



UNSW Course Outline

PSYC2101 Assessment, Personality and Psychopathology - 2023

Course Code : PSYC2101
Year : 2023
Term : Term 3
Teaching Period : T3
Delivery Mode : In Person
Delivery Format : Standard
Delivery Location : Kensington

General Course Information

Course Code : PSYC2101
Year : 2023
Term : Term 3
Teaching Period : T3
Is a multi-term course? : No
Faculty : Faculty of Science
Academic Unit : School of Psychology
Delivery Mode : In Person
Delivery Format : Standard
Delivery Location : Kensington
Campus : Sydney
Study Level : Undergraduate
Units of Credit : 6

Useful Links

[Handbook Class Timetable](#)

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

This course introduces areas of psychological research and practice that directly deal with

psychological assessment, personality, and psychopathology. In the Psychological Assessment section of the course, students will learn key concepts related to personality and intelligence testing. In the Psychopathology section of the course, students will learn about maladaptive behaviour, personality, and mental disorders. The course provides an overview of common mental disorders, including disruptive behaviour, anxiety, mood, eating, psychotic, and personality disorders. The course emphasizes diagnostic criteria, contemporary theories of psychopathology, and empirically supported approaches to treating mental disorders. Lecture content is both live and pre-recorded, with pre-recorded materials designed to ensure that students arrive at face to face tutorials ready for active learning and to engage in discussion with peers.

Course Aims

This course aims to provide foundational and contemporary knowledge about theory, research, and practice in Clinical Psychology. You will learn about the causes, symptoms, and evidence-based assessment and treatment of mental disorders. You will also learn about psychological assessment of personality and intelligence and surrounding controversies. You will learn to apply key concepts in Clinical Psychology to approaching various mental disorders.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CL01 : Understand and explain major concepts, theoretical perspectives, and historical and contemporary trends to the identification and classification of mental disorders.
CL02 : Understand and explain major concepts, theoretical perspectives, and historical and contemporary trends relating to psychological assessment, including in the area of intelligence.
CL03 : Understand and explain the major clinical features of a number of mental disorders, including disruptive behaviour, mood, anxiety, eating, psychotic, and personality disorders.
CL04 : Understand and explain current theories relating to the aetiology and underlying mechanisms of these specific disorders, as well as psychological approaches to the treatment of these specific disorders.
CL05 : Distinguish between mental disorders and normal variability in emotion, cognition, behaviour, and personality.
CL06 : Critically evaluate the reliability, validity, and ethical implications of contemporary measures of psychological functioning.
CL07 : Effectively communicate new knowledge about psychological assessment, personality, and psychopathology in oral and written form.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CL01 : Understand and explain major concepts, theoretical perspectives, and historical and contemporary trends to the identification and classification of mental disorders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tutorial preparation • Tutorial presentation • Short answer questions

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final exam
<p>CLO2 : Understand and explain major concepts, theoretical perspectives, and historical and contemporary trends relating to psychological assessment, including in the area of intelligence.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tutorial preparation • Tutorial presentation • Short answer questions • Final exam
<p>CLO3 : Understand and explain the major clinical features of a number of mental disorders, including disruptive behaviour, mood, anxiety, eating, psychotic, and personality disorders.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tutorial preparation • Short answer questions • Final exam
<p>CLO4 : Understand and explain current theories relating to the aetiology and underlying mechanisms of these specific disorders, as well as psychological approaches to the treatment of these specific disorders.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tutorial presentation • Tutorial preparation • Short answer questions • Final exam
<p>CLO5 : Distinguish between mental disorders and normal variability in emotion, cognition, behaviour, and personality.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tutorial preparation • Short answer questions • Final exam
<p>CLO6 : Critically evaluate the reliability, validity, and ethical implications of contemporary measures of psychological functioning.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tutorial preparation • Short answer questions • Final exam
<p>CLO7 : Effectively communicate new knowledge about psychological assessment, personality, and psychopathology in oral and written form.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tutorial presentation • Short answer questions

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System | Echo 360

Additional Course Information

Psychology Student Guide: The [School of Psychology Student Guide](#) contains School policies and procedures relevant for all students enrolled in undergraduate or Masters psychology courses, such as:

- Attendance requirements
- Assignment submissions and returns
- Assessments
- Special consideration
- Student code of conduct
- Student complaints and grievances
- Equitable Learning Services
- Health and safety

It is expected that students familiarise themselves with the information contained in this guide

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Tutorial preparation Assessment FormatIndividual	5%	
Tutorial presentation Assessment FormatGroup	10%	
Short answer questions Assessment FormatIndividual	35%	Start Date02/11/2023 08:00 AM Due Date04/11/2023 11:59 PM
Final exam Assessment FormatIndividual	50%	

Assessment Details

Tutorial preparation

Assessment Overview

Before each tutorial class you must complete the associated online module and/or Moodle revision quizzes as pre-work (where indicated, as detailed in the course schedule online activities column), and study the reading(s) set for that tutorial class. You are expected to actively participate in tutorial discussions concerning the set readings and video case presentations that are used to illustrate the major clinical features of selected disorders (where applicable). The tutorial preparation mark is based on completion of the designated online pre-work (5 marks). Marks and feedback will be returned via Moodle within 10 working days of the due date.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This is not a Turnitin assignment

Tutorial presentation

Assessment Overview

You will be paired with a tutorial peer through random assignment to give a 10-minute oral presentation on an allocated tutorial set reading in one randomly assigned tutorial class. Assigned presentation partners and readings will be announced in the first tutorial. Copies of the readings are available on Moodle, online on the My Course link of the Library website and from My Course Reserve on level 2 of the Library. The tutorial presentation is worth 10 marks. Marks and feedback will be returned via Moodle within 10 working days of the due date.

