PSYC7402 Applications of Forensic Psychology - 2023

Course Code : PSYC7402
Year : 2023
Term : Term 3
Teaching Period : T3
Delivery Mode : In Person
Delivery Format : Standard
Delivery Location : Kensington

General Course Information

Course Code : PSYC7402
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 : Postgraduate
Units of Credit : 6

Useful Links

[Handbook](#) [Class Timetable](#)

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

This course is designed to assist Master of Psychology (Forensic) students to develop skills in

critical analysis, research design, research communication, and the provision of feedback. The course involves weekly seminars. The readings provide students with a broad overview of the scope and form of research conducted within the field of forensic psychology including: crime, risk assessment and therapeutic intervention.

Course Aims

This course is designed to provide students with a broad overview of the scope and form of research conducted within the field of forensic psychology. The course aims to provide students an opportunity to practice and improve their skills in critical analysis, research design & communication, and giving and receiving feedback.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Apply evidence-based forensic psychology knowledge and techniques to examine questions and processes within the field of law.
CLO2 : Critically evaluate empirical evidence and other research within the field of psychology and law to identify appropriate targets for research.
CLO3 : Respond to and incorporate feedback on research ideas and submissions in a constructive, positive and respectful manner.
CLO4 : Communicate research ideas in a clear and concise manner.
CLO5 : Communicate the status of the empirical literature to colleagues for the purpose of facilitating further discussion and collaboration on the topic.
CLO6 : Critically evaluate psychology and law research proposals in a considered and constructive manner.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Apply evidence-based forensic psychology knowledge and techniques to examine questions and processes within the field of law.	• Brief Research Proposal • Grant Application
CLO2 : Critically evaluate empirical evidence and other research within the field of psychology and law to identify appropriate targets for research.	• Brief Research Proposal • Grant Application
CLO3 : Respond to and incorporate feedback on research ideas and submissions in a constructive, positive and respectful manner.	• In Class-Critiques • Brief Research Proposal
CLO4 : Communicate research ideas in a clear and concise manner.	• Grant Application • Brief Research Proposal

CLO5 : Communicate the status of the empirical literature to colleagues for the purpose of facilitating further discussion and collaboration on the topic.	• Presentation • In Class-Critiques
CLO6 : Critically evaluate psychology and law research proposals in a considered and constructive manner.	• Presentation • In Class-Critiques

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System | Microsoft Teams

Additional Course Information

Feedback: Providing feedback is a core component of learning. Students in 7402 receive feedback in various ways.

Peer feedback – your peers will evaluate your BRP prior to its submission and will provide you with feedback you can integrate into your final version. This feedback will be provided during/after class (verbally/chat/email).

Self-assessment – by critiquing the work of your peers and by referring to the marking rubric you will be practicing critical analysis which you can then apply to your own work. You can ensure that you do not make the same mistakes you have seen others make.

Academic feedback – you will receive verbal and written feedback as well as completed marking rubrics from the academics on this course: Participation (email/written); BRP (verbal, rubric); LGP (rubric); and Presentation (rubric) assignments. This feedback will provide guidance regarding the strengths and weaknesses of your submissions.

Iterative feedback – the Brief Research Proposal is a scaled-back version of the final Large Grant Assignment. This means that the feedback you and your peers receive about BRPs is directly relevant to the LGA assignment.

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Brief Research Proposal Assessment FormatIndividual	25%	Start DateNot Applicable Due DateWeek 5
In Class-Critiques Assessment FormatIndividual	15%	Due DateWeek 10
Presentation Assessment	10%	Start DateNot Applicable Due DateWeek 8, 9 or 10 depending on allocation to

FormatIndividual		week	
Grant Application Assessment FormatIndividual	50%	Start DateNot Applicable Due DateWeek 10	

Assessment Details

Brief Research Proposal

Assessment Overview

From weeks 1 to 6 you will be working on developing and refining a brief research proposal for any one of the course topics covered in the first six weeks.

