



Course Outline

PSYC1021

Introduction to Psychological Applications

School of Psychology

Faculty of Science

T1, 2023

Last updated: 02/02/23

1. Staff

Position	Name	Email	Consultation times and locations
Course Convenor, Tutor & Lecturer	Dr Sue Morris (SM)	s.morris@unsw.edu.au	By appointment only
Lecturer	Elizabeth Summerell (ES)	e.summerell@unsw.edu.au	Email for availabilities
Lecturer	Shaminie Chetty (SC)	s.chetty@unsw.edu.au	Email for availabilities
Lecturer	Dr Richard Kemp (RK)	richard.kemp@unsw.edu.au	Email for availabilities
Lecturer	Peter Baldwin (PB)	p.baldwin@blackdog.org.au	Email for availabilities

2. Course information

Units of credit:	6
Pre-requisite(s):	PSYC1021 is restricted to students currently enrolled in programs 3632 (Bachelor of Psychology (Hons)), and 4721 (Bachelor of Psychology (Hons)/Law).
Teaching times and locations:	PSYC1021 Timetable

2.1 Course summary

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.

2.2 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 program. 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.

2.3 Course learning outcomes (CLO)

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

CLO	Specifics [and assessments]	Level (1=intro; 2=moderate; 3=minimum program standard (pass))
1 Knowledge	Apply psychological knowledge in undertaking research, identifying and developing career pathways, and evaluating scientific literature [All]	1
	Demonstrate knowledge of key issues in forensic, clinical and business professional psychology contexts [Final Exam]	1
2 Research Methodology	Apply the key features of undertaking research in psychology: that is, be able to design, conduct, and communicate scientifically meaningful research [Group assignment; Practical Submissions, Final Exam]	1
3 Critical thinking skills	Individually and collaboratively apply skills of analytical, critical and creative thinking in research [Group assignment; Final exam]	1
	Individually and collaboratively apply skills of analytical & critical thinking in human behaviour (eg cognitive fallacies)[Stanovich quiz; Final exam]	1
4 Values & Ethics	Demonstrate knowledge of ethical issues regarding psychological research [Group assignment]	1
5 Communication, interpersonal & teamwork	Effectively work in a team, including applying written and oral communication and presentation skills. [Group assignment, Practical Submissions]	1
	Demonstrate the capacity for effective teamwork [Group assignment]	1
6 Application	Apply the key features of undertaking research in psychology [Practical submissions; Group assignment; Final Exam]	1
	Apply career literacy skills eg writing an effective curriculum vitae [Practical Submissions]	1

2.4 Relationship between course & program learning outcomes, activities and assessments

CLO Intro Level	Program Learning Outcomes						
	1. Knowledge	2. Research methodology	3. Critical thinking skills	4. Values & Ethics	5. Communication	6. Application	Assessment
1	Lectures, practicals, quiz, online modules						Group assignment, Practical submissions, Stanovich quiz, Final exam
2		Lectures, practicals, quiz, online modules					Group assignment, Practical submissions, Final exam
3			Lectures, practicals, quiz, online modules				Group assignment, Stanovich quiz, Final exam
4				Lectures, Practical			Group assignment
5					Lectures, practicals		Group assignment, Practical submissions, Final exam
6						Lectures, practicals, online modules	Group assignment, Practical submissions, Stanovich quiz, Final exam

Knowledge - Aligns with UNSW Graduate Capability of Scholarship

Research Methodology – Aligns with UNSW Graduate Capability of Scholarship

Critical thinking skills - Aligns with UNSW Graduate Capability of Scholarship

Values and Ethics - Aligns with UNSW Graduate Capability of Professionalism

Communication, Interpersonal & Teamwork Skills - Aligns with UNSW Graduate Capabilities of Professionalism, Leadership, Global Citizenship

Application - Aligns with UNSW Graduate Capabilities of Self-management, Professionalism, and Scholarship

3. Strategies and approaches to learning

3.1 Learning and teaching activities

This course involves 2 hours of lectures per week, as well as a 2.5-hour practical class most weeks.

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. Some lectures will online, and either delivered in the time slot “live” by the lecturer, run online in the lecture timeslot, or made available for you to watch during the week, with the opportunity to ask the lecturer questions via Moodle. You will be notified in advance which lectures are “live”, and whether in person or online. All 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:

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

Practical session attendance: This course requires **100% 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. Inadequate attendance (less than 100% of all practicals) may result in failure 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 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.

