Course Outline

PSYC1111

Measuring Mind and Behaviour

School of Psychology

Faculty of Science

T3, 2019

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1. Staff

Position	Name	Email	Consultation times and locations	Contact Details
Course Convenor	Dr. Kate Hutton-Bedbrook	kate@unsw.edu.au	By appointment Mathews 915	Email
Lecturer	Dr. Kate Hutton-Bedbrook	kate@unsw.edu.au	By appointment Mathews 915	Email
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Tutor	Dr. Nura Lingawi	n.lingawi@unsw.edu.au	By appointment	Email
Tutor	Adrian Walker	adrian.walker@unsw.edu.au	By appointment	Email

2. Course information

Units of credit: 6

Pre-requisite(s): HSC maths, any level

Teaching times and locations: PSYC1111 Timetable

2.1 Course summary

This course provides students with knowledge of the characteristics of the scientific approach in general, and experimental methodology, design and data analysis in psychology in particular. It provides a comprehensive foundation in critical thinking, enabling students to design and plan research, conduct basic statistical analysis, scrutinise and critically evaluate published research, discriminate between evidence-based information and pseudoscience, and effectively communicate

statistical and research data in variety of formats and contexts. A significant amount of the course content will be delivered online via Moodle (https://student.unsw.edu.au/moodle), allowing students to interact with course material and assess their knowledge at their own pace.

2.2 Course aims

This course aims to assist students to develop confidence and skills in understanding, interpreting, evaluation and applying scientific concepts. The course also aims to provide the tools necessary to develop systematic, critical and analytical scientific thinking.

2.3 Course learning outcomes (CLO)

At the successful completion of this course the student should be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of basic research methods in psychology at an advanced level.
2. Frame research questions and formulate testable hypotheses, operationalize variables, and choose appropriate methods for your own research.
3. Demonstrate creative and critical thinking skills enabling you to apply knowledge of the scientific method in all fields of behavioural sciences.
4. Undertake literature searches and evaluate this information in order to use it appropriately in the research process.
5. Use reasoning and evidence to recognise, develop, defend and criticise arguments and persuasive appeals.
6. Demonstrate an understanding of and an ability to perform basic statistical analysis procedures, draw defensible conclusions and assess the validity of conclusions based on statistical analysis of experimental data.
7. Identify intentional and unintentional errors in research methods, data analysis and presentation, and interpretation of research results.
8. Differentiate between evidence based arguments and speculation in order to identify claims that arise from pseudoscience and recognise major fallacies in human thinking.

2.4 Relationship between course and program learning outcomes and assessments

	Program Learning Outcomes						
CLO	1. Knowledge	2. Research Methods	3. Critical Thinking Skills	4. Values and Ethics	5. Communication, Interpersonal and Teamwork	6. Application	**Assessment**
1.	Lectures, tutorials, online activities, weekly quizzes	Lectures, tutorials, online activities, weekly quizzes				Lectures, tutorials, online activities, weekly quizzes	Final exam, Critique, Report, Participation/Preparation.
2.	Lectures, tutorials, online activities, weekly quizzes	Lectures, tutorials, online activities, weekly quizzes	Lectures, tutorials, online activities, weekly quizzes		Lectures, tutorials, online activities, weekly quizzes	Lectures, tutorials, online activities, weekly quizzes	Final exam, Critique, Report, Participation/Preparation.
3.	Lectures, tutorials, online activities, weekly quizzes	Lectures, tutorials, online activities, weekly quizzes	Lectures, tutorials, online activities, weekly quizzes			Lectures, tutorials, online activities, weekly quizzes	Final exam, Critique, Report, Participation/Preparation.
4.		Lectures, tutorials, online activities, weekly quizzes	Lectures, tutorials, online activities, weekly quizzes		Lectures, tutorials, online activities, weekly quizzes	Lectures, tutorials, online activities, weekly quizzes	Final exam, Critique, Report, Participation/Preparation.
5.	Lectures, tutorials, online activities, weekly quizzes	Lectures, tutorials, online activities, weekly quizzes	Lectures, tutorials, online activities, weekly quizzes		Lectures, tutorials, online activities, weekly quizzes	Lectures, tutorials, online activities, weekly quizzes	Final exam, Critique, Report, Participation/Preparation.
6.	Lectures, tutorials, online activities, weekly quizzes	Lectures, tutorials, online activities, weekly quizzes	Lectures, tutorials, online activities, weekly quizzes		Lectures, tutorials, online activities, weekly quizzes	Lectures, tutorials, online activities, weekly quizzes	Final exam, Critique, Report, Participation/Preparation.
7.	Lectures, tutorials, online activities, weekly quizzes	Lectures, tutorials, online activities, weekly quizzes	Lectures, tutorials, online activities, weekly quizzes		Lectures, tutorials, online activities, weekly quizzes	Lectures, tutorials, online activities, weekly quizzes	Final exam, Critique, Report, Participation/Preparation.
8.	Lectures, tutorials, online activities, weekly quizzes	Lectures, tutorials, online activities, weekly quizzes	Lectures, tutorials, online activities, weekly quizzes			Lectures, tutorials, online activities, weekly quizzes	Final exam, Critique, Report, Participation/Preparation.

