Psychology in Action: Designing a blended course

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PPLS
Goals:

- 10 credit core course
- Year long
- Fitting in a packed Year 3 curriculum
Focus on graduate attributes

- Creative problem solvers and researchers
- Critical and reflective thinkers
- Effective and influential contributors
- Skilled communicators
- Blended learning model
- Face to face workshops and lectures
- Online learning resources
  - Videos
  - Text
  - Interactive content
- Online forums
Example

In this study we want to look at how physical discomfort influences decision making. To do so, we will use a wasp sting on the arm to induce pain.

Correct! What do you think is the issue here?

- Wasp stings are insufficiently painful to have the desired effect
- Live wasps are difficult to use accurately
- Some participants may be allergic to insect stings
Research in academia

Replication crisis

Science engagement

Psychology of beliefs and communication

Critical and reflective thinkers

Skilled communicators
Innovative assessments

- Blog post about the replication crisis
- Evaluation of science communication example
- Interview-based article about a Psychology researcher in PPLS
Challenges

- On-campus students are a different population to distance learners
- Forums were under-utilised for non-assessed activities
- Mixed student evaluations
- Many students focused on content rather than skills
- Other students requested to be enrolled on the course to audit the materials

- Staff interview assessment helped students forge more links with researchers in the department

“I think the content is important and it is very useful to now know about the research process and science communication”
Evaluation and reflection

- More explicit Graduate Attributes linkage
- Highlighting meta-learning skills
- More self-paced interactive content
LEARNING