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.

3.2 Expectations of students

You are **required to attend all practicals**, to attend &/or watch all lectures, and to meet all participation and assessment specifications. If possible, lectures will be digitally recorded and made accessible via Moodle. Please note that occasionally there is group work in lecture times. Note that you are expected to attend **all** of the compulsory weekly practical classes. Practical classes will involve interactive activities that will extend lectures 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 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 lecture and practical materials, assessment materials, and any updated information. You are expected to check Moodle regularly. You are also expected to regularly check your UNSW email. Students registered with Equitable Learning Services (ELS) must contact the course coordinator 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.

4. Course schedule and structure

Each week this course typically consists of **2 hours of lectures, 2 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.

Week	Lecture Topic <i>Tues 9-10am (MAT B)</i> AND Wed 12-1pm (MAT A)	Practical Topic <i>Tues 11-1.30 MAT101 (SM)</i> <i>Wed 9-11.30 MAT105 (SM)</i> <i>Thur 9-11.30 MAT105 (SM)</i> <i>Thur 11.30-2 MAT105 (SM)</i>	Assessment tasks: Practical submissions (PS); Group assignment (GA); Test (T); Exam (E)
Week 1 13/02/23	Introduction (SM); Stanovich (SM)	Intro to Group work; Intro to Research	Group work part A released PS Getting to Know you post due 11pm Sunday 19/2
Week 2 20/02/23	Stanovich (SM); Introduction to Research (SM)	Intro to Research; Grp work Part A (cont.)	PS Queue observation due before prac Group Work Part B released
Week 3 27/02/23	Critical and Creative Thinking (ES)	Critical and Creative Thinking (CCT); group work	T Stanovich Quiz 2-3pm Wednesday 1/3 PS Positive psychology 1 due before prac
Week 4 6/03/23	Critical and Creative Thinking (ES)	CCT; group work	GA Group work Part A due 4pm day before prac PS Positive psychology 2 due before prac PS Reflection 1 due before prac
Week 5 13/03/23	Psych Literacy & Adaptive Cognition 1 (SM); AC 2 (ES)	CCT; group work	GA journal article submission due before prac PS Positive psychology 3 due before prac
Week 6 20/03/23	Sign off on design (SM) (via email) Effective presentation lecture part 1 & 2 online (flexible)	FLEX WEEK NO PRACS	PS Research Design due 11pm 26/3
Week 7 27/03/23	Careers (SC)	FINAL sign off on design; group work	PS Career Assignment due before lecture PS Reflection 2 due before prac
Week 8 3/04/23	Forensic Psychology (RK)	Careers Practical	PS Job Ad due before prac GA Data collection
Week 9 10/04/23	Clinical Psychology (PB) Online (during lectures)	Data Interpretation; group work	GA Data due in prac
Week 10 17/04/23	Psych and Business (LM) ONLINE (flexible)	Group Presentations	GA Group Part B: Oral Presentation in prac; PS Reflection 3 due 11pm 23/4 (NB watch career videos before doing this) PS MCQ due 11pm 23/4
Study period: 22-27/4/23			
Exam period: 28/04/23-11/5/23			

5. Assessment

5.1 Assessment tasks

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

There are FOUR categories of assessment in this course, as outlined below. It is important to note that many of the assessment tasks involve the development of a skill. For that reason, students are being asked to complete some tasks more than once, with the first attempt having only a small weighting or used as a baseline against which the later and/or final version(s) will be compared.

Assessment task	Weight	Due date	CLOs
Assessment 1: Research and communication (Group assignment - GA)	30%	Part A: 4pm the day before your week 4 Practical Class Part B: During Week 10 Practical	1,2,3,4,5,6
Assessment 2: Thinking like a Psychologist (Practical Submissions - PS)	20%	Weekly	1,2,5,6
Assessment 3: Stanovich Quiz (Test -T)	6%	Wednesday 1/3/23 2-3pm	1,3,6
Assessment 4: Final Exam (E)	44%	Final exam in exam period	1,2,3,4,5,6

Assessment 1- Research and Communication: Group Assignment (30%)

Part A (5%):

This part of the Group Assignment will involve analysis of a research article, whereby a series of questions will need to be answered (e.g., identifying the independent and dependent variables), and a research design exercise. 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. 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. You must also bring 6 hard copies of the research design component of your group assignment to the Week 4 prac class.

