

<b>Course title</b>	<b>Emotion and decision making</b>			
<b>Course code</b>	<b>PSY3601</b>			
<b>Course type</b>	Elective			
<b>Level</b>	Bachelors			
<b>Year / Semester</b>	Year 4 / 7 <sup>th</sup> Semester			
<b>Teacher's name</b>	Dr Eugenia Christoforou			
<b>ECTS</b>	6	<b>Lectures / week</b>	3hrs	<b>Laboratories / week</b> -
<b>Course purpose and objectives</b>	<p>This course explores the interplay between emotion and cognition in human decision-making. Drawing from research in cognitive psychology, neuroscience, and behavioural economics, it examines how emotions influence judgment, risk perception, moral reasoning, and social interactions. Students will learn how affective processes can both enhance and bias decision outcomes, and how emotion regulation and awareness shape adaptive choices. Real-world applications will be explored in contexts such as health, finance, social media, and moral dilemmas.</p>			
<b>Learning outcomes</b>	<p>On successful completion of the course and with further independent study, students will be able to:</p> <p><b>Knowledge and Understanding</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Demonstrate advanced understanding of major theories of emotion and their relevance to decision-making.</li> <li>2. Describe cognitive and neural mechanisms underlying emotional influence on judgement and choice.</li> </ol> <p><b>Competencies</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Critically evaluate empirical research on emotion, bias, and decision-making.</li> <li>4. Apply theoretical frameworks to analyse emotional influences in real-life decision contexts.</li> </ol> <p><b>Transferable Skills</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Reflect on the role of emotion regulation, empathy, and moral reasoning in personal and professional decision-making.</li> <li>6. Communicate complex ideas on emotion and cognition clearly and persuasively, using evidence-based reasoning.</li> </ol>			

<b>Prerequisites</b>	PSY1205 foundations of cognitive and developmental psychology; PSY2405 Advanced cognitive psychology	<b>Required</b>	none
<b>Course content</b>	<p><b>Indicative Content</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction to Emotion and Decision-Making (Defining emotion and decision-making; overview of affective and cognitive systems; dual-process models.)</li> <li>• Theories of Emotion (appraisal theory, and contemporary affective neuroscience models.)</li> <li>• Cognitive and Neural Mechanisms (Brain systems involved in emotion and decision-making)</li> <li>• Emotion and Reasoning (Interaction between affect and cognition)</li> <li>• Risk and Reward (Emotional influences on risk-taking, delay discounting, and reward processing)</li> <li>• Emotion and Moral Judgement (Role of empathy, disgust, and moral emotions in ethical reasoning and prosocial behaviour)</li> <li>• Affective Biases in Decision-Making (Heuristics and biases; role of mood and affective priming.)</li> <li>• Emotion Regulation and Awareness (Strategies for emotional regulation; emotional intelligence and decision outcomes)</li> <li>• Social and Cultural Perspectives (Emotion norms, cultural variation in decision-making, collective emotions and group decisions)</li> <li>• Applied Contexts (Emotion and decision-making in health, finance, politics, social media, and AI-human interaction)</li> </ul>		
<b>Teaching methodology</b>	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		
<b>Bibliography</b>	<p><b>Core Text:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Radvansky, G. A., Ashcraft, M. H., Ypsilanti, A., &amp; Lazuras, L. (2025). <i>Cognitive psychology</i> (1st ed.). Pearson</li> </ul>		

	<p><b>Recommended:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Martin, G. N., &amp; Carlson, N. R. (2025). <i>Psychology</i> (7th ed.). Pearson.</li> </ul> <p><b>Further reading:</b></p> <p>A reading list will accompany each lecture, highlighting relevant articles accessible through the library, as well as open-access and e-learning resources.</p>								
<p><b>Assessment</b></p>	<table> <tr> <td>Attendance and participation</td> <td>10%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Written assignment</td> <td>30%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Presentation</td> <td>15%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Exam</td> <td>45%</td> </tr> </table>	Attendance and participation	10%	Written assignment	30%	Presentation	15%	Exam	45%
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<p><b>Language</b></p>	<p>English</p>								