



Module Descriptor

Title	Problem Behaviours		
Session	2025/26	Status	Published
Code	NURS11140	SCQF Level	11
Credit Points	30	ECTS (European Credit Transfer Scheme)	15
School	Health and Life Sciences		
Module Co-ordinator	James Taylor		
Summary of Module			
<p>The module will introduce students to a variety of assessment and risk management strategies to deal with problem behaviours in sexual offenders, violent offenders and personality disordered offenders. There is a further expectation that on completion of this module students will have developed the skills to identify key features of offenders and understand the complexity associated with the legal and ethical implications in practice.</p> <p>The module covers the development of ‘personality’, definitions and theories of personality disorder (including myths surrounding personality disorder) – developing a shared understanding and universal definition. It also looks at the prevalence of people with personality disorder and diagnosis and assessment methods are presented including people with psychopathic personality disorder. Interventions and risk assessment are introduced, including a focus on legal and ethical issues. The management of personality disorder in the community is explored, incorporating organisational and supervision requirements for those working with complex health needs.</p> <p>An introduction to sexual offending is offered - including prevalence, aetiology, typologies and impact. Mental disorder and sexual offending is explored. Special groups are considered, such as females, young people, internet and sexual homicide. Violent and aggressive behaviours are also covered in this module, although not as extensively as sexual behaviours.</p> <p>The learning and teaching strategies on this module contribute to the development of UWS graduate attributes as outlined in “I am UWS” see link: Graduate Attributes (uws.ac.uk)</p> <p>The aim of this module is to enable students to acquire a comprehensive knowledge of the theory and empirical evidence linked with sexual or violent offending and with personality disordered offenders.</p> <p>Meets SDG 3,4,10,11 and 16</p>			

Module Delivery Method	On-Campus¹ <input type="checkbox"/>	Hybrid² <input type="checkbox"/>	Online³ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Work -Based Learning⁴ <input type="checkbox"/>		
Campuses for Module Delivery	<input type="checkbox"/> Ayr <input type="checkbox"/> Dumfries		<input type="checkbox"/> Lanarkshire <input type="checkbox"/> London <input type="checkbox"/> Paisley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Online / Distance Learning <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify)		
Terms for Module Delivery	Term 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Term 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	Term 3	<input type="checkbox"/>
Long-thin Delivery over more than one Term	Term 1 – Term 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	Term 2 – Term 3	<input type="checkbox"/>	Term 3 – Term 1	<input type="checkbox"/>

Learning Outcomes	
L1	Critically analyse literature relating to people with personality disorder and formulate specific hypotheses.
L2	Critically appraise risk assessment and risk management models and appreciate different treatment approaches.
L3	Participate and critically reflect upon a multi-disciplinary meeting focused on clients with PD / Violent and aggressive behaviour or Sex offending.
L4	Understand the issues of relevance to the assessment and management of special groups e.g. internet offenders, adolescents, females.
L5	Be able to demonstrate the application of academic knowledge to their own practice.

Employability Skills and Personal Development Planning (PDP) Skills	
SCQF Headings	During completion of this module, there will be an opportunity to achieve core skills in:
Knowledge and Understanding (K and U)	SCQF 11 A critical understanding of the theories and principles of personality disorder, sexual and violent behaviours in forensic mental health services. Extensive and critical knowledge of some specialized areas of treatment for forensic patients.
Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding	SCQF 11 Apply critical knowledge to clinical situations, for example at multi-disciplinary team reviews.

