

# Mental Health and Employability in Psychology Online Distance Learning Students

Dr. Steven McNair & Dr. Kieran O'Shea

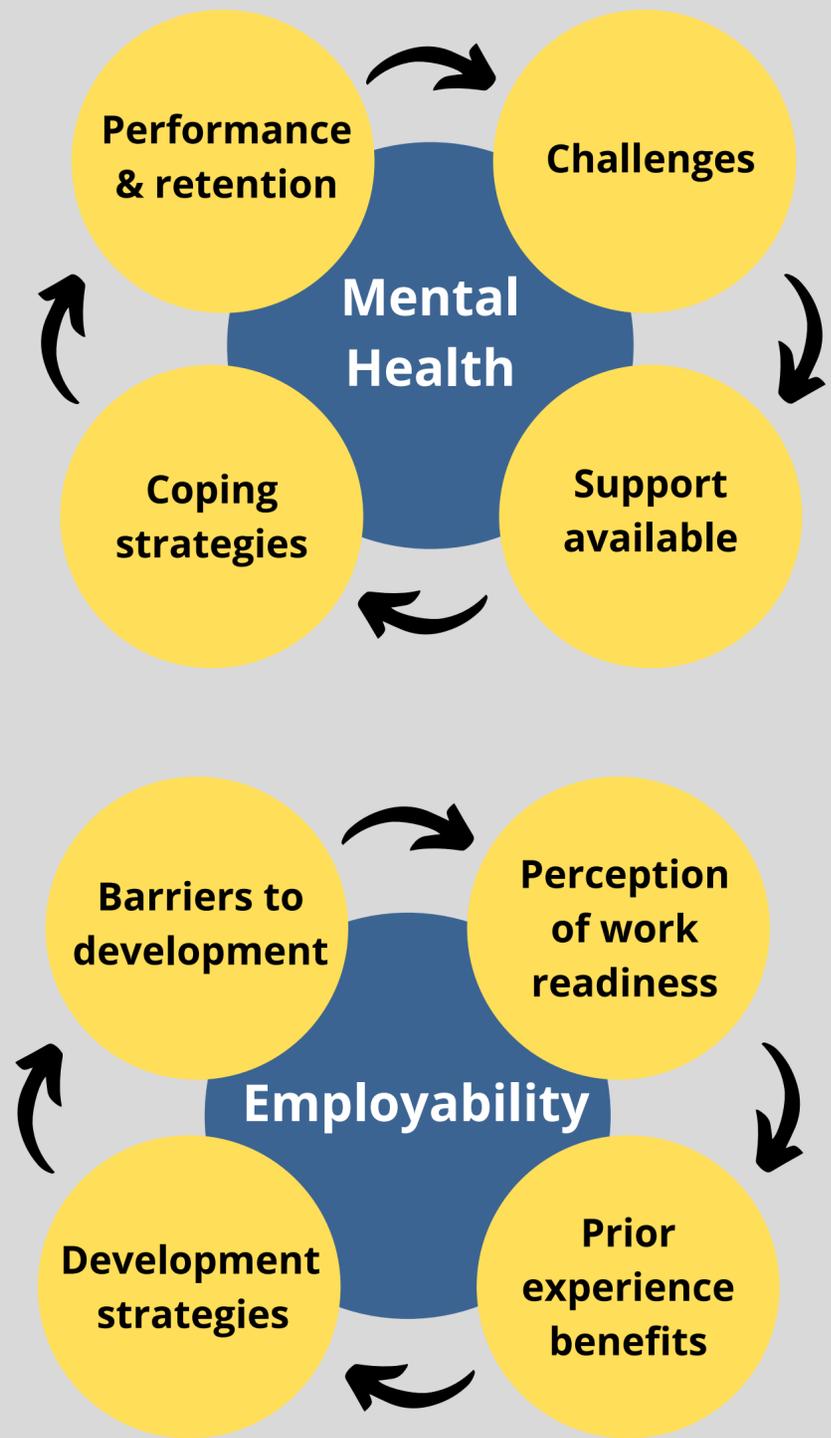
[Steven.McNair@glasgow.ac.uk](mailto:Steven.McNair@glasgow.ac.uk)

[Kieran.O'Shea@glasgow.ac.uk](mailto:Kieran.O'Shea@glasgow.ac.uk)

## Rationale

- The MSc Psychology Conversion ODL : 30 month, part-time course, is taught jointly by the School of Psychology & Neuroscience and the School of Education.
- ODL Conversion continues to see a rise in student numbers: Year 19/20 = 15, Year 20/21 = 115, Year 21/22 = 146.
- ODL attracts a broader demographic of students compared to traditional on-campus learners.
- ODL students are as likely to encounter mental health difficulties as on-campus students (Barr, 2014; Harrer et al., 2019; Richardson, 2015) but are often unable to obtain the same levels of support as on-campus learners (Barr, 2014; Lister & McFarlane, 2021).
- ODL and on-campus students differ in their employability priorities (Butcher & Rose, 2014).
- Much of the scholarship work done within the University focuses on F2F learning, which may not generalise to ODL students.

## Research Themes



## Student-led projects

- Work-life balance and self-help strategies (Li Fangnan).
- Perfectionism, engagement, and wellbeing (Xuejin Peng).
- LGBTQ+ students' gender expression (Xuqing Feng).
- LGBTQ+ students' mental health and academic support (Ewan Steel).
- LGBTQ+ international students' mental health and online social support (Jinyi "Iris" Chen).
- Gender representation, self-efficacy and employability outcomes (Suzie Green).
- Strategies in developing employability and work readiness (Audrey Dee).

## Further Information

We welcome comments, suggestions, and/or input from those with experience in this area. There are many ODL, MOOC, and online micro-credential courses within the University and we would be delighted to explore the possibility of an ODL pedagogical network.

### References

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@stevenwmcnair @OSheaKJ @UofGPsychNeuro