
Humanities, Social Sciences and Education

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Social Sciences
and Education



Imagination **Masterclass**

.....

Imagination masterclass.
Take a walk around school or the university campus collecting natural objects. Then turn these items into some wonderful creations, characters and develop stories and poems with your new props. Visual literacy and arts-based learning united in creating exciting hands-on experiences.

Venue:

Staffordshire University
Stoke campus or in your school or college.

Number of students:

10 - 30 students

Year groups:

Year 3 - 7

Additional Information:

For those considering a career in the education sector

Clay for Learning

.....

A grand clay feast will be created to entice the school children to use the material in a new and playful way, inviting sensory exploration and promoting imaginative play based enquiries. The workshop will encourage participants to sculpt story-telling sculptures, create ceramic plates and innovate using hands on learning. By exploring food and clay ingredients the participants will create individual ceramic interpretations which will be inspired by the innovations of the ceramics industry alongside the history and heritage of Stoke-on-Trent.

Venue:

Staffordshire University
Stoke campus or in your
school or college.

Number of students:

10 - 30 students

Additional Information:

For those considering a career in
the education sector.

Why Study Psychology?

.....

What is psychology, and what can be gained from studying it at university? This session provides a brief introduction to psychology, and a discussion on the benefits of studying for a psychology degree.

Venue:

School of Psychology,
Staffordshire University, Stoke
campus or at your venue.

Number of students:

6-20 students

Year groups:

Year 9 - 13

Additional Information:

30 mins

What Do **Psychologists** Do?

.....

What careers do psychology graduates go into? This session will discuss the wide range of career paths that a psychology degree can lead into, discussing the transferrable skills that a psychology student will gain and how these can lead into a number of different careers. The students will also see some examples of some of our psychology graduates and the careers that they have gone into.

Venue:

School of Psychology,
Staffordshire University, Stoke
campus or at your venue.

Number of students:

6-20 students

Year groups:

Year 9 - 13

Additional Information:

30 mins

Research and Ethics in Psychology

.....

This session will look at ethical issues in psychological research, focusing on some well-known social psychology experiments. After an introduction to psychological research methods and ethical guidelines, students will look at how ethical issues can arise in research. After looking into the ethical issues in studies such as Milgram's obedience study and Zimbardo's prison experiment, the students will have a go at designing research studies in a more ethical manner.

Venue:

School of Psychology,
Staffordshire University, Stoke
campus or at your venue.

Number of students:

6-20 students

Year groups:

Year 12 - 13

Additional Information:

30 mins

Measuring **Brain Activity**

.....

EEG is a method we use to record live brain activity. Using this method we can see how quickly processes occur in the brain, allowing us to understand what's happening inside our brain and how it relates to everyday processes. In this session, students will be introduced to EEG, learning how it works and what type of data we can acquire.

Venue:

School of Psychology,
Staffordshire University,
Stoke campus.

Number of students:

Max. 10 students

Year groups:

Year 9 - 13

Additional Information:

30 mins

Driven to **Distraction**

.....

Many drivers report using their mobile phone at least sometimes while driving. This demonstration investigates the effects of mobile phone use on driving performance. It involves driving a virtual car using a driving simulator, while receiving text messages and notifications on a mobile phone.

Venue:

School of Psychology,
Staffordshire University,
Stoke campus.

Number of students:

Max. 8 students

Year groups:

Year 9 - 13

Additional Information:

30 mins

Pain and Memory

Do we remember less faces when we are in pain? This is the theory that when pain is present, we are less likely to recall images compared to individuals experiencing no pain. This demonstration uses a Thermode which will be set at 4 -C in order to create a 'pain' sensation which will last for around a minute. Using experimental software, a number of images will appear on the screen, which you will be asked to memorise in order to discover how individuals respond to pain and whether it influences memory recall.

Venue:

School of Psychology,
Staffordshire University,
Stoke campus.

Number of students:

Max. 8 students

Year groups:

Year 12 - 13

Additional Information:

30 mins

DIY Toy Car Parking Garage

.....

The car park challenge task will be introduced with exploration into the underpinning educational principles (if age appropriate). Participants will then be encouraged to pair up (though individual work is fine too). They are then assigned the task of designing and creating a toy car garage using the variety of creative and recycled materials available to them. To conclude participants will have time to showcase their finished article before taking it home with them.

