UNSW Course Outline

PSYC1021 Introduction to Psychological Applications - 2024

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General Course Information

Course Code : PSYC1021
Year : 2024
Term : Term 1
Teaching Period : T1
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

<u>Useful Links</u>

<u>Handbook</u> <u>Class Timetable</u>

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

This course offers an introduction to psychology as a scientific discipline and as a profession, with special emphasis on initiating the academic and professional development of students in the Bachelor of Psychology programme.

The content of this course is structured around the graduate attributes associated with the scientist-practitioner model, the basis for the training of psychologists in Australia and internationally. You will be introduced to diverse areas of professional psychology practice, and a major focus of the course will be research training within a group setting. This course also provides a first step in your development of psychological literacy, that is, the capacity to intentionally utilise your psychological knowledge, skills and attitudes to achieve personal, professional, and societal goals.

In preparing students to "think like a psychologist", this course will cover topics including critical and creative thinking and fundamentals of research design, as well as providing students with career-relevant perspectives.

Course Aims

This course offers an introduction to psychology as a scientific discipline and as a profession, with special emphasis on initiating the academic and professional development of students in the Bachelor of Psychology programme. This course also provides a first step in your development of psychological literacy, that is, the capacity to intentionally utilise your psychological knowledge, skills and attitudes to achieve personal, professional and societal goals, with the aspirational goal of becoming a psychologically literate global citizen.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Apply psychological knowledge in undertaking research, identifying and developing career pathways, and evaluating scientific literature.
CLO2 : Apply the key features of undertaking research in psychology: that is, be able to design, conduct, and communicate scientifically meaningful research.
CLO3 : Individually and collaboratively apply skills of analytical, critical and creative thinking.
CLO4 : Demonstrate knowledge of ethical issues regarding psychological research.
CLO5 : Effectively work in a team, including applying written and oral communication and presentation skills.
CLO6 : Apply career literacy skills e.g. writing an effective curriculum vitae.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Apply psychological knowledge in undertaking research, identifying and developing career pathways, and evaluating scientific literature.	• Research and Communication • Thinking like a psychologist • Quiz • Final Exam
CLO2 : Apply the key features of undertaking research in psychology: that is, be able to design, conduct, and communicate scientifically meaningful research.	• Research and Communication • Thinking like a psychologist • Final Exam
CLO3 : Individually and collaboratively apply skills of analytical, critical and creative thinking.	• Quiz • Research and Communication • Final Exam
CLO4 : Demonstrate knowledge of ethical issues regarding psychological research.	• Research and Communication
CLO5 : Effectively work in a team, including applying written and oral communication and presentation skills.	• Thinking like a psychologist • Final Exam • Research and Communication
CLO6 : Apply career literacy skills e.g. writing an effective curriculum vitae.	• Quiz • Thinking like a psychologist • Final Exam • Research and Communication

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

Learning and Teaching in this course

This course involves 2 hours of lectures per week, as well as a 2.5-hour practical class each week. You are **required to attend all of the compulsory weekly practical classes**, to attend &/or watch all lectures, and to meet all participation and assessment specifications. Lectures will provide opportunities to discuss ideas with your peers, so you are strongly encouraged to attend in person. Practicals will involve both preparatory tasks and interactive in-class activities that will extend lecture material and assist in the attainment of assessable learning outcomes.

You are required to participate in at least 1 hour of weekly collaboration with your group members outside of formal class times – i.e., during the last 30 minutes of your practical class, in the OTHER scheduled time (Wednesday 2pm), and/or at a time that suits ALL group members to attend weekly.

It is expected that students are aware of the UNSW Assessment policy and understand how to apply for Special Consideration if they are unable to complete an assignment/exam due to illness and/or misadventure.

It is expected that students have read through the School of Psychology Student Guide.