This research proposal is of the same format as those required from applicants for the National Health and Medical Research Councils (NHMRC) Post-graduate, Post-doctoral and Early Career Researcher Fellowship funding schemes. The research proposals are to be no more than 10 000 characters (including everything; use Word Count in Word, check characters WITH spaces) and should include the following: project title; aims; background; proposed research methodology; significance of the proposal; and where appropriate, relevance to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations.

In Week 1, you will review 3 example Brief Research Proposals (BRPs) and the marking rubric so you can familiarize yourself with the task and the performance expectations. You are then required to send a draft of your proposal to all other class members and tutors for peer-review. Those who do not distribute their draft by the relevant deadline will be penalised 50% of their mark for this assessment. Time will then be spent in class reviewing the submitted sections and providing feedback. This gives you an opportunity to practice writing Brief Research Proposals (BRPs) as well as giving and receiving feedback. The BRP is usually due in Week 6 or 7.

Detailed Assessment Description

Marking rubrics will be provided.

Assessment Length

10000 characters including spaces.

Submission notes

Also email to k.martire@unsw.edu.au

Assignment submission Turnitin type

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

In Class-Critiques

Assessment Overview

In order to develop skills in: 1. Critical analysis; 2. Research design; research communication; and 3. Giving and receiving feedback, you are expected to be: a) developing and displaying your

knowledge by actively participating in critical and considered discussion of required readings, b) developing and presenting research proposals, c) giving feedback to your peers, c) receiving and responding to feedback from staff and peers.

Accordingly, each week your participation in relation to the required readings will be assessed. You will be expected to practice giving and receiving feedback to your peers in relation to the BRP draft sections submitted for class review. The verbal feedback provided peers in class will be assessed and forms a central component of the class participation assessment. Course staff will provide feedback in various ways including verbal and written feedback on the elements of class participation.

You are required to compile all written feedback you received from the course teaching team during the semester and provide a brief reflection on what the feedback says and what you have learned. (The specific form of the reflection will not be assessed, it is more important to reflect on what the feedback has meant).

Your responses to feedback as well as the amount and quality of class participation and feedback you have provided to peers will be considered when determining marks for this assessment. This assignment is usually due at the end of Week 10. You will receive written comments with your mark.

Assessment Length

500-1000 words

Submission notes

email to k.martire@unsw.edu.au

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This is not a Turnitin assignment

Presentation

Assessment Overview

You will present a paper during Week 8, 9 or 10 on the same broad topic as identified in the required reading for that week (10 min - timed). Ideally, the paper you choose will have been published more recently than the class reading assigned that week and should either provide an update on the topic, or highlight some innovation or controversy in the field.

You should provide a brief overview of the paper in presentation format, but you should focus on what it contributes to the field. You will not be permitted to present on the same article as another student. Those students presenting in the same week should discuss their selection of articles with each other to avoid overlap. Feedback will be via marked rubric.

Detailed Assessment Description

A marking rubric will be provided.

Assessment Length

10 minutes

In-class presentation

Assignment submission Turnitin type

Not Applicable

Grant Application

Assessment Overview

You are required to submit a research grant application (6 pages, 12pt font). The application should propose a research project on a topic to be announced in class. The Forensic Psychology Research Fund is a hypothetical research fund which seeks to fund policy relevant research in the broad arena of forensic psychology. The grant application must include the following: (1) completed application form, and (2) supporting material (literature review; research, aims and methodology; significance and expected outcomes). Further information will be provided. Feedback will be via written comments and a marked rubric. This task expands and refines the skills you started to develop when completing the BRP task.

Detailed Assessment Description

A marking rubric will be provided.

