a set of tutorials themselves through the Psychology 1B Myplace page. A variety of tutorial times will be provided and a maximum of 30 students can sign up for a particular tutorial group. Students sign up for one tutorial group only. Students who don't sign up for a tutorial group themselves by the deadline (Friday 12th January, 12pm) will be allocated a tutorial group, and informed the following week of which group they are in.

### Can I swap classes?

There is a large number of students on this course, so we are relying on students to check their availability and choose a time they can attend when they sign up. It is not possible to change tutorial time unless it is essential. If you do need to swap tutorial group, please contact Dr Kieran O'Shea (kieran.oshea@strath.ac.uk). Students have to attend tutorials for the group they signed up to, they can't attend a session for another tutorial group.

### Is attendance monitored?

Attendance will be monitored and recorded. It is highly advised to attend classes as these will allow students to discuss topics with their peers, develop skills and consolidate learning.

### Are tutorials credit bearing?

Tutorials don't contribute towards credits for Psychology 1b. They are formative activities designed to develop skills relevant to the course, and broaden your knowledge and understanding of topics in a particular area.

### Where do tutorials happen?

All tutorials will be delivered on-campus. Information regarding dates, times and room number will be on Myplace so review them before making a decision about which tutorial group to sign up for. If the situation changes and we can't meet at the University, they will continue as online Zoom sessions.

University map: <https://www.strath.ac.uk/maps>

How to interpret room name codes -

GH681 would be Graham Hills Building, 6th Floor, Room number 81.

### Homework and preparation.

You will be set homework for the tutorials – please do this before attending. We also request that you take materials with you to help complete tasks during tutorials.

Tutorial 1 homework and preparation (Statistics and Research Methods).

- Take your notes from the Psychology 1A "Interpreting Results" video.
- Read the Begue et al. (2013) paper.
- Take paper and pen/ pencil.

Tutorial 2 homework and preparation (Developmental).

- Read chapter 9 of Psychological Sciences (Gazzaniga, 2022).
- Take the Psychological Science textbook with you if you have it.
- Take your notes on Development.
- Take paper and pen/ pencil.

Tutorial 3 homework and preparation (Cognitive).

- Read chapter 7 of Psychological Sciences (Gazzaniga, 2022).
- Take the Psychological Science textbook with you if you have it.
- Take your notes on Memory.
- Take paper and pen/ pencil.

Tutorial 4 homework and preparation (Social).

- Read chapter 12 of Psychological Sciences (Gazzaniga, 2022).
- Take the Psychological Science textbook with you if you have it.
- Take your notes on Social.
- Take paper and pen/pencil.

### **I can't attend a tutorial- what should I do?**

If a student misses a tutorial class for any reason they can get caught up by working through the tutorial materials independently in their own time.

If you are missing a tutorial session due to an extenuating circumstance (eg., illness), it is recommended to update your personal circumstances information on Pegasus when you have time (including emailing evidence to [personal-circumstances@strath.ac.uk](mailto:personal-circumstances@strath.ac.uk) if you have it). If you miss a tutorial for a general reason (such as sleeping in or missing the bus) that shouldn't be input to Pegasus. Students don't usually need to contact staff regarding missed tutorials or lectures (Pegasus is where that information is recorded by the student themselves if it was due to personal circumstances). If you require support or going to be missing multiple classes then please do contact the Class Leader (Dr Hazel Anderson).

### **Can I access materials for missed tutorials?**

If a tutorial can't be attended due to Covid or general absence, students can still work through the tutorial materials. PowerPoints used during tutorials will be available on Myplace after all tutorial groups have completed that particular tutorial. Students can work through the materials themselves. A forum dedicated to peer discussion related to that tutorial topic will also be available. Alternatively, the Peer Networking forum can be used for students to organise their own network to work through materials with other students online.

### **I have a question about the tutorials?**

Only personal questions should be sent via email to Dr Kieran O'Shea ([kieran.oshea@strath.ac.uk](mailto:kieran.oshea@strath.ac.uk)) or the member of staff running your group's tutorials. All general questions should be posted on the Psychology 1B Class Discussion Forum. Please read the answers to already posted questions on the Forum before posting your own to see if it has already been answered.

