The science of the mind *NEW* SKYN228

Presentation pattern October to June

Module description

To what extent can we understand mental wellbeing and treat mental health conditions such as depression and dementia by focusing on the brain and its functioning? This module presents and challenges the medical model of mental health with its reliance on drug treatment, contrasting it with ideas in the field of health psychology. Students will learn from case reports of those who have a mental health condition and those who care for them, as well as from relevant research studies. The course has an emphasis on understanding different approaches within psychology, as well as the nature of evidence for and against these approaches.

Person specification

The person specification for this course should be read in conjunction with the generic person specification for an associate lecturer at The Open University.

As well as meeting all the requirements set out in the generic person specification, you should have:

- a first degree in a subject relevant to experimental, cognitive, clinical or biological psychology (plus an interest in and knowledge of mental health; or an equivalent professional qualification
- demonstrable knowledge of more than one relevant discipline (biology, psychology, sociology, medical sciences, epidemiology)
- an understanding of the research methods used in investigating mental health
- an understanding of the biopsychosocial approach in contemporary mental health issues
- sensitivity to the needs of Level 2 (SCQF level 9) students from a wide range of academic backgrounds.

It would be an advantage to have:

- experience of using electronic forms of distance teaching and support
- experience of supporting learning in a multidisciplinary or interdisciplinary context in the broad field of biological psychology in relation to mental health.

Module related details - a full explanation can be found on the website

Credits awarded to the student for the successful completion of a module: 30

Number of assignments submitted by the student: 3
Method of submission for assignments: 1a
Level of ICT requirements: 2
Number of students likely to be in a standard group: 20
Salary band: 3
Estimated number of hours per teaching week: 3.5