Moodle contains all lecture and practical materials, assessments, and all relevant information for this course. **You MUST complete and pass a quiz on this course outline in order to access most of the Moodle content**, so you are encouraged to do so ASAP and before your first class in Week 1. You are expected to check Moodle regularly and to read all Moodle announcements. You are also expected to regularly check your UNSW email.

Students registered with Equitable Learning Services (ELS) must contact the course co-ordinator immediately if they intend to request any special arrangements for later in the course, or if any special arrangements need to be made regarding access to the course material. Equitable Learning Plans (ELP) must be emailed to the course coordinator as soon as they are made available.

Additional Course Information

This course involves 2 hours of lectures per week, as well as a 2.5-hour practical class every week (other than Week 6). **Lectures and Practical classes start in Week 1.**

Lectures: Most lectures will be **held in person**, thus we encourage you to attend if you are able to do so. This will give you an opportunity to discuss ideas with your peers, rather than just listen passively to content being delivered. A few lectures will be online, and either made available for you to watch during the week, with the opportunity to ask the lecturer questions via Moodle, or occasionally delivered in the time slot "live" by the lecturer. You will be notified in advance which online lectures are prerecorded or "live". All in-person lectures will also be recorded and available on Moodle.

Practical Participation: Practicals are an essential and compulsory part of this course, and will involve interactive activities that build on the preparatory material, and assist in the development of learning outcomes. To benefit from and to contribute to practicals, preparation and completion of all preparatory work is required. Material relevant to the assignments will be presented and discussed in practicals. Your attention is also drawn to the following:

Practical session attendance: This course requires <u>100</u>**% practical attendance. Practicals start in**

Week 1 and are held **every week other than Week 6**. Attendance will be recorded at the beginning of every practical, and all absences will be recorded. Attendance at practicals and timely completion of practical tasks is essential in accordance with UNSW Assessment Implementation Procedure. As there is a major assessable groupwork component in this course that must be worked on in practical classes each week in addition to weekly class assessment tasks, inadequate attendance (less than 100% of all practicals) may result in you failing these components of the course, and thus severely jeopardise your ability to pass the course (whether or not you have medical certificates or other documentation). If you are unable to attend practicals because of sickness or other circumstances outside your control, please *contact Dr Morris as soon as possible*.

Your practical session time: You must attend the practical session to which you have been allocated every week. It will not be possible to switch or change practical classes once allocations are finalised.

Your tutor will be present for the first 2 hours of the practical class. The remaining half-hour is for you to work with your group on your group assignment. There will be no teaching staff in attendance for the last half hour of each practical class.

"Other" timeslot: In Week 3, an online quiz on the Stanovich material will be held during this timeslot (Wednesday 2pm). In other weeks, this timeslot is available to provide you with a common time which you may use to meet your group to collaborate on your groupwork assignments. There is no location specified for this timeslot.

For every 6-credit-unit course, you are expected to spend an average of *12 hrs per week on that course*—this includes class-time, pre- and post-practical preparation requirements, outside class-time group work, data-gathering exercises, and the normal study time necessary to adequately complete assignments and examination study. *Under no circumstances will employment be accepted as an excuse not to meet expectations for class participation, group work, or assessments*. Remember, the terms are quite short (final examinations will be upon you before you know it), so it is your responsibility to ensure that you do not fall behind with the ongoing assessment demands of the course.

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Research and Communication Assessment Format: Group	30%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: Part A: 4pm the day before Week 4 practical class; Part B: Week 10 practical class
Thinking like a psychologist Assessment Format: Individual	20%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: Not Applicable Post Date: 19/04/2024 04:00 PM
Quiz Assessment Format: Individual	6%	Start Date: 28/02/2024 02:00 PM Due Date: 28/02/2024 03:00 PM Post Date: 08/03/2024 08:00 PM
Final Exam Assessment Format: Individual	44%	Start Date: In exam period Due Date: Not Applicable

Assessment Details

Research and Communication
<ins>Assessment Overview</ins>

Part A (5%): This part of the Group Assignment will provide you with the opportunity to develop research analysis and design skills that are essential to Part B. You will work together to analyse a research article, answering a series of questions (e.g., identifying the independent and dependent variables), and designing a related experiment. Your group will be required to submit one written response (for which you will all receive the same mark) by 4pm the day before your Week 4 practical class (eg students in the Tuesday prac class will submit by 4pm Monday of Week 4). The absolute fail date for Part A is the beginning of the Week 4 Practical Class, after which students will receive a mark of 0. Marks and feedback for Part A will be provided within 10 working days of the due date.