### **I'm on C8107 and would like to work with other students.**

The tutorial sessions are for the C8106 students. C8107 students are welcome to use the Peer Networking Forum to form networks to work with other students in person or online. Tutorial materials are available on Myplace after all groups have completed that tutorial and can also be used by C8107 students.

## 1.8. Class Timetable

The lecture timetable can be found on the C8106 Myplace page.

Details about C8106 tutorials for the different tutorial groups can be found via the Excel file in the Tutorial Information toggle.

It is very important that you adhere to the timetable so please follow this and if you have any questions about the timetable please post your question in the discussion forum and the class leader will respond. It is also important that you understand the timetable and the difference between lecture sessions that have pre-recorded material or not.

If the timetable just states "**Lecture**", then the lecture is delivered on the day and time shown on the timetable below. Synchronous lectures allow opportunity to engage in live lectures with the lecturer.

If the timetable states "**Lecture pre-recorded**" then the lecture session is delivered on the day and time shown on the timetable. For these lecture sessions, the live content is not the lecture itself and is instead an associated activity (such as a live quiz) used to consolidate your knowledge and understanding.

Any changes to the timetable will be communicated to students via Myplace/email so please make sure you are checking your email account regularly.

## 1.9. Attendance monitoring.

### How is attendance recorded?

Attendance is being recorded during lectures and tutorials using a QR code system. Students are to scan the code during the lecture/ tutorial to self-record their attendance. If you cannot get the system to work, please write your name in capitals on a piece of paper, along with your email address, and hand it to the lecturer before you leave.

Attendance will not be recorded after the lecture/ tutorial- you need to sign in during the class.

### What happens if I miss a class?

If you are missing a class due to an extenuating circumstance (eg., illness), it is recommended to update your personal circumstances information on Pegasus when you have time (including emailing evidence to [personal-circumstances@strath.ac.uk](mailto:personal-circumstances@strath.ac.uk) if you have it). If you miss a class for a general reason (such as sleeping in or missing the bus) that isn't input to Pegasus. Student's don't usually need to contact staff regarding missed classes (Pegasus is where that information is recorded by the student themselves if it was due to personal circumstances). If you require support or going to be missing multiple classes then please do contact the Class Leader (Dr Hazel Anderson).

If you are going to miss a lot of classes (such as due to an extended period of serious illness), it is recommended to contact the BA Psychology tutor for your year and/ or the class leader. For C8106, that person would be Dr Hazel Anderson.

## 1.10. Online Student Office Hours

Online student office hours with Dr Hazel Anderson (who is both the C8106 Class Leader and 1st year BA Psychology tutor) will be available for students. **They are not compulsory** but please do join the class leader if you would like to chat informally or have a question about the class. You can also talk to Dr Hazel Anderson in her capacity as year tutor during these office hours. The office hours operate on a waiting room one-in-one-out system, the class leader will speak to students individually and privately.

The dates and times for these sessions can be found in the Office Hours toggle on the C8106 Myplace page.

## 1.11. Textbook required

**Phelps, E. A., Berkman, E. T., Gazzaniga, M. S. (2022). *Psychological Science* (7th edition). New York, Norton.**

We recommend that you buy your own copy of the current (7th edition) version of the book.

We have received two discount codes for the textbook that are listed below. Please note - these are offers from an external company and we can't guarantee that each of them work. If one doesn't work, I'd recommend trying another.

### Offer 1.

Offer: 30% off print and 15% off Ebooks on Norton website

Website: [wnorton.co.uk](http://wnorton.co.uk)

Print discount code: 30OFF

Ebook discount code: WN973

End date for offer: 31st October 2023

### Offer 2.

Online from the [John Smith Online Book Shop](#) or by visiting the John Smith's Bookshop, details of which are on the attached flyer below.

Image of cover of textbook.

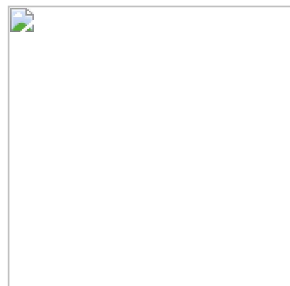
GAZZANIGA- PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCE

RRP £49.99

OFFER PRICE (Offer QR code below with free UK postage for students).