3. Strategies and approaches to learning

3.1 Learning and teaching activities

The course web page is available through the e-learning Moodle site: https://student.unsw.edu.au/moodle. Login with your student number and password, and follow the links to the PSYC1111 Measuring Mind and Behaviour page.

Lectures will be digitally recorded. Links to the lecture recordings will be available through the UNSW lecture recordings + portal on the course web page. Lecture slides will be also available on the course page.

There are 5 face to face 1-hour tutorials, held in weeks 2,4 6,8 and 10. Tutorial discussions are based on the readings and online tutorial content available on the course page. In order to be able to participate in face-to-face tutorial activities, students are required to complete the online tutorials and read the material related to the face-to-face tutorial activities. The online tutorials are held in weeks 3,5,7 and 9.

Online activities and **online tutorial materials** will be available on the course website.

The Q and A Forum provides students with an opportunity to question and clarify the concepts and ideas mentioned in the lectures. The lecturers will post answers to these questions in the Q and A forum. Students are strongly encouraged to engage with this forum by posting questions or comments, and reading, answering, or replying to other student's posts to enhance understanding of the content, critical thinking, and written communication skills.

The General Discussion Forum connects students in the course to encourage discussion of weekly content, revision, or topics of interest with each other. Regular engagement in the General Discussion Forum will help students gain an understanding of the material, critique the contributions of fellow students, and help develop written communication skills.

Topic revision quizzes are available for students that provide an opportunity to evaluate understanding of course material on a weekly basis. Timely completion of the weekly quizzes will assist students in gaining a proper understanding of each topic so that this knowledge can be built on in future content.

3.2 Expectations of students

It is expected that students are aware of 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.

Attendance at lectures and tutorials and participation in all online and tutorial activities is compulsory.

Tutorial attendance is compulsory to ensure students are consistently working towards achieving the foundational graduate competencies required by the APAC Accreditation Standards. These Accreditation Standards are incorporated in Program and Course Learning Outcomes. Attendance at face-to-face tutorials will be recorded. Students must attend 80% of tutorials to be eligible to pass the course. You should make sure your name has been marked on the class roll for each class you attend. Failure to meet these specified attendance requirements may result in course failure. Explanations for an occasional absence from a class or requests for permission to be absent from a class should be discussed with the lecturer/tutor, and where applicable, accompanied by a medical

certificate. **Under no circumstances will employment be accepted as an excuse not to meet expectations for class participation, group work, or assessments.** Remember, the semester times 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.

All news updates and announcements will be made on the 'Announcements' forum on the Moodle page and/or by email. It is the student's responsibility to check Moodle and their student emails regularly to keep up to date.

Students registered with Disability Support Services 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. Letters of support must be emailed to the course coordinator as soon as they are made available.

4. Course schedule and structure

Each week this course typically consists of 2 hours of lecture material, 1 hour of face to face tutorials every second week, 1 hour of online tutorials every second week and 2 hours of online activities. Students are expected to take an additional 5 hours each week of self-determined study to complete assessments, readings, and exam preparation.

Week	Lecture topic/s		Tutorial topic/s	Online activities	Self-determined activities
Week 1 16/09/2019	**Research Methods**: The scientific method (KHB)	**Research Methods:** Pseudoscience From anecdotes to true experiments (KHB)			Online revision modules Assigned reading/s
Week 2 23/09/2019	**Research Methods:** Confidence in experimental results: Reliability (KHB)	**Research Methods:** Confidence in experimental results: Validity (KHB)	Introduction to Scientific Methods	Online revision quiz	Online revision modules Assigned reading/s
Week 3 30/09/2019	**Research Methods**: Eliminating confounds (KHB)	**Research Methods:** Types of experimental research: True experiments (KHB)	Online tutorial	Online revision quiz	Online revision modules Assigned reading/s
Week 4 07/10/2019	**Research Methods:** Types of experimental research: Quasi-experiments (KHB)	**Research Methods:** Types of experimental research: Correlational studies. (KHB)	Research Designs and Method Sections	Online revision quiz	Online revision modules Assigned reading/s
Week 5 14/10/2019	**Research Methods**: Types of experimental research: Observational studies (KHB)	**Research Methods**: Ethics in research (KHB)	Online tutorial	Online revision quiz	Online revision modules Assigned reading/s