Assessment Length

10 minute presentation

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This is not a Turnitin assignment

Short answer questions

Assessment Overview

You will complete two short answer take-home exam questions on designated lecture topics in psychopathology via Moodle in Week 9. You will submit short written answers (500 and 750 words) to these questions by 11.59pm on Friday of Week 9 in MS Word version via Turnitin within Moodle. Your short answer assessment must also be emailed in electronic form directly to your tutor by this due date. Marks and feedback will be returned via Moodle within 10 working days of the due date.

Detailed Assessment Description

Correction: the short answer assessment is released and due in Week 8.

Assessment Length

500 and 750 words

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Final exam

Assessment Overview

The final exam will be 50 question multiple-choice test that is taken online in a 50-minute time window during the official examination period. This exam will cover material presented in the lectures, tutorials, tutorial readings, and specific tutorial preparation online modules* (denoted with an asterisk* in the course schedule).

Assessment Length

50 Multiple Choice Questions in 50 Minutes

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This is not a Turnitin assignment

General Assessment Information

Special Consideration: Students who experience circumstances outside of their control that prevent them from completing an assessment task by the assigned due date due can apply for Special Consideration. Special Consideration applications should include a medical certificate or other documentation and be submitted via myUNSW within 3 days of the sitting/due date.

Important note: UNSW has a “fit to sit/submit” rule, which means that if you sit an exam or submit a piece of assessment, you are declaring yourself fit to do so and cannot later apply for Special Consideration. This is to ensure that if you feel unwell or are faced with significant circumstances beyond your control that affect your ability to study, you do not sit an examination or submit an assessment that does not reflect your best performance. Instead, you should apply for Special Consideration as soon as you realise you are not well enough or are otherwise unable to sit or submit an assessment.

Once your application has been assessed, you will be contacted via your student email address and advised of the official outcome. If the special consideration application is approved, you may be given an extended due date, or an alternative assessment/supplementary examination may be set. For more information about special consideration, please visit: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/special-consideration>.

Alternative assessments: will be subject to approval and implemented in accordance with UNSW Assessment Implementation Procedure and Psychology Student Guide.

Supplementary examinations: will be made available for students with approved special consideration application and implemented in accordance with UNSW Assessment Policy and Psychology Student Guide.

All course assessments have been designed and implemented in accordance with [UNSW Assessment Policy](#).

The APA (7th edition) referencing style is to be adopted in this course. Students should consult the publication manual itself (rather than third party interpretations of it) in order to properly adhere to APA style conventions. Students do not need to purchase a copy of the manual, it is available in the library or online. This resource is used by assessment markers and should be the only resource used by students to ensure they adopt this style appropriately.

Grading Basis

Standard

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 0 : 4 September - 8 September	Online Activity	Online Lecture: Course Orientation

Week 1 : 11 September - 15 September	Lecture	1. Classification/ Denson 2. Reliability and validity/ Denson
	Online Activity	Online Module: Course Introduction* Revision Quizzes *Asterisk denotes online content that is pre-work for the tutorial and/or is examinable in the short-answer assessment and/or final examination
Week 2 : 18 September - 22 September	Lecture	1. Anxiety and its Disorders Part 1/ Schweizer 2. Anxiety and its Disorders Part 2/ Schweizer
	Tutorial	Classification of Mental Disorders
	Online Activity	Online Module: Introduction to DSM-5* Revision Quizzes
Week 3 : 25 September - 29 September	Lecture	1. Obsessive Compulsive Disorder/ Grisham 2. Bipolar Disorder/ Whitford
	Tutorial	Behavioural Experiments for Anxiety
	Online Activity	1. Online Module: Introduction to the Cognitive-Behavioural (CBT) Model* 2. Online Module: CBT Model Case Studies Revision Quizzes *Asterisk denotes online content that is pre-work for the tutorial and/or is examinable in the short-answer assessment and/or final examination
Week 4 : 2 October - 6 October	Lecture	1. Labour Day (no classes) 2. Personality/ Whitford