Venue:

Staffordshire University,
Stoke Campus

Number of students:

5 - 15 students

Year groups:

All ages

A 'maze' ing



The A 'MAZE' ing challenge task will be introduced with exploration into the underpinning educational principles (if age appropriate). Participants will then be encouraged to pair up (though individual work is fine too). They are then assigned the task of designing and creating a large or small-scale maze using the variety of creative and recycled materials available to them. To conclude participants will have time to showcase their finished article before taking it home with them.

Venue:

Staffordshire University,
Stoke-on-Trent Campus

Number of students:

5 - 15 students

Year groups:

All ages

Crazy Catapults

.....

The catapult challenge task will be introduced with exploration into the underpinning educational principles (if age appropriate). Participants will then be encouraged to pair up (though individual work is fine too). They are then assigned the task of designing and creating a working catapult using the variety of creative and recycled materials available to them. To conclude participants will showcase their finished article and take the challenge of seeing whose shoots the furthest, and/or who can score most points by aiming at targets.

Venue:

Staffordshire University,
Stoke-on-Trent Campus

Number of students:

5 - 15 students

Year groups:

All ages

Children and Screen Time



There is concern that increase in screen time use may be harming children's development. In this session we will consider some of the evidence and learn about the importance of questioning the evidence. The concept of experimental design will be introduced.

Venue:

School of Psychology,
Staffordshire University, Stoke
campus or at your venue.

Number of students:

6-20 students

Year groups:

Year 12 - 13

Additional Information:

30 mins

Your Brain on VR



How does VR trick our eyes into thinking what we're seeing is reality? We will look at the brain in VR and discuss what goes on behind the scenes when we put on a VR headset. In an interactive session, help your friends diffuse a bomb, see how VR can help to tackle phobias, and experience other uses of VR in psychology.

Venue:

School of Psychology,
Staffordshire University, Stoke
campus or at your venue.

Number of students:

6-20 students

Year groups:

Year 12 - 13

Additional Information:

45 mins

Jesus in Toast (and other face oddities...)

.....

Why do we sometimes see faces in clouds (and other random patterns)? Are we actually any good at identifying people from their face? If so, could you be a super-recogniser?! In this 20 minute session, students will learn about face perception and why humans are so good at it.

Venue:

School of Psychology,
Staffordshire University, Stoke
campus or at your venue.

Number of students:

10-20 Students

Year groups:

Years 9 - 13

Additional Information:

20 mins

Places Behaving Badly: The Psychology of Haunted Houses

.....

What psychological factors are at play when we feel creeped out in supposedly haunted locations? Are there features of the environment that make us feel ghostly presences or are the spooky experiences a product of our minds and expectations? This session introduces to students to the idea of applying psychology to understand our responses to physical space (environmental psychology) as well as the psychological exploration of the paranormal (parapsychology) and through interactive tasks aims to get students learning and involved in this novel area of psychology.

Venue:

School of Psychology,
Staffordshire University, Stoke
campus or at your venue.

Number of students:

20 students

Year groups:

Years 10 - 13

Additional Information:

1 hour

Experimenter in a Day

.....

Learn about psychological research methods, get hands on with our equipment, and design your own research experiment in an interactive and applied session. Students will be introduced to some Psychology theories relevant to their current studies or age group. They will then be asked to test these theories by designing and building an experiment in groups. After building their experiments students will collect data from their peers. We will then review the findings and the students will present them back to the group. Students will use skills in teamwork, problem solving, communication and analysis during the session.

Venue:

School of Psychology,
Staffordshire University,
Stoke campus.

Number of students:

Contact for details

Year groups:

Year 12 - 13

Additional Information:

3 hours - full day (9:00-3:00)
can be adapted to a shorter
session, if required.

Interactive **Psychology** Tour

.....

On an interactive tour of the Psychology Department, experience our equipment in action. See how we conduct biological psychology research in our Psychology Human Sciences Suite, try our eye tracking equipment in the Cognitive Suite, and have a go at Virtual Reality, plus all the other equipment that we use in psychology!

Venue:

School of Psychology,
Staffordshire University,
Stoke campus.

Number of students:

Contact for details

Year groups:

Any age
(including Primary School)

Design Your Own Psychology Session

.....

If there are any other areas of psychology that you are interested in, or any equipment that you would like to see in action, let us know and we can plan a session around this.