Week 6 21/10/2019	**Statistics**: Descriptive statistics (LKL)	**Statistics** Measures of variability (LKL)	How to Write a Research Report		Online revision modules Assigned reading/s
Week 7 28/10/2019	**Statistics**: z-scores (LKL)	**Statistics:** Introduction to probability (LKL)	Online Tutorial	Online revision quiz	Online revision modules Assigned reading/s
Week 8 04/11/2019	**Statistics**: Probability and the samples: The distribution of the sample means (LKL)	**Statistics**: Inferential statistics (Hypothesis testing) (LKL)	Data Analysis 1	Online revision quiz	Online revision modules Assigned reading/s
Week 9 11/11/2019	**Statistics:** Inferential statistics (Hypothesis testing) (LKL)	**Statistics**: Relationships in data (LKL)	Online Tutorial	Online revision quiz	Online revision modules Assigned reading/s
Week 10 18/11/2019	**Statistics:** Relationships in data (LKL)	**Statistics**: Using t-statistics for inferences about population means and mean differences (LKL)	Data Analysis 2	Online revision quiz	Online revision modules Assigned reading/s
Study period 26/11/2019					
Exam period 29/11/2019					

5. Assessment

5.1 Assessment tasks

All assessments in this course have been designed and implemented in accordance with UNSW Assessment Policy.

Assessment task	Length	Weight	Mark	Due date
Assessment 1: Research study critique	500 words	15%	/100	Sunday 13th October 11:59pm (Week 4)
Assessment 2: Research report	1500 words	25%	/100	Sunday 17th November 11:59pm (Week 9)
Assessment 3: Final exam	2 hrs	40%	/40	Exam period
Assessment 4: Participation/preparation activities	N/A	20%	/20	Varied

Assessment 1: You will be given a study that you will have to critically evaluate for its methodological soundness. Through open ended questions you will be asked to identify the research question, independent and dependent variables; confounding variables etc. Feedback will be provided online via Moodle within 10 days of the assignment due date.

Assessment 2: You will be required to write a full research report based on data provided to you. You will receive more information about the report in the assessment sheet and tutorials. Feedback will be provided online via Moodle within 10 days of the assignment due date.

Assessment 3: This will be a combination of multiple choice and short answer questions. The questions will cover the material covered in weeks 1-10 (inclusive) in lectures, online lecture activities and weekly quizzes, as well as suggested readings.

Assessment 4: Continuous Assessment- Online quizzes, Online Tutorials and Research Participation

Online weekly quizzes (total of 8%): will provide you with an opportunity to revise and deepen your knowledge of key concepts in the course. 8 weekly-revision quizzes will be available in weeks 2-5 and 7-10.**You will be awarded 1% for completing each quiz with a score of 65% or greater by Sunday 11:59pm the week it is released**. You may take the quiz as many times as you like, your highest attempt will count towards your grade. The quizzes will remain open for revision until the final exam. Feedback is provided online via Moodle upon completion of each quiz.

Online Tutorials (total of 8%): These activities are designed to prepare you for face-to-face tutorials, in order to get the marks for completing these activities (2% per each set of online tutorial activities) you will have to complete these activities by Monday 9am the following week. Late completions will be possible but will not earn marks. Feedback is provided online via Moodle upon completion of each online tutorial.

Research participation (4%):

You will be able to participate in psychological research within the School for up to 12 participation hours throughout the semester, **4 of which are compulsory (4%)** and up to 8 optional (up to 4% bonus @ 0.5% per SONA point). You receive a SONA point for each hour of research participation.

The deadline for completing all SONA participation hours is 5pm on Monday 25 November 2019.

By participating in on-going research, you learn first-hand about the ways in which research in psychology is conducted and can appreciate the application of the concepts that you encounter in lectures and tutorials. You will also find out about theories and areas of investigation that are beyond those you study in the course, giving you an insight into the research that academics are conducted in the School of Psychology. **In this sense, you are very much contributing to the advancement of psychological science.**

Clearly, the study of human behaviour cannot progress without humans to observe and we ask that you act in a responsible way to ensure your research participation provides useful data to researchers within our school.