¹ Where contact hours are synchronous/ live and take place fully on campus. Campus-based learning is focused on providing an interactive learning experience supported by a range of digitally-enabled asynchronous learning opportunities including learning materials, resources, and opportunities provided via the virtual learning environment. On-campus contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

² The module includes a combination of synchronous/ live on-campus and online learning events. These will be supported by a range of digitally-enabled asynchronous learning opportunities including learning materials, resources, and opportunities provided via the virtual learning environment. On-campus and online contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

³ Where all learning is solely delivered by web-based or internet-based technologies and the participants can engage in all learning activities through these means. All required contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

⁴ Learning activities where the main location for the learning experience is in the workplace. All required contact hours, whether online or on campus, will be clearly articulated to students

	Plan and execute the analysis and presentation of the findings of a case study.
Generic Cognitive skills	SCQF 11 Identify and define abstract problems and issues and develop creative responses when applying new academic knowledge to own area of practice Critically analyse the links between diagnoses and treatment and management approaches.
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	SCQF 11 Communicate effectively and appropriately in speech and writing. Interpret complex secondary materials. Make effective use of information retrieval systems and use information technology applications.
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	SCQF 11 Work effectively, together with others in groups or teams, taking a leadership role where appropriate. Reflect on leadership style, and ability to contribute to the group processes.

Prerequisites	Module Code	Module Title
	Other	
Co-requisites	Module Code	Module Title

Learning and Teaching
<p>In line with current learning and teaching principles, a 20-credit module includes 200 learning hours, normally including a minimum of 36 contact hours and maximum of 48 contact hours.</p> <p>This is a 30 credit level 11 module. The current position is a that 10 hours per credits is the accepted working norm - thus a 30-credit module is 300hours of notional student study effort. This module is delivered by fully distance learning utilising AULA as the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). Distance learning students: In this mode of delivery, students are learning fully online and are supported by the VLE. On-line students will receive core module resources; individual and group tutorial support and directed learning via the VLE system. This will be aided by asynchronous online discussion using AULA; virtual learning activities; tutorials (on-line or face to face via Microsoft TEAMS); directed wider reading including access to electronic library and e-books. All students will be expected to take responsibility for their own learning and work through the on-line module materials independently via AULA. This will assist in enhancing skills of communication, presentation, information abstraction and problem-solving, and critical analysis and reflection. Module content reflects societal diversity and a rights-based approach to practice. To promote accessibility, anticipatory adjustments have been made to teaching and learning strategies e.g. availability of electronic copies of lecture materials. Further reasonable adjustments can be made for students who have been assessed as requiring specific adjustments e.g., specialised equipment or software.</p>

Learning Activities	Student Learning Hours
During completion of this module, the learning activities undertaken to achieve the module learning outcomes are stated below:	(Note: Learning hours include both contact hours and hours spent on other learning activities)
Asynchronous Class Activity	18
Lecture / Core Content Delivery	36
Independent Study	246
n/a	
n/a	
n/a	
TOTAL	300

Indicative Resources
<p>The following materials form essential underpinning for the module content and ultimately for the learning outcomes:</p> <p>Bandura A., (1999): Social cognitive theory of personality. In Pervin L, John O (eds), Handbook of personality: Theory and research, 2nd ed. N.Y: Guilford Press, pp 154-196.</p> <p>Beech A, Craig L, Browne, B., (2009) Assessment and Treatment of Sex Offenders. A hand book. Wiley Blackwell.</p> <p>Coid J. (2003) The co-morbidity of personality disorder and lifetime clinical syndromes in dangerous offenders. Journal of Forensic Psychiatry and Psychology 14:341-366</p> <p>Hare R.D., & Neumann C. S., (2008) Psychopathy as a Clinical and Empirical Construct Annual Review of Clinical Psychology 2008. 4:217–462.</p> <p>Howells K., & Da, A. (2007). Readiness for treatment in high risk offenders with personality disorders: Psychology, Crime and Law, 13, 47-56. Routledge, part of the Taylor & Francis Group.</p> <p>Laws D.R., O'Donohue W.T. (2008) Sexual Deviance 2nd edition. The Guildford Press, New York.</p> <p>Ogloff J. R. (2006) Psychopathy/antisocial personality disorder conundrum. Australian and New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry, 40(6-7):519-28.</p> <p>Olson M., & Hergenhahn B. R. (2010). An Introduction to Theories of Personality (8th ed.). Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall.</p> <p>Saleh F./M., Grudzinskas A.J., Bradford J.M., Brodsky DJ (2009) Sex Offenders: Identification, Risk Assessment, Treatment, and Legal Issues. Oxford University Press.</p> <p>(N.B. Although reading lists should include current publications, students are advised (particularly for material marked with an asterisk*) to wait until the start of session for confirmation of the most up-to-date material)</p>