Part B (25%): The oral presentation in Week 10 will be based on a field study that will be designed, conducted and presented by your small group. You will test a specific hypothesis by collecting data from at least 30 participants, and your group will present the results of your study to the class (for which it is expected that all group members will receive the same mark). Reporting on research in any area of science is an essential skill that reflects your ability to synthesise empirical (research-based) material requiring a considerable level of both theoretical and conceptual understanding, and to report your conclusions clearly and concisely. Overall, the group assignment will (a) familiarise you with the process of undertaking research in psychology, (b) familiarise you with a particular reporting style and help you acquire the basics of effective

and efficient scientific communication, (c) emphasise the development of your scientific communication and information literacy skills, as well as promoting critical thinking, and (d) provide you with a supported collaborative learning experience. Detailed instructions and background information for the group field study will be distributed in your Week 1 practical, and in online modules. Marks and feedback for Part B will be provided within 10 working days of the presentation. Students will also peer-review the oral presentations. The absolute fail date for Part B is the end of the Week 10 Practical Class, after which students will receive a mark of 0.

Please note that you are expected to meet weekly with your group to work on your group assignments in order to meet the required deadlines. The time on your schedule designated as "Other" is to enable your group to have at least one hour in common to meet, however you may meet for an hour at any time that all group members are available. Failure by any individual to adequately and/or consistently contribute to the group assignment(s) may result in a penalty being applied to that individual's group assignment mark.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Apply psychological knowledge in undertaking research, identifying and developing career pathways, and evaluating scientific literature.
- CLO2 : Apply the key features of undertaking research in psychology: that is, be able to design, conduct, and communicate scientifically meaningful research.
- CLO3 : Individually and collaboratively apply skills of analytical, critical and creative thinking.
- CLO4 : Demonstrate knowledge of ethical issues regarding psychological research.
- CLO5 : Effectively work in a team, including applying written and oral communication and presentation skills.
- CLO6 : Apply career literacy skills e.g. writing an effective curriculum vitae.

Detailed Assessment Description

Please see Moodle for detailed instructions and background information for Part A and Part B of the group assignment, which will also be discussed in detail in your practical classes.

While it is anticipated that in general, all group members will receive the same mark for their group assignments, failure by any individual to adequately and/or consistently contribute to the group assignment(s) may result in a penalty being applied to that individual's group assignment mark(s).

Feedback will be provided within 10 working days of submission. Students may also be asked to peer-review other group's assignments and/or presentations.

Assessment Length

Part A - 2 pages; Part B - 15 minute oral presentation

Submission notes

One group member is to submit via Turnitin on behalf of the group, ensuring all group members names are on the submission.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

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

Thinking like a psychologist

Assessment Overview

You will be asked to submit weekly homework tasks, including data gathering exercises, Positive Psychology tasks, and Moodle activities, each of which will be explained in detail during lectures and practicals, and on Moodle. Many of these will be used as the basis of activities in subsequent practical classes, while others will support and consolidate the content covered in practicals and/or lectures. For example, there will be a Career Assignment Practical Submission for which you will have to locate a relevant Job Advertisement and prepare a resume and a 150-word expression of interest to apply for the job. This is designed as a trigger to help you think about what skills you would need to acquire to work in that area of psychology. The career-oriented activities and online lectures will provide the basis for this task, by familiarising you with the skills involved in developing, identifying, documenting, and reflecting upon career- relevant achievements in relation to graduate and professional attributes. There will also be several written Reflection Submissions which are designed to help you reflect upon and self-assess what you have learned in the lectures, practicals and assessment tasks. Specific instructions will be given for each Reflection assignment (see Practical Guide for timing details). Marks and feedback on the tasks will be provided in practical classes and/or via Moodle within 10 working days of the due date for each task. Any individual Practical Submission received after the specified submission time will receive 0.