Every researcher is under the general supervision of an Ethics committee and is therefore required to satisfy certain conditions that ensure ethical practice during an experiment (e.g., to provide information regarding the nature and aims of the study). There is no compulsion to participate in any particular study and it is quite in order to decline to participate after an explanation of what is involved has been given.

SONA: SONA is a web-based facility that provides information to students about approved research projects as they become available. It also enables students enrolled in Psychology to sign-up to participate in research projects of their choice. You can access SONA through Moodle.

You must be registered on SONA to receive research participation credit. Registration occurs automatically at the start of the session and you will receive your login details in an email to your UNSW student account. If you encounter any difficulties logging on to SONA, please contact **sona@psy.unsw.edu.au.** More information about SONA can be accessed in the SONA Student guide, available on Moodle. Remember it is your responsibility to ensure that you can access SONA.

Signing up to Participate: It is a good idea to complete your research participation requirement early, as fewer studies may be available towards the end of the semester. Any issues regarding outstanding credit must be resolved between you and the researcher by Friday 29 November 2019. If you are unable to resolve this issue, contact sona@psy.unsw.edu.au.

Only sign up for a study if you are sure you can attend on time. If you sign up and then do not attend without a reasonable excuse, 0.5 points will be deducted from your participation balance. This is because a failure to attend causes considerable inconvenience and cost to researchers. If you are going to miss or have missed a study for which you have signed up, you should contact the researcher as soon as possible, and you may be able to reschedule. It is at the researcher's discretion whether penalties are applied or rescinded.

When you attend an experiment, the researcher will explain as much as is possible about the study and will give you an opportunity to withdraw if you wish. Keep in mind that you may withdraw at any time during the study and this will not jeopardise your relationship with the researchers, PSYC1111, or the university in general.

Research Debriefing Discussion: In order to receive credit for your participation, you must discuss the experiment that you have completed with the researcher. They will debrief you on the study and provide you with a handout detailing your discussion. You should keep the handout for future reference. This is also an opportunity for you to ask any additional questions that you may have. No details of any individuals who took part in the study will be published; students will be anonymous members of the sample tested. If the researcher does not give you an adequate debrief of the study, contact sona@psy.unsw.edu.au.

Credit for Participation: You will receive 4% course credit once you complete the required 4 points of participation. Please note that your final point balance will incorporate both studies that you have completed AND any penalties for failure to attend. In addition, you may choose to complete additional research participation for bonus credit. Up to 8 additional points can earn you a maximum 4% course credit (@ 0.5% per SONA point e.g., 3 additional points = 1.5% course credit).

Many students wait until the final weeks of teaching to complete their research participation. **We strongly advise against this strategy as there will be limited research opportunities available.** Try to space out your participation across the course of the semester to ensure you have access to more available studies.

As your final credit for research participation will be derived from SONA records, you are responsible for ensuring that your SONA point balance shows all research that you have participated in. If any discrepancy arises, you must email sona@psy.unsw.edu.au no later than Friday 29 November 2019.

Prescreening Questionnaire: When you log in to the SONA system, you will be invited to complete a prescreening survey. These questionnaires are important to researchers to help them identify potential participants for future research. That means that if you choose to complete a questionnaire within the prescreening survey, in some cases this will determine which studies are and are not available for you to sign up for. Whether or not you take the prescreening survey, you will still be able to sign up for a variety of studies that do not have any specific selection criteria. In fact, the vast majority of studies do not have any specific selection criteria, and whether or not you choose to complete the prescreening survey will not affect your ability to complete the required number of credit hours. In exchange for completing one or more questionnaires in the prescreening survey, you will earn 1 SONA point (equivalent to 1 hour participation time).

It is important to note that completion of any or all of the prescreening surveys is entirely optional. Choosing to decline to participate in the prescreening surveys will not jeopardise your relationship with the School of Psychology or UNSW. If you decline to take the prescreening survey at first, you will be able to access the survey at a later time.

Deception: Usually the initial description of the study will be accurate. However, on occasion the researcher may find it necessary to mislead you as to the true purpose of the study. Such deception can occur in one of two ways. The researcher may simply omit important information, or the researcher may actually misrepresent the true nature of the study. These types of deception will only occur when there is no other way to obtain meaningful data given the rationale for the experiment. All elements of deception will have been approved by the applicable ethics committee. At the end of a study involving deception, the researcher is obliged to describe the deception and to explain why it was necessary.