£47.99

[tinyurl.com/strathfirstsemester](https://tinyurl.com/strathfirstsemester)



### Online InQuisitive Resource

InQuizitive is an online learning tool which contains various question types and specific feedback. Questions include topics delivered in C8106 Psychology 1B and can be used for consolidation of knowledge.

For this class the Student Set: 761720

<https://digital.wnorton.com/psychsci7>

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Students often ask about other textbooks: There are no fast answers to these questions. We recommend one textbook (the one above), a good book that can be bought from the university bookshop, is up to date and gives you access to electronic resources that will develop your knowledge and understanding of Psychology. If you use another textbook then you may experience some or all of the following:

- You are using a textbook that is not as up to date
- You are using a textbook that does not cover the topics your lecturers are covering in the same way, or in the same level of detail as the recommended text
- You will not be able to follow page or chapter numbers provided as references
- The book may not be very good
- The book may be written in a language you cannot read, or be unrelated to the class content

There are other decent introductory texts out there, but using them may cause you difficulties as outlined above. Please don't ask us to comment on the worthiness of a particular text, as we don't have an encyclopaedic knowledge of each textbook. **My advice would be to purchase the recommended text.**





## 1.12. The InQuisitive Resource

When you buy the Gazzaniga textbook it will include a free registration code that will allow you to access resources otherwise known as InQuisitive which is an online tool providing questions for you to test your knowledge and understanding. The sections offered in InQuisitive correspond with the topics you receive in C8106 Psychology 1B.

**Completion of InQuisitive will not earn you any marks, it is available for you to complete as formative activities and designed for you to answer questions on the topics you have learned about in class to consolidate and further develop your knowledge and understanding of Psychology.**

Once you have registered, you will have access to InQuisitive.

### Registering for InQuisitive

When you register online, you will be asked to provide your name, and email address. **It is important that you provide your UNIVERSITY OF STRATHCLYDE EMAIL ADDRESS at this stage.** When registering, please take care to **type your Strathclyde email address correctly.**

Note: your University of Strathclyde email address contains your name, e.g. [jack.bloggs.2018@uni.strath.ac.uk](mailto:jack.bloggs.2018@uni.strath.ac.uk). You should use that address rather than the alias of your address, e.g. [hgd01345@uni.strath.ac.uk](mailto:hgd01345@uni.strath.ac.uk). Please ensure that all aspects of your email address are included, students sometimes do not add the year, or the '@' or full stops in their email address and this can lead to problems identifying what you have completed.

### Adding Yourself to a Student Set

**So that the class leader can monitor use of InQuisitive, you must add yourself to the Student Set for the 1st year Psychology classes.** The first time you access InQuisitive, you will be prompted to insert a 6-digit Student Set ID number. The Student Set ID number for C8105 is:

**761720**

**Note:** If you do not add yourself to the class Student Set, your InQuisitive activity will **not** be visible to the class leader.

### 1.13. Pass mark and main/resit assessments.

#### Pass mark.

The pass mark for the whole class, which is calculated on the basis of all the components of the class (i.e. the coursework essay, research methods and statistics test, exam essay, and research participation) is 40% or above.

#### Resits.

Should your **final overall mark**, based on all components, fall below 40% then you will have an opportunity to "resit" the component(s) that has brought your mark down to a fail level (coursework essay, research methods and statistics test, or exam essay) then have a second overall resit mark returned (it is not possible to resit research participation). Students required to take any resit option may have a fail mark registered for their first sitting of C8106 and subsequently a second resit mark entered on their Pegasus record. Please note that this is a Faculty wide policy. For students who require it, there will be an opportunity to resit failed components during the 2023 resit formal assessment period (the resit period is usually late July to mid August). Resit dates and information are usually shared with students in late June/ early July.

#### **Does having to resit one of the components mean I have a fail returned for the first attempt at C8106 and a resit mark subsequently returned?**

The university will deal with cases where, for example, a student missed the first sitting of a class test due to an illness covered by a **medical certificate** provided by a doctor, or another serious reason, on an individual case by case basis. In such cases, students must record their **personal circumstances** on Pegasus and submit appropriate documentation (e.g. medical certificate, death certificate) to Student Business (email evidence to [personal-circumstances@strath.ac.uk](mailto:personal-circumstances@strath.ac.uk)). There are also options, e.g., requesting extensions for coursework if you have good grounds for doing so (for the first/main sitting of coursework). Students who miss a class test or fail to undertake any classwork prescribed without good reason and evidence will have no mark registered for the work.