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- CLO6 : Apply career literacy skills e.g. writing an effective curriculum vitae.

Assessment Length

Variable

Submission notes

All submissions on Moodle

Assignment submission Turnitin type

Not Applicable

Quiz

Assessment Overview

Quiz: An online multiple-choice quiz will be held in Week 3, that will cover chapters in the assigned textbook (Stanovich: How to think straight about psychology), and may also give you practice in reflecting on what you have learnt. Feedback will be provided via Moodle by week 4.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Apply psychological knowledge in undertaking research, identifying and developing career pathways, and evaluating scientific literature.
- CLO3 : Individually and collaboratively apply skills of analytical, critical and creative thinking.
- CLO6 : Apply career literacy skills e.g. writing an effective curriculum vitae.

Detailed Assessment Description

Content from Lectures 2-4 and the course textbook will be examined in a 12-question Moodle multiple choice quiz held in the OTHER timeslot in Week 3. Feedback will be provided via Moodle in Week 4.

Assessment Length

10 minutes, 12 questions

Submission notes

Moodle quiz

Assignment submission Turnitin type

Not Applicable

Final Exam

Assessment Overview

Final exam: This will cover lecture and practical material and assigned readings. The exam will be held during the Final Examination Period. The final exam may consist of the following parts: 1) Multiple-choice questions - multiple-choice questions will cover all lecture topics (both in-person and pre-recorded). These will require you to apply the knowledge gained from the lectures. A detailed guide to examinable content will be provided in practical classes and on Moodle towards the end of term; 2) Research critique - you will be given a research design and methodology, and asked to identify flaws in the approach taken eg confounding variables; 3) Research design - you will be given a research question and asked to design a valid experiment to address that question.
Feedback is available through inquiry with the Course Convenor.

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Detailed Assessment Description

This course will provide you with multiple opportunities to practice both research design and critique. Class examples usually demonstrate one of two approaches: a "true experiment" with random assignment of subjects to conditions, with all the ethical and resource implications, OR a more realistic (quasi) experiment that compares behaviour in pre-existing groups/conditions, which although more feasible to actually conduct, then has limitations in terms of inferences (i.e., usually some alternative explanations to possible patterns of results). You can also practice this exercise by choosing a current 'human behaviour' issue in the media, and trying to work out how you could conduct a study to inform the issue.

Assessment Length

1 hour

Submission notes

Inspera

Assignment submission Turnitin type

Not Applicable

General Assessment Information

Grading Basis

Standard

Requirements to pass course

Students must reach an overall course grade of 50/100 to pass this course. Failure to attend 100% of practical classes is likely to severely impact your ability to pass this course.