Confidentiality: Only the researcher and the researcher's supervisor have access to information that specifically identifies you with the data you provided. Although data collected

from you may be reported on an individual or group basis in a publication, you can assume anonymity and confidentiality.

Complaints: If you have any complaints, you can obtain a Research Participation Complaint Form from the Psychology Office (Mathews Level 15). Your comments will be forwarded to the course coordinator and will remain completely confidential. Alternatively, you may contact the course coordinator directly if you wish.

Alternative Assignment: If you have an objection to participating as a subject in any research, you should talk to the Course Coordinator by the end of Week 4. The Course Coordinator will arrange an alternative assignment for you to complete in order to obtain the required research participation marks (4%).

UNSW grading system: https://student.unsw.edu.au/grades

UNSW assessment policy: https://student.unsw.edu.au/assessment

5.2 Assessment criteria and standards

Further details and marking criteria for each assessment will be provided to students closer to the assessment release date (see 4.1: UNSW Assessment Design Procedure).

5.3 Submission of assessment tasks

Assessments 1 & 2: In accordance with UNSW Assessment Policy written pieces of assessment must be submitted online via Turnitin. No paper or emailed copies will be accepted.

Late penalties: deduction of marks for late submissions will be in accordance with School policy (see: Psychology Student Guide).

Special Consideration: Students who are unable to complete an assessment task by the assigned due date can apply for special consideration. Students should also note that UNSW has a Fit to Sit/Submit rule for all assessments. If a student wishes to submit an application for special consideration for an exam or assessment, the application must be submitted prior to the start of the exam or before an assessment is submitted. If a student sits the exam/submits an assignment, they are declaring themselves well enough to do so and are unable to subsequently apply for special consideration. If a student becomes ill on the day of the exam, they must provide evidence dated within 24 hours of the exam, with their application.

Special consideration applications must be submitted to the online portal along with Third Party supporting documentation. Students who have experienced significant illness or misadventure during the assessment period may be eligible. Only circumstances deemed to be outside of the student's control are eligible for special consideration. Except in unusual circumstances, the duration of circumstances impacting academic work must be more than 3 consecutive days, or a total of 5 days within the teaching period. If the special consideration application is approved, students may be given an extended due date, or an alternative assessment/supplementary examination may be set. For more information see https://student.unsw.edu.au/special-consideration.

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

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

5.4. Feedback on assessment

Feedback on all pieces of assessment in this course will be provided in accordance with UNSW Assessment Policy.

Assessment	When	Who	Where	How
Final exam	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Research study critique	Within 10 days of due date	Tutor	Online	Moodle
Research report	Within 10 days of due date	Tutor	Online	Moodle
Weekly online quizzes	Immediate	N/A	Online	Moodle
Online tutorial activities	Immediate	N/A	Online	Moodle
Research Participation	Exam period	N/A	Online	N/A

6. Academic integrity, referencing and plagiarism

The APA (6th 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:

APA 6th edition.

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.[1] 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 and **plagiarism** can be located at:

- The *Current Students* site https://student.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism**,** and
- The *ELISE* training site http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise/presenting

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

[1] International Center for Academic Integrity, 'The Fundamental Values of Academic Integrity', T. Fishman (ed), Clemson University, 2013.

7. Readings and resources

Textbook	No prescribed text. Recommended texts: Kumar, R. (2014). *Research Methodology: A step-by-step guide for beginners.* Sage Publications. (4th Ed) Field, A. (2016). An Adventure in Statistics: The Reality Enigma. Sage Publications. (1st Ed)
Course information	Available on Moodle
Required readings	School of Psychology Student Guide.
Recommended internet sites	UNSW Library UNSW Learning centre ELISE Turnitin Student Code of Conduct Policy concerning academic honesty Email policy UNSW Anti-racism policy statement UNSW Equity and Diversity policy statement UNSW Equal opportunity in education policy statement

8. Administrative matters

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
- Disability Support Services
- Health and safety

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

9. Additional support for students

- The Current Students Gateway: https://student.unsw.edu.au/
- Academic Skills and Support: https://student.unsw.edu.au/academic-skills
- Student Wellbeing, Health and Safety: https://student.unsw.edu.au/wellbeing
- Disability Support Services: https://student.unsw.edu.au/disability-services
- UNSW IT Service Centre: https://www.it.unsw.edu.au/students/index.html