SR3301
Sports Psychology
Course Handbook
2022-2023

School of Medicine, Medical Sciences & Nutrition
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Course Summary

This course aims to develop an understanding of the psychology of sport and exercise. As a relatively new discipline within psychology, current theories, research and practices will be presented as the framework within which this subject area continues to develop.

Course Co-ordinator: Dr Jenny Gregory (j.gregory@abdn.ac.uk); Telephone: 01224 437549 (though contact via email or Microsoft Teams is best);

Course Aims & Learning Outcomes

1. Students will understand how a sports psychologist interacts with their clients and applies their learning.
2. Students will be able to discuss the major theories and practices in Sports Psychology.
3. Students will be able to identify, understand and summarize relevant literature from the field and incorporate this into structured scientific writing, such as essays or abstracts.
4. Students will be able to analyse data and apply their understanding of sport psychology to its interpretation.

Course Teaching Staff

Course Co-ordinator(s):
Dr Jenny Gregory (JG) j.gregory@abdn.ac.uk

Other Staff:
Dr Mirjam Brady-Van den Bos (MB) mirjam.brady@abdn.ac.uk
Dr Clare Cooper (CC) clare.cooper@abdn.ac.uk
Professor Alison Jenkinson (AMJ) a.jenkinson@abdn.ac.uk
Dr Christine Roberts (CR) christine.roberts@abdn.ac.uk
Mr Dan Sutton (DS) daniel.sutton@abdn.ac.uk
Mr Don Vasey (DV)

Assessments & Examinations

Students are expected to attend all lectures, laboratory classes and other elements of the course, and to complete all class exercises by the stated deadlines. It is imperative that any reasonable excuses for the late handing in of work are made to the course organisers before the deadline date. Otherwise, the work will not be marked and the class certificate, which is required to sit the examination, may be withheld. The minimum performance acceptable for the granting of a class certificate is evidence of engagement with at least 75% of the lecture classes, and presentation of all set course work.

There is no exam for this course. All grades will be determined by continuous assessment. Resit assessment will be based on a resit examination constituting 70% of the resit grade; the remaining 30% will come from
previous continuous assessment. Your overall performance will be expressed as a grade awarded on the Common Grading Scale (CGS).

**Continuous assessment - 100%**

1) Two multiple choice / short answer tests on lecture content (35% each, 70% total)
2) Writing and literature search workshop tests (15%)
3) Abstract writing, data analysis and engagement (15%)

**Class Representatives**

We value students’ opinions in regard to enhancing the quality of teaching and its delivery; therefore, in conjunction with the Students’ Association we support the Class Representative system.

In the School of Medicine, Medical Sciences & Nutrition we operate a system of course representatives, who are elected from within each course. Any student registered within a course that wishes to represent a given group of students can stand for election as a class representative. You will be informed when the elections for class representative will take place.

**What will it involve?**

It will involve speaking to your fellow students about the course you represent. This can include any comments that they may have. You will attend a Staff-Student Liaison Committee and you should represent the views and concerns of the students within this meeting. As a representative, you will also be able to contribute to the agenda. You will then feedback to the students after this meeting with any actions that are being taken.

**Training**

Training for class representatives will be run by the Students Association. Training will take place within each half-session. For more information about the Class representative system visit www.ausa.org.uk or email the VP Education & Employability vped@abdn.ac.uk. Class representatives are also eligible to undertake the STAR (Students Taking Active Roles) Award with further information about this co-curricular award being available at: www.abdn.ac.uk/careers.

**Problems with Coursework**

If students have difficulties with any part of the course that they cannot cope with, alone they should notify the course coordinator immediately. If the problem relates to the subject matter general, advice would be to contact the member of staff who is teaching that part of the course. Students with registered disabilities should contact the medical sciences office, (medsci@abdn.ac.uk) (based in the Polwarth Building,
Foresterhill) to ensure that the appropriate facilities have been made available. Otherwise, you are strongly encouraged to contact any of the following as you see appropriate:

- Course student representatives
- Course co-ordinator
- Convenor of the Medical Sciences Staff/Student Liaison Committee (Professor Gordon McEwan)
- Personal Tutor
- Medical Sciences Disabilities Co-ordinator (Dr Derryck Shewan)

Most staff are based at Foresterhill and we strongly encourage the use of email or telephone the Medical Sciences Office. You may have a wasted journey travelling to Foresterhill only to find staff unavailable.

If a course has been completed and students are no longer on campus (i.e. work from second half session during the summer vacation), coursework will be kept until the end of Fresher’s Week, during the new academic year. After that point, unclaimed student work will be securely destroyed.

**Course Reading List**

**SR3024 Reading List**

Some literature and questionnaire tools will be provided on MyAberdeen. Additional reading is listed below.