Submission notes

also email to k.martire@unsw.edu.au

Assignment submission Turnitin type

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

General Assessment Information

Brief Research Proposal Assessment: From Weeks 0 to 5 students will be working on developing and refining a brief research proposal for one of the course topics covered during Week 2, 3 or 4. Students will be randomly allocated to a presentation week and will develop a proposal on the topic for that week. This research proposal is of the same format as those required from applicants for the National Medical Health Research Councils (NHMRC) Post-graduate, Post-doctoral and Early Career Researcher Fellowship funding schemes.

Brief Research Proposals (BRPs) are to be no more than **10 000 characters including everything**; use Word Count in Word, check characters WITH spaces.

The BRP must have the following sections:

- project title;
- aims;
- background;

- proposed research methodology;
- significance of the proposal; and where appropriate,
- relevance to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population (if there is relevance).
- References (you do not need to use APA format but you must use some form of in-text citation and include a reference list).

In Week 0 or 1, students will review 3 example BRPs and the marking rubric so they can familiarize themselves with the task and the performance expectations. Presentations will usually begin in Week 2. Students are required to send a draft of their proposal to all other class members and tutors for peer-review by **5pm on the Friday before their presentation** to give their peers Sat/Sun/Mon to review the proposals. For example if you are presenting during Week 2, you must send your proposal to Kristy and your peers BEFORE 5pm on Friday of Week 1. You can provide guidance to your peers if there are particular things you would like to receive feedback on.

Those who do not distribute their draft by 5pm on Friday prior to their in-class presentation will be penalised 50% of their mark for this assessment. No exceptions.

Each student will have ~30 minutes of class time during either Week 2, 3 or 4 to facilitate a peer review of their proposal. The feedback received can then be incorporated into the BRP before it is finally submitted for assessment. The complete BRP is **due 4pm Tuesday Week 5**. The assignment should be emailed to Kristy and submitted via Turnitin on Moodle. Normal procedures associated with ELP and Special Consideration apply to this deadline. This assignment is very similar to the final Large Grant Assignment and will help you to prepare for that assignment.

In-class Critiques Assessment: In order to develop skills in: 1. Critical analysis; 2. Research design & communication; and 3. Giving and receiving feedback, students are expected to be: a) developing and displaying their knowledge by actively participating in critical and considered discussion of required readings, b) developing and presenting research proposals, c) giving feedback to their peers, d) receiving and responding to feedback from staff and peers.

Accordingly, each week student participation in relation to the required readings will be assessed. During Weeks 0 and 2-4 students will be expected to practice giving and receiving feedback to their peers in relation to the BRP draft proposals submitted for class review. The verbal feedback provided in class will be assessed and forms a central component of the class participation assessment. Course staff will provide feedback in various ways including written feedback on the elements of class participation. Students are required to compile all written feedback they received from the course teaching team (KM & MS) during the term (not included in the word count) and provide a brief reflection on what the feedback says and what you have learned (between 500-1,000 words).

This should include the raw feedback you have been sent and some form of brief summary of the feedback received. The specific form of the summary will not be assessed, it is more important to reflect on what the feedback has *meant*. Due via email to Kristy by **5pm Friday Week 10**. Student responses to feedback as well as the amount and quality of class participation and feedback they have provided to their peers will be considered when determining marks for this assessment.

Presentation Assessment: During each of Weeks 8, 9 and10 students will present a paper on the

same broad topic as identified in the required reading (10 min - timed). Ideally, the paper will have been published after the required readings (although this will not always be possible) and is intended to either provide an update on the topic, or highlight some innovation or controversy in the field. Students should provide a *brief* overview of the paper in presentation format, but focus on what it contributes to the field. Students will not be permitted to present on the same article. Students presenting in the same week should discuss their selection of articles with each other to avoid overlap. You will be provided a marking rubric for the presentation.

Grant Application Assessment: Students are required to submit a research grant application - the 'Large Grant Assignment' (LGA). The application should propose a research project on a topic to be announced in class during Week 5. The Forensic Psychology Research Fund is a hypothetical research fund which seeks to fund policy relevant research in the broad arena of forensic psychology.