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 1 : 12 February - 18 February	Lecture	Introduction (SM); Stanovich (SM)
	Tutorial	Intro to Group work; Intro to Research
	Assessment	Practical Submission due (see Moodle)
Week 2 : 19 February - 25 February	Lecture	Stanovich (SM)
	Tutorial	Intro to Positive Psychology; Group work
	Assessment	Practical Submission due (see Moodle)
Week 3 : 26 February - 3 March	Lecture	Critical and Creative Thinking (SM)
	Tutorial	Critical and Creative Thinking (CCT); Group work
	Assessment	Stanovich Quiz - 2-3pm Wednesday Practical Submission due (see Moodle)
Week 4 : 4 March - 10 March	Lecture	Critical and Creative Thinking (SM)
	Tutorial	CCT; Group work
	Assessment	Group Assignment Part A due 4pm day before practical class. Practical Submission due (see Moodle)
Week 5 : 11 March - 17 March	Lecture	Psychological Literacy & Adaptive Cognition (SM)
	Tutorial	CCT; Group work
	Assessment	Practical Submission due (see Moodle)
Week 6 : 18 March - 24 March	Other	Flex Week (no classes)
Week 7 : 25 March - 31 March	Lecture	Careers (SC)
	Tutorial	FINAL sign off on design; Group work
	Assessment	Practical Submission due (see Moodle)
Week 8 : 1 April - 7 April	Lecture	Forensic Psychology (RK)
	Tutorial	Careers Practical
	Assessment	Practical Submission due (see Moodle)
Week 9 : 8 April - 14 April	Lecture	Clinical Psychology (PB)
	Assessment	Practical Submission due (see Moodle)
	Tutorial	Data Interpretation; Group work
Week 10 : 15 April - 21 April	Lecture	Psych and Business (LM) ONLINE flexible
	Tutorial	Group Presentations
	Assessment	Group Assignment Part B: Oral Presentation in practical class Practical Submission due (see Moodle)

Attendance Requirements

100% practical (tutorial) attendance is required from Weeks 1-5 and 7-10 inclusive. You must attend your scheduled practical class.

Lecture attendance is strongly encouraged.

You are also expected to participate in at least one hour of weekly collaboration with your group members outside formal class times, and may use the OTHER timeslot for this.

General Schedule Information

Each week this course typically consists of **2 hours of lectures, 2.5 hours of formal practical**

work, at least 1 hour of group collaboration, and 6 hours of non-class (self-determined) hours to complete assessments, submissions, and exam preparation. Please see Moodle for detailed course schedule.

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

Stanovich, K. (2021). How to think straight about psychology. 11th Edition. Pearson Education Inc. *available as an e-book from* https://www.pearson.com/store/p/how-to-think-straight-about-psychology/P200000003081/9780137505623

(Please note there will be a quiz on this in Week 3, so you should start reading this ASAP. It will also be examinable in the final exam).

Recommended Resources

Morris, S., Cranney, J., Baldwin, P., Mellish, L., & Krochmalik, A. (2018). **The Rubber Brain: A toolkit for optimising your study, work, and life!** Australian Academic Press (available as print or e-book).

Available through the [UNIVERSITY BOOKSHOP](#), [AAPBOOKS.COM.AU](#), or [AMAZON.COM.AU](#)

Additional Costs

N/A

Course Evaluation and Development

MyExperience surveys are a key source of feedback about this course, as are student reflections which include their thoughts on the course. In addition, student feedback is always welcome via email, or via the Moodle forum. This feedback is used to ensure that the course is revised to be as student-centred and relevant as possible.

Previous students told us:

1. It was hard to know what was due when, especially with respect to practical submissions.
2. They found it hard to find times in common to meet in groups outside class.
3. The Critical and Creative Thinking lectures should come earlier in the course.
4. They wanted practice questions for the exam.
5. They loved the interactivity and opportunities for connection within the course.

We have responded to this feedback by:

1. Organising Moodle in terms of weeks, each incorporating a weekly "To Do" list; including every due date in the course schedule; having all practical submissions in a single section of Moodle, in order of due date; including a checklist so you can see what is due when, and whether you have completed it.
2. Scheduling one hour per week for your groups to meet (OTHER) plus extending prac classes by 30 minutes to allow you to keep working.
3. The CCT lectures have been moved to Weeks 3-4
4. Providing you with an opportunity to write MCQs (as a practical submission) that you and your peers can use for exam preparation.
5. Pracs will continue to be highly interactive, as well as in-person lectures to allow students to interact and connect.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Sue Morris		MAT911		by appointment	Yes	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 Plagarism

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

School-specific Information

School Contact Information

Additional Information