Psychology
Research Methods in Psychology

GRADED

ACADEMIC SUBJECT CONTENT

Credit Value of Unit 3

Level of Unit 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Assessment Criteria</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The student should be able to</td>
<td>The student can</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Understand methods used by psychologists to research behaviour</td>
<td>1.1 Describe the key features of a range of research methods used in psychology</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1.2 Evaluate a range of research methods used in psychology</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Understand ethical issues in research in psychology</td>
<td>2.1 Analyse the ethical guidelines for psychological research</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Understand the reliability and validity of research methods</td>
<td>3.1 Explain what reliability and validity mean in psychological research</td>
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<td>3.2 Apply reliability and validity to a piece of psychological research</td>
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Assessment Methodology

Short-answer questions, essay-type questions, presentation, portfolio or essay

Grading of this Unit

The following grade descriptors will be applied to the assessment of this unit:

1 Understanding the Subject
2 Application of Knowledge
3 Communication and Presentation
4 Quality

Please refer to the QAA Grade Descriptors for detail of the components of each descriptor
Indicative Content

Please note that the indicative content supplied below is intended as a suggested guide only. It is not meant to be a prescriptive, exhaustive or fully delivered content list.

1 Understand methods used by psychologists to research behaviour
   - Different types of experiments, observations, correlation, case study, content analysis, self-report methods – questionnaires and interviews, methods of data analysis including descriptive and inferential statistics, parametric and non-parametric tests

2 Understand ethical issues in research in psychology
   - Ethical guidelines from BPS

3 Understand the reliability and validity of research methods
   - Reliability, validity, application of these to research scenarios – students could use research they have studied in other psychology units and apply the understanding of reliability and validity developed in this unit to the research

This unit can be used as a stand-alone unit and can also be used as preparation for the Psychological Investigations unit