Attendance and Engagement Requirements
In line with the Student Attendance and Engagement Procedure , Students are academically engaged if they are regularly attending and participating in timetabled on-campus and online teaching sessions, asynchronous online learning activities, course-related learning resources, and complete assessments and submit these on time.

For the purposes of this module, academic engagement equates to the following:

The university is committed to providing a supportive learning environment that actively facilitates student success. In this module, there is a high degree of student-led flexibility. You are academically engaged if you are regularly engaged with scheduled live sessions on-campus and online, including engaging with online learning activities in your own time, course-related learning resources, and with timely completion and submission of assessments.

Whilst we understand that there may be times when conflicting priorities make participation challenging, for you to gain the most from this module it is recommended that you participate in all scheduled live classes and complete your self-directed learning activities in a timely manner.

It may be difficult to pass the assessment associated with this module if you are not regularly engaging with the module work and live classes. We may reach out to check how things are going and offer support if we observe that you have not been attending sessions or completing online activities.

Equality and Diversity

The University's Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Procedure can be accessed at the following link: [UWS Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Code](#).

In line with current legislation (Equality Act, 2010) and the UWS Equality, Diversity, and Human Rights Code, our modules are accessible and inclusive, with reasonable adjustment for different needs where appropriate. Module materials comply with University guidance on inclusive learning and teaching, and specialist assistive equipment, support provision and adjustment to assessment practice will be made in accordance with UWS policy and regulations. Where modules require practical and/or laboratory based learning or assessment required to meet accrediting body requirements the University will make reasonable adjustment such as adjustable height benches or assistance of a 'buddy' or helper.

(N.B. Every effort will be made by the University to accommodate any equality and diversity issues brought to the attention of the School)

Supplemental Information

Divisional Programme Board	Mental Health Nursing Midwifery Health
Overall Assessment Results	<input type="checkbox"/> Pass / Fail <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Graded
Module Eligible for Compensation	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No If this module is eligible for compensation, there may be cases where compensation is not permitted due to programme accreditation requirements. Please check the associated programme specification for details.
School Assessment Board	MHMH L9-11
Moderator	Yvonne Murray
External Examiner	N Hallett
Accreditation Details	
Module Appears in CPD catalogue	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Changes / Version Number	1.07

Assessment (also refer to Assessment Outcomes Grids below)							
Assessment 1							
Summative assessment category 1: Case study - 4,000 words (60%).							
Assessment 2							
Summative assessment category 2: Annotated bibliographies x12 (40%).							
Assessment 3							
(N.B. (i) Assessment Outcomes Grids for the module (one for each component) can be found below which clearly demonstrate how the learning outcomes of the module will be assessed. (ii) An indicative schedule listing approximate times within the academic calendar when assessment is likely to feature will be provided within the Student Module Handbook.)							

Component 1							
Assessment Type	LO1	LO2	LO3	LO4	LO5	Weighting of Assessment Element (%)	Timetabled Contact Hours
Case study	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	60	0

Component 2							
Assessment Type	LO1	LO2	LO3	LO4	LO5	Weighting of Assessment Element (%)	Timetabled Contact Hours
Review/ Article/ Critique/ Paper	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	40	0

Component 3							
Assessment Type	LO1	LO2	LO3	LO4	LO5	Weighting of Assessment Element (%)	Timetabled Contact Hours
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Combined total for all components						100%	0 hours

Change Control

What	When	Who