## 1.14. Assessment

The class is assessed by a combination of:

- Coursework Essay - 35%
- Class Test (Research Methods and Statistics) - 24%
- Exam - 35%
- Research participation - 6%

Total = 100%.

**Students will be given a mark of zero for each piece of assessment they do not complete.**

### Coursework Essay

You will be invited to write and submit one essay and this will contribute up to 35% of the overall mark for the class. Details of the essay will be released to the class in week 1 on Myplace. Before starting your essay, we recommend that you read closely "Writing Psychology Essays - A Student Guide" which is on the class page.

### Submitting your essay

Students are responsible for submitting their own essay properly and on time. Essays are submitted electronically i.e. you will upload your essay document to Myplace. Once submitted, your essay will be checked using plagiarism detection software. Please make sure you attach the assessment cover page to your essay before submitting it. You will have to add some details including your student registration number, and it contains a declaration that you are aware of what plagiarism is and that you declare your coursework as your own. Please submit it as a PDF document.

### Difficulties with essay submission

Students who have serious, genuine and unexpected difficulties in submitting the essay on time may be granted a brief extension to the essay deadline. For further information on classwork extensions, please consult the **BA Psychology Course Handbook**. You can find the Course Handbook on the [Psychology-Info](#) page on Myplace.

The University operates a late submission policy for classwork submitted late. If an essay is submitted late, this will result in a reduction of the essay mark. For more information on the University's late submission policy, see this

webpage: <https://www.strath.ac.uk/sees/studentpolicies/policies/assessmentfeedbackandexternalexaminers/policyandprocedureforlatesubmissionofcoursework/>

### Marking procedure.

In the BA Psychology Course, students' classwork is marked anonymously wherever possible. For this reason, we ask you to include your student registration number rather than your name on your essay document. You will find detailed submission guidelines on Myplace. Marked classwork is returned via Myplace and we aim to do this within approximately 15 working days (ie., approximately 3 weeks) following the deadline. If there are changes to the marks release date (such as due to unmanageable numbers of extension requests or staff illness) this will be conveyed to students via class notice.

### Class Test on Research Methods and Statistics

The Research Methods and Statistics test component is worth 24%. It comprises short answer questions based on all the material you have learned within the Research Methods and Statistics lectures and associated materials. This occurs on campus in Week 11 and is closed book.

### Exam Essay

The exam will be held in April/May, with an opportunity to resit in August. The exam will be based on material covered in the second semester C8106 class (excluding Research Methods and Statistics, which is assessed separately in the class test).

The exam is worth 35% of the overall mark for C8106. Students will answer one essay question. The exam occurs on campus and is closed book. The exam essay questions will relate to material from the modules on Developmental, Cognitive Psychology and Social Psychology. Students will be informed of the exam date once the assessment period timetable is released.

Students are encouraged to do reading of background material, a habit essential to success at university whichever course a student pursues in subsequent years. Class tests are tests primarily of reading and demonstrating breadth of knowledge. Students should expect to be assessed on the **whole** of the Gazzaniga chapters or other recommended reading corresponding to each module and not just on those sections which overlap with material covered in lectures. In addition, some material covered in lectures but not in the textbook may appear in the test.

## 1.15. Research participation

### First Year Research Experience

To provide you with opportunities to become more practically involved in psychological research, psychology has established the **First Year Participant Pool**. All First Year students taking part in C8106, or both C8105 and C8106 are invited to participate in **psychological research studies** designed by staff or senior students.

Part of learning about research methods is to act as a research participant yourself. By taking part in psychological research studies, you will gain first hand experience of how questions about psychological processes are measured. You will learn about the variety of techniques and instruments that psychologists use.