Venue:

School of Psychology,
Staffordshire University, Stoke
campus or at your venue.

Number of students:

Contact for details

Year groups:

Contact for details

Additional Information:

Contact for details

English & Creative Writing Masterclass - Poetry for the sceptical

Poets work with a set of rules. Sometimes they choose to observe the rules, and sometimes they choose to break them. We'll look at some of the conventions of poetry and what happens when you go off piste with them. Then we'll make our own poems using an influential Avant Garde approach to poetic composition.

You will get the chance to refine your critical and creative practice, and make a poem to take home with you. Bring your phone to Instagram/tweet is your new, instant composition to the world.

Venue:

Staffordshire University, Stoke-on-Trent campus or at your own venue.

When:

Available on request throughout the academic year

Number of students:

Between 5 and 30 places available

Year groups:

GCSE and College/Sixth Form level students

Additional information:

Other workshops available also include 'Creative Writing – creating character and place' & 'Reading the Gothic (Frankenstein or Jekyll and Hyde) or Romantic poetry (Wordsworth and Coleridge)'

History

.....

A 45 to 60 minutes workshop on History and Human Rights, with a particular focus on the 1948 United Nations Declaration of Human Rights.

The session will show how the need for formal declarations of rights can be traced back through political thought, the American and French Revolutions, atrocities during the world wars, and forerunners to the United Nations such as the League of Nations. How the United Nations and the Declaration came about following World War II is considered using primary sources, written and visual.

As our History provision draws on the expertise of History, and also Politics & International Relations staff we can also consider the role of humanitarianism in current conflicts and development.

Venue:

Staffordshire University,
Stoke-on-Trent campus

When:

February to March or
June to July

Number of students:

Between 10 and
30 places available

Year groups:

Year 9 - Year 13

Additional information:

We welcome enquiries for bespoke sessions for A-Level History groups to link to curriculum and assessment needs.

Geography - Digital Mapping for the 21st century

GIS or Geographic Information Systems are key tools for geographers in a range of jobs (research, environmental consultancy, logistics, conservation, health and social analysis). GIS allow us to map our digital data and to ask interesting geographical questions.

This introductory session will allow you to get hands on with industry standard GIS, we will explore mountain datasets in 3D and learn how to do surface analysis to understand the landscape.

Venue:

Geographic Information Systems labs, Staffordshire University, Stoke-on-Trent campus.

When:

Available on request throughout the academic year

Number of students:

Between 15 and 20 places available

Year groups:

GCSE and College/Sixth Form level students

Additional information:

Workshop lasts around 1 - 2 hours

Geography - Mapwork and Field Skills

Geography run a unique BSc Geography with Mountain Leadership degree, which develops navigational, mapping and leadership skills much in demand by outdoor education, businesses and environmental organisations.

This hands-on activity involves a map navigation exercise around the Staffordshire University Nature Reserve and environs. Suits students who may be interested in working in the outdoors, have perhaps done Duke of Edinburgh (or would like to and have not had the opportunity).

Venue:

Staffordshire University,
Stoke-on-Trent campus

When:

On request (providing students
are available)

Number of students:

Up to 15 places available

Year groups:

GCSE and A Level students
or colleges

RGS Geography Ambassadors

.....

Our student University RGS Ambassadors are fully trained by the Royal Geographical Society to work with schools to promote Geography as a discipline and to encourage students to study it at University. They can devise small demonstrations / give talks about Geography as a discipline as well as talk about Geography at University.

Venue:

Can be at any local school

When:

On request (providing students are available)

Number of students:

Between 20 and 30 places available

Year groups:

GCSE and College/Sixth Form level students

Additional information:

Student-led activity
(with staff guidance to set up)

Happy Families

.....

This workshop looks at family life and some of the crimes committed within the family home. Students will be introduced to the definitions of child, domestic and elder abuse. We will discuss how families can protect and sadly, also harm, family members. We will also consider what factors indicate a happy family and what factors indicate an unhealthy family. Students' opinions will be collated to determine the consensus views of a younger population.

Venue:

Can be delivered at Staffordshire University, Stoke-on-Trent campus or at your venue

Subject:

Sociology

When:

Available on request throughout the academic year

Number of students:

Up to 40 places available

Year groups:

Year 9 - Year 13

Housework – Who Let The Dust Out?

.....

