

2020/1 - PSY-6026A BEING HUMAN: Evolutionary and Comparative Approaches in Psychology

Autumn Semester, Level 6 module
(Maximum 100 Students)

UCU: 20

Organiser: Dr Thomas Sambrook

(UG) MODULE - 40% PASS ON AGGREGATE

Module Type: Coursework

Timetable Slot: B1/-D1

THIS MODULE IS RESERVED FOR PSYCHOLOGY STUDENTS. By considering the development of the human mind and behaviour from an evolutionary perspective and by comparing humans with other animals this module will explore how the biological underpinnings of 'human nature' relate to thinking, motivation and social relationships. Everyday aspects of being human such as attraction, mate choice, parenting, emotion, cooperation and conflict will be used to investigate how behaviours have developed in response to the problems of survival. Around 50% of the module will be directly concerned with animal behaviour. The comparison of human and animal cognition and behaviours will raise questions about the uniqueness of human characteristics, the connections between psychological functioning across species and the relationship between people and animals. Your understanding of evolutionary and comparative psychology developed through the module will be shown to be related to many 'real-world' concerns ranging from sex and gender, through emotion and motivation to mental health issues.