### Psychology is a research-based science

There are lots of things that we might wish to study, but deciding on the most rigorous scientific procedure is rarely straightforward. As you will find during your work as a psychology student, psychologists employ many different research methods. In later years, you will be conducting research studies of your own, and it is crucial to be able to know how to run a successful, rigorously designed investigation. In addition to the learning benefits, **you can gain marks by participating**. The important take home message is that you can earn 6% of the marks for the second semester C8106 class by taking part in research. You may have started to **bank these marks** during the first semester, and they will count towards your mark in C8106 in the second semester.

Studies that are advertised in the course as 'eligible to contribute to the C8106 First Year Research Experience' will earn you marks that contribute to C8106 in the second semester. The number of marks available varies according to how many studies you participate in, but all students who participate satisfactorily in studies that amount to 6% will have this percent contributed to their marks in C8106.

### What kinds of studies will I take part in?

The range is very wide, reflecting the diverse interests of staff and advanced students in psychology. You might be asked to take part in a study on memory processes, or to complete attitudinal measures. Your visual perception might be tested or you could be involved in a study or you could be asked to report on certain behaviours. Perhaps you will be a juror in a mock trial, or you could cooperate to complete a puzzle with someone you meet only via a chat room. You might join in a discussion or you might be asked to monitor your moods. One further benefit of taking part is that you may well find that some of the studies influence your own future research. If you find a particular study interesting, perhaps you could be working on a similar project in a couple of years' time. The researcher will provide you with information regarding the background and meaning of their study after you take part, as part of your learning experience.

### What if I don't want to take part in a particular study?

No problem. You will be free to choose which studies you participate in.

### Sounds interesting: but what if I want to take part in more studies over and above the 6% worth?

That's fine. Researchers are always glad to see participants, and you are very welcome to sign up for additional studies if you wish. This does provide a good means of learning more about psychology and how it is done. However, this would be voluntary additional participation, and we are not able to give you additional marks. 6% is the maximum.

### How and when can we get involved?

Researchers will advertise their studies on an online platform called SONA (click on the SONA image below). Once you have logged in to the SONA system, you will be able to participate in studies.

**Please read the SONA Participant Guide for guidance on how to use our new online research participation system, you will be e-mailed your log in details early in Semester 1. The deadline for gaining your research participation credits is 5pm on Friday 29th March 2024.**

Once you have participated in a study, the researcher will grant you research participation credits via the online SONA platform.

### What if I'd prefer not to take part in any studies at all?

That is entirely your prerogative. We think this is a valuable part of your studies with us but you are free to make your own decisions, without prejudice. If you do not wish to take part but do still wish to gain the 6% of marks towards C8106, then you can elect to undertake an alternative assessment, consisting of writing a short essay on a topic to be announced. No feedback is provided for the research alternative essay and there is no resit (as this is an alternative for those who do not wish to complete research participation credits).

### Important issues to bear in mind

You only do one- either the research participation or the research alternative essay. Students who do not complete research participation credits or do not complete and pass the research alternative essay will obtain a mark of 0 for the research participation assessment. The deadline for research participation and the research alternative essay is the same date (late submissions after the submission deadline date or extensions are not available for the research participation assessment).

Please do complete studies if you have signed up to do them otherwise you will not get the credit for them. It can be extremely frustrating for a stressed final year student who is trying to complete their dissertation.

Strathclyde is a large research University, and a lot of research is going on. You may see advertisements calling for participants to take part in research from lots of departments. However, you can only earn marks towards your C8106 class from taking part in research which has been approved by us here in Psychology as being part of the **First Year Research Experience**. The advert will also tell you the kind of thing you will be asked to do, how long it will take and how many credits it will earn.

The practical upshot of this is that you can only earn marks towards C8106 for taking part in research which explicitly states in the advertisement the research is 'eligible to contribute to the First Year Research Experience'. If it does not say this on the advertisement, then it will not lead to any marks being awarded for participation. Be aware that there may even be advertisements from Psychology looking for participants which do not lead to marks being awarded. So remember you can only get marks for taking part in research which explicitly states in the advertisement that Psychology students can obtain research participation credits.

Please note, availability of studies varies dependent on what studies researchers are recruiting for, and not all studies will be suitable for everyone to participate in (depending on individual study's participation inclusion/ exclusion criteria). Please plan ahead as if there are not enough studies available just before the deadline to complete the 6 research participation credits, the only other option is to complete the research alternative essay. Students do not need to wait until semester 2 to complete research participation credits, they can start collecting them at the start of semester 1.

