



Course Outline

PSYC7230

Research Thesis (Clinical) 1 (6 UOC)

School of Psychology

Faculty of Science

T1, 2022

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1. Staff

| Position | Name | Email | Consultation times and locations | Contact Details |
|----------------------------|---------------------|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Course Convenor | Dr Chien Hoong Gooi | c.gooi@unsw.edu.au | Arranged via email Mathews 805 | 9065 7754 |
| Research Thesis Supervisor | As assigned | | | |

2. Course information

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Units of credit: | 6 |
| Pre-requisite(s): | N/A |
| Teaching times and locations: | Individual supervision with research supervisor Research methods workshops |

2.1 Course summary

This course involves undertaking a research project under the supervision of a member of academic staff in the School of Psychology. Research projects may be carried out on any topic that is relevant to clinical or abnormal psychology. Candidates are required to prepare a thesis in the form of a journal article. Refer to the Guide to Research Projects available on the School website.

<http://www.psy.unsw.edu.au/postgraduate-coursework/master-psychology-clinical>

2.2 Course aims

The aim of the course is to further develop candidates' skills in conducting research and teach them to prepare a report in the form of a research article for submission to a journal.

2.3 Course learning outcomes (CLO)

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

1. Plan and execute a research-based project that is applicable to the field of clinical psychology.
2. Critically review literature associated with a research-based project.
3. Independently undertake research activities in an ethical manner.
4. Demonstrate critical thinking and technical skills in research and design.
5. Present a clear and coherent exposition of knowledge and ideas to a variety of audiences.

2.4 Relationship between course and program learning outcomes and assessments

| Program Learning Outcomes | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| CLO | 1. Knowledge of the discipline | 2. Ethical, legal and professional matters | 3. Assessment & Measurement | 4. Intervention Strategies | 5. Research and evaluation | 6. Communication and interpersonal relationships | 7. Working cross-culturally | 8. Practice across the lifespan | Assessment |
| 1. | Supervision, thesis activities. | | | | Supervision, thesis activities. | | | | Thesis progress |
| 2. | Supervision, thesis activities. | | | | Supervision, thesis activities. | | | | Thesis progress |
| 3. | | Supervision, thesis activities. | | | Supervision, thesis activities. | | | | Thesis progress |
| 4. | Supervision, thesis activities. | | | | Supervision, thesis activities. | | | | Thesis progress |
| 5. | Supervision, thesis activities. | | | | | Supervision, thesis activities. | | | Thesis progress |

3. Strategies and approaches to learning

3.1 Learning and teaching activities

In this course, students are encouraged to consult, evaluate and be guided by findings in the empirical literature. The development of a research question and the processes of conducting a research project and preparing a journal article for publication develop students' capacity to conduct theoretically-driven and clinically-relevant research. Teaching in this course is delivered via one-on-one supervision from thesis supervisors, and through verbal and written feedback on drafts of the thesis.

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, Program Guide and statement on Inherent Requirements of the Master of Psychology programs on the [Program website](#).

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 the Equitable Learning Services must contact the Course Convenor 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. An Equitable Learning Plan must be emailed to the course coordinator as soon as they are made available.

4. Course schedule and structure

This course consists of individual supervision sessions with academic members of staff.

| Week | Topic | Activity | Related CLO |
|-----------------|-------|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| Throughout Term | N/A | Supervision with research supervisor | 1 - 5 |

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 |
|--|--------|--------|------------------------------|----------|
| <p>Assessment: Progress with Research Thesis</p> <p>Candidates will need to have demonstrated sufficient progress in the design and implementation of their research project. Level of progress will jointly be determined by the Course Convenor and the Research Supervisor, and will be based on the scope and type of research project.</p> <p>As a guide, candidates at this stage are expected to have completed a thorough review of literature related to their area of study, developed a clear research project and obtained any necessary ethics approval for their research project.</p> <p>In some instances, the Course Convenor and/or the Research Supervisor might require the candidate to submit a brief report detailing the progress around the candidate's research project and any significant changes to topic or research methodology.</p> | N/A | N/A | Satisfactory /Unsatisfactory | Week 11 |

NB: The above assessment structure is currently being reviewed by UNSW and all candidates will be informed of any changes to the assessment structure.

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

Written assessments: In accordance with UNSW Assessment Policy this must be submitted online via Turnitin.

Late penalties: Late theses will be penalised one (1) mark for every day late. If you believe that your thesis is late because of special circumstances, then you should (a) discuss the situation with your supervisor in the first instance, and (b) inform the Program Directors that your thesis is going to be late by way of a written explanation (with relevant documentation) asking for special consideration with regard to the late penalty. Your supervisor cannot grant you an extension.

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 |
|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Thesis Progress | Across the term | Course Convenor & Research Supervisor | On campus | Verbal/Written |

6. Academic integrity, referencing and plagiarism

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:

[APA 7th edition](#).

In some instances, the Research Supervisor could make a judgment that an alternative formal referencing style should be adopted. This typically occurs when research writing is submitted for journal publication and the referencing style is based on the requirements of the journal and publisher.

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>

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>.

7. Readings and resources

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Textbook | No set text; suggested readings provided by supervisor and additional readings obtained as a result of students' literature review |
| Course information | Available on Moodle |
| Required readings | School of Psychology Student Guide . Guide to Research Projects |
| Recommended internet sites | UNSW Library UNSW Learning Centre ELISE Turnitin Student Code of Conduct Plagiarism Policy 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

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

- Student complaints and grievances
- Equitable Learning 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>
- Equitable Learning Services: <https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/els>
- UNSW IT Service Centre: <https://www.it.unsw.edu.au/students/index.html>