	Tutorial	Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD)
	Online Activity	1. Online Module: Introduction to Personality Disorders* 2. Online Module: Introduction to Childhood Disorders*/ Kimonis Revision Quizzes
Week 5 : 9 October - 13 October	Lecture	1. Childhood Disorders/ Kimonis 2. Psychopathy/ Kimonis
	Tutorial	Psychopathy
	Online Activity	1. Online Module: ABC Analysis* 2. Online Module: The Coercive Cycle of Childhood Disruptive Behaviour Disorders*
Week 7 : 23 October - 27 October	Lecture	1. Eating Disorders Part 1/ Vartanian 2. Eating Disorders Part 2/ Vartanian
	Tutorial	Eating Disorders
	Online Activity	1. Online Module: Posttraumatic Stress Disorder*/ Nickerson 2. Online Module: Borderline Personality Disorder Revision Quizzes
Week 8 : 30 October - 3 November	Lecture	1. Schizophrenia/ Whitford 2. No Live Lectures – Required Online Modules (see below)
	Tutorial	Intelligence Tests
	Online Activity	1. Online Module: Intelligence Testing Part 1*

		<p>2. Online Module: Intelligence Testing Part 2*</p> <p>3. Online Module: Intelligence Testing Part 3*</p> <p>Revision Quizzes</p>
Week 9 : 6 November - 10 November	Lecture	<p>1. Schizophrenia/ Whitford</p> <p>2. Depression/ Nickerson</p>
	Tutorial	Psychotic Symptoms
	Online Activity	<p>Online Module: Dementia and Cognitive Decline*/ Peters</p> <p>Revision Quizzes</p>
Week 10 : 13 November - 17 November	Lecture	<p>1. Psychological Therapies for Adults Part 1/ Nickerson</p> <p>2. Psychological Therapies for Adults Part 2/ Nickerson</p>
	Online Activity	<p>Revision Quizzes</p> <p>Study Period:</p> <p>Mental Health Support Modules:</p> <p>1. Online Module: Introduction to Mindfulness</p> <p>2. Online Module: Mindfulness Myths and How-To</p>

Attendance Requirements

Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and review lecture recordings.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Tom Denson	t.denson@unsw.edu.au	Mathews Building, Room 1304	NA	by appointment	Yes	Yes

Eva Kimonis	e.kimonis@unsw.edu.au	Mathews Building, Room 1102		by appointment	No	No
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Other Useful Information

Academic Information

Upon your enrolment at UNSW, you share responsibility with us for maintaining a safe, harmonious and tolerant University environment.

You are required to:

- Comply with the University's conditions of enrolment.
- Act responsibly, ethically, safely and with integrity.
- Observe standards of equity and respect in dealing with every member of the UNSW community.
- Engage in lawful behaviour.
- Use and care for University resources in a responsible and appropriate manner.
- Maintain the University's reputation and good standing.

For more information, visit the [UNSW Student Code of Conduct Website](#).

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Referencing is a way of acknowledging the sources of information that you use to research your assignments. You need to provide a reference whenever you draw on someone else's words, ideas or research. Not referencing other people's work can constitute plagiarism.

Further information about referencing styles can be located at <https://student.unsw.edu.au/referencing>

Academic integrity is fundamental to success at university. Academic integrity can be defined as a commitment to six fundamental values in academic pursuits: honesty, trust, fairness, respect, responsibility and courage. At UNSW, this means that your work must be your own, and others' ideas should be appropriately acknowledged. If you don't follow these rules, plagiarism may be detected in your work.

Further information about academic integrity, plagiarism and the use of AI in assessments can be located at:

- The [Current Students site](#),
- The [ELISE training site](#), and
- The [Use of AI for assessments](#) site.

The Student Conduct and Integrity Unit provides further resources to assist you to understand your conduct obligations as a student: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/conduct>

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Penalty for Late Submissions

UNSW has a standard late submission penalty of:

- 5% per day,

- for all assessments where a penalty applies,
- capped at five days (120 hours) from the assessment deadline, after which a student cannot submit an assessment, and
- no permitted variation.

Any variations to the above will be explicitly stated in the Course Outline for a given course or assessment task.

Students are expected to manage their time to meet deadlines and to request extensions as early as possible before the deadline.

Special Consideration

If circumstances prevent you from attending/completing an assessment task, you must officially apply for special consideration, usually within 3 days of the sitting date/due date. You can apply by logging onto myUNSW and following the link in the My Student Profile Tab. Medical documentation or other documentation explaining your absence must be submitted with your application. Once your application has been assessed, you will be contacted via your student email address to be advised of the official outcome and any actions that need to be taken from there. For more information about special consideration, please visit: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/special-consideration>

Important note: UNSW has a “fit to sit/submit” rule, which means that if you sit an exam or submit a piece of assessment, you are declaring yourself fit to do so and cannot later apply for Special Consideration. This is to ensure that if you feel unwell or are faced with significant circumstances beyond your control that affect your ability to study, you do not sit an examination or submit an assessment that does not reflect your best performance. Instead, you should apply for Special Consideration as soon as you realise you are not well enough or are otherwise unable to sit or submit an assessment.

Faculty-specific Information

Additional support for students

- [The Current Students Gateway](#)
- [Student Support](#)
- [Academic Skills and Support](#)
- [Student Wellbeing, Health and Safety](#)
- [Equitable Learning Services](#)
- [UNSW IT Service Centre](#)
- Science EDI Student [Initiatives](#), [Offerings](#) and [Guidelines](#)