Part B (25%):

The presentation in Week 10 will be based on a field study that will be designed, analysed, and presented by your small group. You will design a study to test one or more specific hypotheses, test participants, and interpret your results. There are a number of submissions related to your group work due throughout the term (denoted GA). In Week 10, 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 and creative thinking, and (d) provide you with a supported collaborative learning experience. Detailed instructions and background information for the group study will be distributed in your Week 1 practical, and on Moodle. Students may also be asked to peer-review the 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”, as well as the last half-hour of your prac class 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.

Assessment 2 - Practical Submissions: Thinking Like a Psychologist (20%)

This will be judged on the basis of your submission of homework tasks (worth a total of 14%), including data gathering exercises, Positive Psychology tasks, and Moodle activities, all of which will be explained in more detail during lectures and practicals.

Some of these will be given in your practical class and due before the start of the next practical class. Others can be done at any time before the due date. Please ensure that you keep track of when these are due, which is specified on Moodle as well as in the Course Schedule above.

For example, there will be a Career Assignment Practical Submission, due before the Careers lectures in Week 7. You will have to 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. You will also need to locate a Psychology-relevant Job Advertisement. The career-oriented activities and online lectures will support 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. You will be asked to reflect on what you have learnt in one of the Reflection Practical Submissions.

There will be three written Reflection Practical Submissions (worth 6%), 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).

Where activities require documents to be submitted, only PDFs, Word documents, or JPEGs will be accepted.

Any individual Practical Submission received after the specified submission time will receive 0.

Assessment 3 – Test: Online Stanovich Quiz (6%)

An online multiple-choice quiz comprising 12 questions will cover the lectures on the recommended textbook (Stanovich: How to think straight about psychology), providing feedback as to your grasp of the content, and giving you practice in reflecting on what you have learnt.

When: Week 3 – Wednesday 1/3 2pm. Feedback will be provided via Moodle in Week 4.

Assessment 4 – Examination: Final Exam (44%)

This will cover lecture and practical material and any assigned readings. The online exam will be held during the Final Examination Period. The final exam may consist of the following parts:

- Multiple-choice questions. Some answers require basic definitions, whereas others require analysis of a situation. These will include multiple-choice questions on the forensic, clinical, career and organisational/business lectures as well as the Stanovich, CCT and AC lectures.

A more detailed guide to content will be provided in one of the final lectures;

- research design critique

- “design a study”. 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 will be provided with multiple opportunities to practice your research design skills throughout the course. 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.

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

In accordance with UNSW Assessment Policy, written pieces of assessment (eg Group Assignment A) must be submitted online via Turnitin. No paper or emailed copies of written pieces will be accepted.

Late penalties: deduction of marks for late submissions will be in accordance with School policy (see: Psychology Student Guide), unless otherwise stated in this outline.

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. It is advisable that you notify Dr Morris if you submit a Special Consideration application, to ensure that she is aware that you have applied (no additional detail needs to be provided to her). 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
Assessment 1: Research and communication (Group assignment)	Part A: Week 6 Part B: Week 11	SM SM	Moodle Moodle	Rubric Summative feedback
Assessment 2: Thinking like a Psychologist (Practical Submissions)	Varied	SM	Moodle, in class	Formative & summative feedback
Assessment 3: Stanovich Quiz (Test)	Week 4	Moodle	Moodle	Quiz feedback
Assessment 4: Examination	Final Exam	SM	N/A	N/A

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](#).

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

Required Text	Stanovich, K. (2021). How to think straight about psychology. 11th Edition. Pearson Education Inc. <i>available as an e-book from http://www.pearson.com.au/9780137505623</i> .
Recommended Text	Morris, Cranney et al (2018). The Rubber Brain. Australian Academic Press.
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 UNSW Equity and Diversity policy statement

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

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/>
- Student support: <https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/support>
- 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://student.unsw.edu.au/els>
- UNSW IT Service Centre: <https://www.myit.unsw.edu.au/>