

PSYCHOLOGY STUDIES COURSE MODULES

Social issues and human behaviour fascinate you, and you are constantly trying to figure out what makes people tick and how you can better support the vulnerable and disadvantaged in society. If you identify with this, the Diploma in Psychology Studies [PCS] could be just right for you!

This rigorous diploma gives you the right skills you need to apply psychology in various fields from education, health care and social services to human resource and development. With the highly practical and relevant professional skills that PCS provides, you will be well prepared for a career in this field.

In the first year, you will obtain a foundation in psychology and sociology, and be introduced to social services in Singapore.

In the second year, you can look forward to being involved in Service-Learning projects. In the final year, you will pick up skills to understand and work with various communities. Throughout the course, you will be taught professional skills in areas such as conducting research, counselling, managing conflicts and applying behaviour modification, as well as group facilitation techniques in clinical, counselling and social work settings. To further hone your skills, you will work on research projects with industry partners right from the first year.

In the final year, you will get the chance to intern at and complete a final-year project with key organisations. Our industry partners include government agencies [National Council of Social Services and Singapore Prison Service], hospitals [Tan Tock Seng Hospital and Institute of Mental Health], and voluntary welfare organisations or VWOs [Asian Women's Welfare Association and family service centres].

LEVEL 1.1

Introduction to Psychology

This module introduces psychology as a science of behaviour and mental processes. Students are given a broad overview of the different fields in psychology and will learn to actively apply psychological insights to their lives.

Introduction to Sociology

This module stresses the influence of societal forces on behaviours and lives of individuals. The aim is to provide students with an understanding of the social context of behaviours.

IT Applications for Behavioural Sciences

This module develops students' skills and abilities in using computer applications for organising, analysing and presenting research data.

Academic Writing & Presentation

This module focuses on critical thinking, academic writing as well as presentation and listening skills. The module aims to equip students with the skills necessary for academic writing and presentation. Finding and evaluating academic sources, reading, annotation, essay planning and writing and presentation skills will be developed in this module.

Career & Professional Preparation I

This module helps to give students a foundational introduction to their three-year diploma course curriculum and how it prepares them for industry. It will help them to embark on their three-year course with the end in mind, through guided reflection of their personal characteristics, and producing an overall game plan for their future education and career goals. The module aims to deepen students' commitment to the sector that the course prepares them for.

Sports & Wellness[^]

This module aims to help students improve their physical fitness by participating in a physical activity of their choice. This will also give students opportunities to develop confidence, teamwork and leadership.

LEVEL 1.2

Lifespan Psychology

This module studies the physical, cognitive, emotional and social aspects of human development from infancy through childhood, adolescence, adulthood and old age. The aim is to provide students with knowledge of progressive psychological changes that occur in human beings as they age, hence enabling students to understand and respond to issues affecting human development.

Project and Volunteer Management

This module equips students with the skills required for effective project management in a social service setting: conducting needs assessment, developing, implementing and evaluating a programme. Through field-based learning, students will also gain an understanding of effective volunteer management framework and practices in the social service sector.

Social Psychology

This module explores the nature and causes of behaviour of individuals in relation to other people. The aim is to provide an understanding of the mechanisms and processes by which social behaviours are shaped by various social, cognitive, environmental, cultural and biological factors.

Statistics & Research Methods 1

This module introduces students to basic statistics and methods used in most social and psychological research. Students will learn descriptive and inferential statistics, probability theory, the formulation of research problems and the construction of empirically testable hypotheses, sampling, data collection techniques and research writing skills.

Visual Communication

This module introduces students to the use of visuals as a tool to inform, educate and persuade. They will learn how to think conceptually, understand how information is received by the audience and develop impactful visuals. Through the use of digital photography and imaging software, students will attain skills and knowledge for effective visual communications.

Business Communication

This module prepares students to communicate effectively in business settings. Students will learn both oral and written communication skills that demonstrate concepts of business communication principles, interpersonal skills and intercultural skills. Topics such as proposal and report writing, elevator pitch and professional presentation will be covered.

COURSE CURRICULUM

YEAR 1

Level 1.1 (20 hours per week)

Introduction to Psychology

4

Introduction to Sociology	4
IT Applications for Behavioural Sciences	4
Academic Writing & Presentation	4
Career & Professional Preparation I	2
Sports & Wellness ^	2
Level 1.2 (22 hours per week)	
Project and Volunteer Management	4
Managing Disabilities	4
Lifespan Psychology	4
Social Psychology	4
Statistics & Research Methods 1	2
Business Communication	4

Notes:

^ For more details on Interdisciplinary Studies (IS) electives, please log on to www.np.edu.sg/is/

IS Modules

The School of Interdisciplinary Studies (IS) delivers a broad-based curriculum, which nurtures a new generation of professionals with multidisciplinary skills and an innovative and entrepreneurial spirit to meet the challenges of a knowledge economy. IS offers both prescribed modules and electives to challenge boundaries. Prescribed modules develop students' competencies in core areas such as Communication, Innovation and Enterprise, Culture and Communication, and Personal Mastery and Development, while elective modules provide insights into Arts and Humanities, Business, Design, and Science and Technology.