**If you have queries relating to research participation or the online SONA platform, please contact Dr David Robertson at this email address: [hass-psy-participantpool@strath.ac.uk](mailto:hass-psy-participantpool@strath.ac.uk).**

## 1.16. Referencing

What about references, what are they, should they be included in my essay? Will they be included in the word limit for my essay?

To recap references are lists of the papers, books and other published and unpublished materials which the writer(s) has (have) read in order to support the presented piece of work. The Gazzaniga textbook's reference section starts on page R1 at the back of the book, for example. Reference lists will not be included in word limits for essays. However, author citations in the text will be. For example, the sentence

*"In contrast, habitual use of cocaine in large quantities can lead to paranoia, psychotic behaviour, and violence (Ottieger et al., 1992)."*

You will see here that the author has **cited** Ottieger and colleagues as the researchers whose work is being reported here. These words would be included in the word limit.

However, references at the end of the essay, like you see at the end of your textbook, or at the end of a scientific paper, do not contribute to the word count. Material in the body of the answer will be counted in the word limit, but references, provided at the end of the essay, like these below, will not be included in the word count:

### References

Manahilov, V., Findlay, K., & Simpson, W.A. (2004). Factors limiting suprathreshold vision measured by a flash-sound simultaneity paradigm. *Vision Research*, 44, 2577-2585.

Obonsawin, M., Smallwood, J. & Heim, D. (2003). Task unrelated thought: the role of distributed processing. *Consciousness and Cognition*, 12, 169-189.

The above is an example of what is known as an APA style of referencing.

### On Wikipedia and websites like Simply Psychology...

In the past, some students have sought for wisdom within Wikipedia and have got themselves into difficulties. Wikipedia can be a handy tool for quickly getting up to speed with something you don't know, but the main problem with it is that anyone can post content on it. Therefore, depending on the level of monitoring/popularity of a topic, inaccurate information can be written there. The same applies to websites like Simply Psychology, the content of these is not peer reviewed and therefore the information may not be accurate.

There is probably a lot of decent stuff on Wikipedia, put up by decent, and in many cases distinguished people. But it should be treated with caution due to the point above. If a Wikipedia entry seems to be saying something that appears to be in direct contravention of your textbook then I would strongly suggest you trust your textbook. If you want a rule of thumb to apply, then only fully trust material that comes from academic web sources, such as those that end in ".ac.uk" or ".edu". Even then, as you go through your academic career you will start to develop the skill of critical thinking, of weighing up the evidence of even the most distinguished researchers, rather than blindly accepting it as fact.

## 1.17. Plagiarism (Academic dishonesty)

Plagiarism is defined as 'the taking, and using as one's own, of the thoughts, writings or inventions of another' (The Shorter Oxford English Dictionary). In other words, plagiarism is cheating, and will not be tolerated in the context of a university degree course. Any student caught plagiarising the work of another will be subject to severe penalties.

University guidelines on academic dishonesty for students can be found at link below. All students are expected to familiarise themselves with these.

<http://www.strath.ac.uk/media/ps/cs/gmap/academicaffairs/policies/student-guide-to-academic-practice-and-plagiarism.pdf>

When you submit your work in Myplace, you are implicitly claiming authorship of the work. Our requirement on all students to submit coursework on Myplace means that an electronic copy of your coursework is retained throughout your undergraduate career. This allows cross-checking of students' work, facilitates the detection of plagiarism, and makes it easy to check retrospectively for earlier offences should plagiarism be detected. Plagiarism checks are now conducted on a routine basis in psychology, so students should ensure that they do not engage in any form of plagiarism.

Further information can be found in **BA Psychology Course Handbook**. You can find the Course Handbook on the **Psychology-Info** page on Myplace.



## 1.18. Student Voice

It is important that students have the opportunity to provide feedback to the class leader and year tutor about their learning, teaching and assessment experience. There are a few ways in which this can be done.