**Books:**


* more recent editions of this book may also be available

**Journals:**

Journal of Sport and Exercise Psychology
Journal of Applied Sport Psychology
Journal of Sport Sciences
Psychology of Sport and Exercise

Useful Websites

Association for the Advancement of Applied Sport Psychology [www.aaasponline.org/index2.html](http://www.aaasponline.org/index2.html)

British Association of Sport and Exercise Sciences – [www.bases.org.uk](http://www.bases.org.uk)

British Psychological Society Division of Sport and Exercise - [http://www.bps.org.uk/spex/](http://www.bps.org.uk/spex/)
Lecture Synopsis

Sport Psychology:

Topics presented by each lecturer are listed below:

Mirjam Brady-van den Bos (MB)
- Lecture 1
  Stress and arousal
- Lecture 2
  Sport psychology and injury

Clare Cooper (CC)
- Lectures 1 and 2
  Which behaviours are important to health and wellbeing and why are they so hard to change?

Christine Roberts (CR)
- Imagery and sport
- Motivation and commitment in sport
- Goal setting

Don Vasey (DV)
- Introduction to Sport Psychology
- Approaches to Psychological Skills Training
- Professional practice
- Confidence and sport
- Stress and coping in sport

Alison Jenkinson and Jenny Gregory will present topics focussed on literature and writing skills. Dan Sutton will present a Q and A session on sports psychology from a coaches perspective.

Practical/Tutorial Work
- Understanding how to find, consolidate and critically appraising relevant literature and write about it are key skills that will be assessed during the writing workshops.
- You will investigate key methods for assessing and changing your own behaviour (Clare Cooper workshop) which will involve keeping a diary (3% for completion & engagement).
You will perform some tasks linked to different goals in order to examine what makes a good goal, perform some data analysis and submit an abstract based on the results.

University Policies

Students are asked to make themselves familiar with the information on key education policies, available here. These policies are relevant to all students and will be useful to you throughout your studies. They contain important information and address issues such as what to do if you are absent, how to raise an appeal or a complaint and how the University will calculate your degree outcome.

These University wide education policies should be read in conjunction with this programme and/or course handbook, in which School specific policies are detailed. These policies are effective immediately, for the 2022/23 academic year. Further information can be found on the University’s Infohub webpage or by visiting the Infohub.

The information included in the institutional area for 2022-23 includes the following:

- Assessment
- Feedback
- Academic Integrity
- Absence
- Student Monitoring/ Class Certificates
- Late Submission of Work
- Student Discipline
- The co-curriculum
- Student Learning Service (SLS)
- Professional and Academic Development
- Graduate Attributes
- Email Use
- MyAberdeen
- Appeals and Complaints

Where to Find the Following Information:

**C6/C7** - University of Aberdeen Homepage > Students > Academic Life > Monitoring and Progress > Student Monitoring (C6 & C7)

https://www.abdn.ac.uk/students/academic-life/student-monitoring.php#panel5179

**Absences** - To report absences you should use the absence reporting system tool on Student Hub. Once you have successfully completed and sent the absence form you will get an email that your absence request
has been accepted. The link below can be used to log onto the Student Hub Website and from there you can record any absences you may have.

Log In - Student Hub (https://www.abdn.ac.uk/studenthub/loginbdn.ac.uk)

Submitting an Appeal- University of Aberdeen Homepage > Students > Academic Life > Appeals and Complaints

https://www.abdn.ac.uk/students/academic-life/appeals-complaints-3380.php#panel2109

**Academic Language & Skills support**

For students whose first language is not English, the Language Centre offers support with Academic Writing and Communication Skills.

**Academic Writing**

- Responding to a writing task: Focusing on the question
- Organising your writing: within & between paragraphs
- Using sources to support your writing (including writing in your own words, and citing & referencing conventions)
- Using academic language
- Critical Thinking
- Proofreading & Editing

**Academic Communication Skills**

- Developing skills for effective communication in an academic context
- Promoting critical thinking and evaluation
- Giving opportunities to develop confidence in communicating in English
- Developing interactive competence: contributing and responding to seminar discussions
- Useful vocabulary and expressions for taking part in discussions

