

Course title	Foundations of Cyberpsychology				
Course code	PSY3507				
Course type	Elective				
Level	Bachelors				
Year / Semester	Year 3 / 5 th Semester				
Teacher's name	Dr Florentia Hadjiefthyvoulou/ Professor Daria Kuss/ Dr Halley Pontes				
ECTS	6	Lectures / week	3hrs	Laboratories / week	-
Course purpose and objectives	<p>This course provides a comprehensive introduction to the rapidly evolving field of cyberpsychology, examining how digital technologies influence human cognition, communication, and behaviour. It explores the psychological dimensions of our interactions with technology across diverse contexts, from social media and online education to cybercrime and virtual workspaces. The course also highlights emerging applications of cyberpsychology in areas such as health, sport, and education, enabling a nuanced understanding of both the opportunities and challenges posed by the digital age.</p>				
Learning outcomes	<p>On successful completion of the course and with further independent study, students will be able to:</p> <p>Knowledge</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Demonstrate understanding of foundational concepts, theories, and research methods in cyberpsychology 2. Critically evaluate how psychological processes are influenced by digital technologies across diverse populations and contexts. <p>Competencies</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Critically evaluate the impact of digital technologies on behaviour using relevant psychological theories. <p>Transferable Skills</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Communicate complex psychological ideas clearly in relation to digital technology 5. Demonstrate critical thinking, ethical awareness, and digital literacy when researching and interpreting behaviour in online environments. 				

Prerequisites		Required	None
Course content	<p>Indicative Content</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Cyberpsychology (Definition, scope, and evolution of Cyberpsychology; interdisciplinary links with social, cognitive, and media psychology; current research trends) • Research methods used in cyberspace; Ethical issues associated with internet mediated research; • Computer mediated communication and online media (how various communication theories can be used to understand online communications; acronyms, paralanguage, emoji) • Cybercognition (Cognitive Factors in Cyberspace i.e., Digital Divide, Multitasking; Attention and distraction online) • The Dark Side of the Internet (Radicalisation, misinformation, online conspiracy theories) • Privacy and Trust Online • Cybercrime and online deception • Digital technology across the lifespan (risks and opportunities of internet interaction in young people and older adults) • The internet as an educational space (the interaction of learning and technology; formal and informal learning online; developments in open and online learning) • Online workspace (emerging challenges technology poses to organisations; virtual working environments; challenges and opportunities) 		
Teaching methodology	<p>Teaching will consist of lectures, in-class discussions, case studies and quizzes designed to assess understanding and provide opportunities for formative feedback. Teaching will be supported by online materials and additional readings</p>		
Bibliography	<p>Core Text:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kirwan, G., Connolly, I., Barton, H., & Palmer, M. (Eds.). (2024). <i>An Introduction to Cyberpsychology</i> (2nd ed.). Routledge. https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003092513 • Kaye, L. (2021). <i>Issues and debates in cyberpsychology</i>. McGraw-Hill Education (UK). <p>Recommended:</p> <p>Attrill-Smith, A., Fullwood, C., Keep, M., & Kuss, D. J. (Eds.). (2019). <i>The Oxford handbook of cyberpsychology</i>. Oxford University Press.</p>		

	Further reading:	
	A reading list will accompany each lecture, highlighting relevant articles accessible through the library, as well as open-access and e-learning resources.	
Assessment	Attendance and participation	10%
	Written Assignments (Blogposts)	45%
	Final Exam	45%
Language	English	