### **Module Evaluation**

At the end of the semester (Week 11) you will receive an email from the Module Evaluation team asking you to complete an evaluation of C8106 Psychology 1b. Please do ensure that you take the time to complete this as staff can only seek to implement improvements if they are brought to our attention. To note however, some requested changes cannot be made and if this is the case a reason why will be provided to students. With your feedback, try to be constructive and if there is a particular element that you're enjoying then note that down too.

### **Student-Staff Liaison Committee (SSLC)**

The SSLC provides an opportunity for student voice to be expressed. SSLC, as the names suggests, is comprised of staff and students and they meet throughout the semester to discuss teaching, learning and assessment amongst other outcomes. The student representatives for each year group attend SSLC meetings, for C8106 Psychology 1b and so they act as a go to person for student wishing to provide feedback. For first year Psychology, we are looking for four reps who will be trained by the Strathclyde Union. If you are interested contact the class leader.

## 1.19. Feedback formats

Students receive feedback in a variety of formats for this class including:

- Individual feedback for the coursework essay (for main sitting).
- Answers to questions asked for the class, such as on the Class Discussion forum or in office hours.
- Information sent via Class Notice.
- Feedforward information - examples include advice for approaching an assessment or FAQ information.
- Answers to questions raised at Student-Staff Liaison Committee meetings by student representatives (the feedback from these is provided through a "You said we did" document after each meeting).

## 1.20. Employability and Personal Development

This class provides students with a number of subject-specific and generic skills which are valued by employers outside of the undergraduate context. These include: skills to interpret and critically evaluate theories and research findings, and to consider their applicability to human behaviour; an understanding of research methodology; the ability to identify and gather relevant information from a range of sources; written communication skills; and the ability to set priorities, meet deadlines and effectively plan/manage time, data and resources.

Note also that the C8106 class will include a session on career paths for Psychology students. This will be delivered by a specialist Careers Advisor from the University Careers Service and will be made available in the Semester 2 Induction session.

## 1.21. Support and useful contacts

### Important Policies and Procedures

[Personal Circumstances and Academic Appeals Procedure](#)

[Policy and Procedure for Late Submission on Coursework](#)

[Policy and Procedure on Extensions to Coursework Submissions](#)

### Support

#### Study Skills Service

Phone: 0141 548 4064/4062

Email: [studyskills@strath.ac.uk](mailto:studyskills@strath.ac.uk)

Level 6,

Livingstone Tower,

26 Richmond Street,

G1 1XH

For more information visit the [Study Skills](#) page.

#### International Student Support

Phone: 0141 548 4273

Email: [infoandadvice@strath.ac.uk](mailto:infoandadvice@strath.ac.uk)

For more information visit the [international students support team](#).

#### Disability and Wellbeing Service (including Student Counselling Service and Student Health)

Phone: 0141 548 3402

Email: [disability-wellbeing@strath.ac.uk](mailto:disability-wellbeing@strath.ac.uk)

Disability & Wellbeing Service

Room 4.36, Level 4,

Graham Hills Building

50 George Street

Glasgow

G1 1QE

#### Strathclyde Students' Union's The Advice Hub

Phone: 0141 567 5040

Email: [strathunion.advice@strath.ac.uk](mailto:strathunion.advice@strath.ac.uk)

For location see the [Advice Hub](#).

## 1.22. Available software

The University provides access to software for students. Types of software include SPSS, a stats software package you will need later on in your degree if you continue with psychology, and Endnote, which is a useful referencing tool, but you will find the full list of available software by clicking on the following link: <https://www.strath.ac.uk/professionalservices/it/use/softwareandhardware/>.

### 1.23. Progression to second year Psychology

Entry to second year Psychology is restricted on the basis of first year Psychology performance.

Students wishing to progress with Psychology in 2<sup>nd</sup> year must take both C8105 and C8106, and **must pass both of these classes**.

Students who wish to continue with the subject must register their provisional curriculum choices on Pegasus during semester 2: admission is not automatic.

Looking ahead, if you are planning to take Psychology into third or fourth year, there are specific grade requirements for progression here too. Further information can be found in the **BA Psychology Course Handbook**. You can find the Course Handbook on the **Psychology-Info** page on MyPlace.

There are also curriculum restrictions in later years for students who wish to have a BPS Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership honours degree in Psychology. Again, further information can be found in the **BA Psychology Course Handbook**.