This workshop looks at family life and how domestic duties are split between household members. Stereotypes relating to gender difference of men doing garden and maintenance tasks and women doing childcare and cleaning tasks are discussed. Participants are asked to reflect upon their own experience at home and think about where stereotypes of gendered housework are occurring. Participants are asked to think about what needs to happen in British society to make household chore division more equal and to challenge gender inequalities. This is an interactive workshop with short talks and discussions.

Venue:

Can be delivered at Staffordshire University, Stoke-on-Trent campus or at your venue

Subject:

Sociology

When:

Available on request throughout the academic year

Number of students:

Up to 40 places available

Year groups:

Year 9 - Year 13

Study skills - writing essays by pictures

Based on the illustrated workbook 'Writing Essays by Pictures' by staffordshire university associate professor Dr Alke Groppe-Wegener, this interactive session provides tools and techniques for students to use to get to grips with academic writing. Step-by-step, students explore the process of researching and writing a basic academic essays using easy to understand analogies.

Venue:

Staffordshire University
or at your site

When:

Available throughout the year
upon request

Number of Students:

Any

Year groups:

Year 9 - Year 11

Additional information:

30 minute workshop

Using 'Loose Parts' in Education

.....

The session will begin with a discussion of theory underpinning Loose Parts in Education. This will be followed by an interactive workshop whereby participants investigate loose parts and recycled items to consider the learning and holistic benefits of the activities and uses they can find for their materials. Participants are encouraged to converse throughout and discuss their findings to close the session.

Venue:

Staffordshire University
Stoke-on-Trent campus or in
your school or college.

Number of students:

10 - 30 students

Year groups:

Y10 - 13

Additional information:

For those considering a career
in the education sector

The Forests School **Approach**



The session will take place with a qualified Forest Schools leader. This session can be fairly flexible to meet individual requirements, for example den building, using natural materials to produce art, fire lighting and cooking over a fire. There will also be a brief oral presentation about the origins and principles of Forest Schools education.

Why: Forest Schools and outdoor learning are gaining recognition as being important aspects in all stages of education. Experiencing first hand the types of activities that education practitioners can do with students of all ages will open your eyes to a wealth of learning opportunities.

Venue:

Staffordshire Univeristy
Stoke Nature Reserve,
or at your own venue

Number of students:

10 - 30 students

Year groups:

Year 10 - 13

Additional information:

For those considering a career
in the education sector

Child's Play

.....

A one hour interactive workshop. We all drew pictures as children but how accurately can we remember the way that we drew? Your students will be introduced to some of the ways that psychologists study children's drawings through several interactive activities. The key theories in the area will be described and illustrated with drawings collected by researchers at Staffordshire University.

Venue:

School of Psychology,
Staffordshire University,
Stoke-on-Trent campus or at
your venue.

Number of students:

6 to 20 students

Year groups:

Year 9 - 13

The Truth **is** Out There

.....

A one hour interactive workshop. Millions of people believe in conspiracy theories – such as the theory that 9/11 was orchestrated by the US government or the moon landing was faked. In this session, your students will learn what social psychology can tell us about conspiracy theories such as who is more likely to believe in conspiracy theories and why. They will also have the opportunity to get hands-on with some activities based on the psychology of conspiracy theories. Are you susceptible to believing in conspiracy theories? Come and find out! In addition, they'll learn more about the types of career they could have if they choose to study psychology at University.

Venue:

School of Psychology,
Staffordshire University,
Stoke-on-Trent campus or at
your venue.

Number of students:

6 to 20 students

Year groups:

Year 9 - 13

Monkey Dust and New Psychoactive Substance Drugs: Mayhem or Moral Panic?

Activity Description (100 words):

Recently, national press has highlighted that certain areas in the UK have had an epidemic of monkey dust drug usage causing mayhem in society. This workshop will share information relating to New Psychoactive Substances and Monkey Drug usage nationally and locally. We draw upon research conducted by colleagues in the Sociology and Criminology team with local young people and the homeless hostel service user community. A World Café format will be used to deliver information and engage participants in discussion about whether media reportage is accurate and there is a monkey dust issue causing mayhem in society, or whether it is a moral panic? Participants will learn about World Café, a new research method in sociology and criminology through the experience of taking part in a world café session.

Venue:

Staffordshire University
Stoke-on-Trent Campus

Number of students:

Up to 40

Year groups:

Year Groups: 9 - 13