The LGA must include the following:

- completed application form, and
- supporting material including:
    - literature review;
    - research,
    - aims and methodology;
    - significance and expected outcomes.

- Further information will be provided during Week 5. This assignment is due via Turnitin on Moodle and email to Kristy by **5pm Friday Week 10.**

Grading Basis

Standard

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 0 : 4 September - 8 September	Seminar	**Week 0** 4/09/2023 **Class Duration:** 3hr **Class Modality:** In person Room 1616 **Topic:** Introduction & podcast discussion **Activity:** Discuss 3x BRP examples **Seminar Leader:** Kristy - Listen to http://freakonomics.com/podcast/peak/

		- Read 3x BRP examples - Familiarise with BRP rubric
Week 1 : 11 September - 15 September	Seminar	**Week 1** 12/09/2023 **Class Duration:** 3hr **Class Modality:** In person Room 1616 **Topic:** Risk assessment **Activity:** NA **Seminar Leader:** Kristy
Week 2 : 18 September - 22 September	Seminar	**Week 2** 19/09/2023 **Class Duration:** 3hr **Class Modality:** In person Room 1616 **Topic:** Corrections: What works **Activity:** 1x BRP Presentation & Peer Review **Seminar Leader:** Kristy
Week 3 : 25 September - 29 September	Seminar	**Week 3** 26/09//2023 **Class Duration:** 3hr **Class Modality:** In person Room 1616 **Topic:** Drugs and crime **Activity:** 2x BRP Presentation & Peer Review **Seminar Leader:** Kristy

Week 4 : 2 October - 6 October	Seminar	**Week 4** 3/10/2023 **Class Duration:** 3hr **Class Modality:** In person Room 1616 **Topic:** Sexual offending **Activity:** 2x BRP Presentations & Peer Review; Distribute LGA topic **Seminar Leader:** Kristy
Week 5 : 9 October - 13 October	Seminar	**Week 5** 10/10/2023 **Class Duration:** 3hr **Class Modality:** In person Room 1616 **Topic:** Field reliability **Activity:** N/A **Seminar Leader:** Kristy
Week 6 : 16 October - 20 October	Seminar	**Week 6** Tuesday 17th October is the Annual Forensic & Clinical Psychology Research Conference 9-5pm for all students on the Masters Program. Alternative arrangements will be made for covering the Week 6 content date/time TBA **Class Duration:** 3hr **Class Modality:** Live online Teams + Recorded. Date/time TBA **Topic**: Feedback, Reflection & Planning LGA **Activity:** Q&A LGA **Seminar Leader:** Kristy

Week 7 : 23 October - 27 October	Other	NO CLASS
Week 8 : 30 October - 3 November	Seminar	**Week 8** 31/10/2023 **Class Duration:** 2hr starting at 5pm **Class Modality:** In person Room 1616 **Topic:** Intimate partner violence **Activity:** 1x Paper presentations **Seminar Leader:** Malindi
Week 9 : 6 November - 10 November	Seminar	**Week 9** 7/11/2023 **Class Duration:** 3hr **Class Modality:** In person Room 1616 **Topic:** Mental health, crime & court diversion **Activity:** 3x Paper presentations **Seminar Leader:** Malindi
Week 10 : 13 November - 17 November	Seminar	**Week 10** 14/11/2023 **Class Duration:** 2hr starting at 5pm **Class Modality:** In person Room 1616 **Topic:** Child abuse & neglect **Activity:** 1x Paper presentations **Seminar Leader:** Malindi

Attendance Requirements

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

General Schedule Information

Classes for this course begin in Week 0.

Classes will be held IN PERSON in Mat 1616.

There is NO CLASS during Week 7.

Tuesday 17th October is the Annual Forensic & Clinical Psychology Research Conference 9-5pm for all students on the Masters Program. Our Week 6 class will be rescheduled to accommodate.

See the schedule details below for specific information about class durations.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Kristy Martire	k.martire@unsw.edu.au				No	Yes

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](#)