More information and how to book a place can be found [here](#)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Grade Point</th>
<th>% Mark</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Honours Class</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| A1    | 22          | 90-100 | Excellent| First         | • Outstanding ability and critical thought  
|       |             |        |          |               | • Evidence of extensive reading  
|       |             |        |          |               | • Superior understanding  
|       |             |        |          |               | • The best performance that can be expected from a student at this level |
| A2    | 21          | 85-89  |          |               | |
| A3    | 20          | 80-84  |          |               | |
| A4    | 19          | 75-79  |          |               | |
| A5    | 18          | 70-74  |          |               | |
| B1    | 17          | 67-69  | Very Good| Upper Second  | • Able to argue logically and organise answers well  
|       |             |        |          |               | • Shows a thorough grasp of concepts  
|       |             |        |          |               | • Good use of examples to illustrate points and justify arguments  
|       |             |        |          |               | • Evidence of reading and wide appreciation of subject |
| B2    | 16          | 64-66  |          |               | |
| B3    | 15          | 60-63  |          |               | |
| C1    | 14          | 57-59  | Good     | Lower Second  | • Repetition of lecture notes without evidence of further appreciation of subject  
|       |             |        |          |               | • Lacking illustrative examples and originality  
|       |             |        |          |               | • Basic level of understanding |
| C2    | 13          | 54-56  |          |               | |
| C3    | 12          | 50-53  |          |               | |
| D1    | 11          | 47-49  | Pass     | Third         | • Limited ability to argue logically and organise answers  
|       |             |        |          |               | • Failure to develop or illustrate points  
|       |             |        |          |               | • The minimum level of performance required for a student to be awarded a pass |
| D2    | 10          | 44-46  |          |               | |
| D3    | 9           | 40-43  |          |               | |
| E1    | 8           | 37-39  | Fail     | Fail          | • Weak presentation  
|       |             |        |          |               | • Tendency to irrelevance  
|       |             |        |          |               | • Some attempt at an answer but seriously lacking in content and/or ability to organise thoughts |
| E2    | 7           | 34-36  |          |               | |
| E3    | 6           | 30-33  |          |               | |
| F1    | 5           | 26-29  | Clear Fail| Not used for Honours | • Contains major errors or misconceptions  
<p>|       |             |        |          |               | • Poor presentation |
| F2    | 4           | 21-25  |          |               | |
| F3    | 3           | 16-20  |          |               | |
| G1    | 2           | 11-15  | Clear Fail/Abysmal |               | • Token or no submission |
| G2    | 1           | 1-10   |          |               | |
| G3    | 0           | 0      |          |               | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Staff</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week 13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 24 Oct</td>
<td>15:00-16:00</td>
<td>Polwarth 1:143/144</td>
<td>Course Introduction, writing workshop 1 intro</td>
<td>Lecture / Workshop</td>
<td>JSG</td>
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<td>Behaviour diary task released</td>
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<td>Thu 27 Oct</td>
<td>12:00-13:00</td>
<td>Meston MT6</td>
<td>Private self-study / group work</td>
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<td>JSG</td>
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<td>Fri 28 Oct</td>
<td>10:00-12:00</td>
<td>Auris Lecture Theatre</td>
<td>Introduction to Sports Psychology</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>JSG &amp; DV</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Applying psychology to sport (professional practice)</td>
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<td>Writing workshop 1 submission</td>
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<td>Week 14</td>
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<td>Mon 31 Oct</td>
<td>14:00-16:00</td>
<td>Science Teaching Hub 0.001</td>
<td>Intro to practical / Quantitative (vs. qualitative) analysis/ review of workshop 1</td>
<td>Lecture / Workshop</td>
<td>JSG</td>
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<td>Stress and injury lecture recordings released</td>
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<td>HMM</td>
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<td>Qualitative analysis recording released</td>
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<td>Q &amp; A submission opened</td>
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<td>Thu 3 Nov</td>
<td>12:00-13:00</td>
<td>Meston MT6</td>
<td>Stress and injury</td>
<td>Tutorial</td>
<td>MB</td>
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<td>Fri 4 Nov</td>
<td>10:00-12:00</td>
<td>Auris Lecture Theatre</td>
<td>Confidence and stress</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>DV and DS</td>
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<td>Week 15</td>
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<td>Mon 7 Nov</td>
<td>14:00-16:00</td>
<td>Fraser Noble FN2</td>
<td>Imagery in Sport</td>
<td>Lecture / Workshop</td>
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<td>Tue 8 Nov</td>
<td>15:00-17:00</td>
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<td>Weds 9 Nov</td>
<td>Online</td>
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<td>MCQ and short answer assessment 1</td>
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<td>Time</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Event</td>
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<td>Thu 10 Nov</td>
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<td>Coaching Q &amp; A</td>
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<td>DS and DV</td>
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<td>Polwarth 1:143/144</td>
<td>Writing Workshop 2</td>
<td>Workshop</td>
<td>AJ</td>
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<td>Mon 14 Nov</td>
<td>14:00-16:00</td>
<td>Fraser Noble FN2</td>
<td>Motivation and goal setting **NB. This session clashes with PY3002 lectures in 2022. Students should attend this course and use the recordings for PY instead</td>
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<td>Data submission &amp; stats analysis</td>
<td>Lecture / Workshop</td>
<td>JG</td>
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<td>Auris Lecture Theatre</td>
<td>Writing workshop 3</td>
<td>Lecture / Workshop</td>
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<td>Abstract with data analysis submission due</td>
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<td>JG</td>
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<td>Fri 25 Nov</td>
<td>10:00-12:00</td>
<td>Polwarth 1:143/144</td>
<td>Behaviour diary workshop</td>
<td>Lecture / Workshop</td>
<td>CC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Staff**

Dr Mirjam Brady-Van de Bos (MB)
Dr Clare Cooper (CC)
Dr Jenny Gregory (JG)
Prof Alison Jenkinson (AMJ)
Dr Heather May Morgan (HMM)
Dr Christine Roberts (CR)
Mr Dan Sutton (DS)
Mr Don Vasey (DV)
Campus Maps - Foresterhill