PSYC7221 Evidence Based Clinical Psychology - 2023

Course Code : PSYC7221
Year : 2023
Term : Term 2
Teaching Period : T2
Delivery Mode : In person
Delivery Format : Standard
Delivery Location : Kensington

General Course Information

Course Code : PSYC7221
Year : 2023
Term : Term 2
Teaching Period : T2
Is a multi-term course? : No
Faculty : Faculty of Science
Academic Unit : School of Psychology
Delivery Mode : In person
Delivery Format : Standard
Delivery Location : Kensington
Campus : Sydney
Study Level : Postgraduate
Units of Credit : 6

Useful Links

Handbook Class Timetable

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

A continuation of the problem-oriented approach begun in PSYC7212, this course examines the

theoretical basis of models of psychopathology, assessment and intervention, and related professional issues. This course covers a range of topics which include psychopharmacology, and evidence-based practice for a range of conditions. The course entails 2 x two-hour face-to-face workshops each week, delivered by UNSW School of Psychology academics as well as discipline-expert guest speakers. There is an emphasis on the development of critical evaluation of the evidence base for psychological therapies; hence, in the final weeks, candidates work in groups to develop their own workshops on an evidence-based psychological therapy to deliver to the class.

Course Aims

The overall aim of this course is to present an advanced-level coverage of the theoretical basis of models of psychopathology, assessment and intervention, and related professional issues. The lectures will introduce a range of advanced topics which include psychopharmacology, and evidence-based practice for a range of complex conditions. The guest speakers will offer discipline-specific expert content knowledge on specialised areas of psychological practice. The candidate-run workshops will provide "hands-on" experience in the development of critical evaluation of the evidence base for psychological therapies.

Relationship to Other Courses

This course is a continuation of the problem-oriented approach begun in PSYC7212.

Course Learning Outcome

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Compare and contrast empirically-supported treatments of psychological disorders.
CLO2 : Evaluate the level of efficacy and evidence of psychological interventions to inform the safe practice of clinical psychology.
CLO3 : Compare and contrast psychopharmacological therapies used in the treatment of psychological disorders, and identify the advantages and disadvantages of each.
CLO4 : Evaluate how common psychotropics interact with psychological treatments and describe the resultant implications for inter-professional practice.
CLO5 : Identify and evaluate issues associated with ethical research and safe practice of clinical psychology.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Compare and contrast empirically-supported treatments of psychological disorders.	- Evidence-Based Practice Essay - Group Presentations
CLO2 : Evaluate the level of efficacy and evidence of psychological interventions to inform the safe practice of clinical psychology.	- Evidence-Based Practice Essay - Group Presentations

CLO3 : Compare and contrast psychopharmacological therapies used in the treatment of psychological disorders, and identify the advantages and disadvantages of each.	• Psychopharmacology Essay
CLO4 : Evaluate how common psychotropics interact with psychological treatments and describe the resultant implications for inter-professional practice.	• Psychopharmacology Essay
CLO5 : Identify and evaluate issues associated with ethical research and safe practice of clinical psychology.	• Evidence-Based Practice Essay

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

Learning and Teaching in this course

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 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.

Additional Course Information

Content and Teaching Approach are based on the basic knowledge necessary for competence as a clinical psychologist operating within a scientist-practitioner framework.

To achieve the learning outcomes outlined above, you will need to attend all of the lectures. Attendance is compulsory. The group presentation and written assignments will each provide you with an opportunity to test your understanding of the Learning Outcomes outlined above.

Assessments

Assessment Structure

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Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Psychopharmacology Essay Assessment FormatIndividual	35%	Start DateNot Applicable Due DateWeek 2
Evidence-Based Practice Essay Assessment FormatIndividual	35%	Start DateNot Applicable Due DateWeek 7
Group Presentations Assessment FormatGroup	30%	Start DateNot Applicable Due DateWeek 7 or 8

Assessment Details

Psychopharmacology Essay

You will be expected to answer an essay question in 1500 words (max) on the topic of psychopharmacology and its relationship with Clinical Psychology practice. This essay question will be based on content provided in the first pharmacotherapy workshop, and informed by independent literature reviews that you are expected to conduct. An assessment guide and marking rubric will be provided with further details and expectations. The essay is due in Week 2. Feedback will be provided in Week 4 through comments and a marked rubric. All assessments use competency-based standards. You must receive satisfactory on all assessment items to pass the course.

Students will be provided with an essay question in the Psychopharmacology workshops.

Assessment Length

1500 words (max)

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Evidence-Based Practice Essay

You will be expected to answer an essay question in 1500 words (max) based on the Evidence-based-practice workshop series. The essay is typically distributed in week 4 and is typically due in week 7. You should use the content and discussions held in the workshop series, and the provided readings, to inform your answer to the essay question. Feedback will be provided in Week 9 through comments and a marked rubric. All assessments use competency-based standards. You must receive satisfactory on all assessment items to pass the course.

Students will be provided with an essay question on Peter Lovibond's Evidence- based practice workshops.

Assessment Length

1500 words (max)

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Group Presentations

You will work in pairs to present an empirically-supported treatment (EST) for a specific disorder / problem for approximately 110 minutes (a 2 hour workshop with breaks). Presentations typically take place in Weeks 9 and 10. Your team will be provided with key readings on each EST, and your team is expected to use these readings as a starting point from which to base your own literature review on the EST. Your team should develop a resource package that contains items including key readings, links to relevant demos, and provision of materials like self-monitoring forms, treatment manuals, or other therapeutic aids. You will be expected to distribute this resource package to the course coordinator and the other students one week prior to the presentation (typically weeks 8 and 9), so that other students can read the relevant material. This task is graded satisfactory/unsatisfactory.

When presenting the EST, your team should be prepared to describe the technical aspects of the approach in some detail, including a demonstration of the approach either as role-plays or on videotape. Please note that not only the content but also the style and originality of the presentation will contribute to the grade. Your presentations should include a brief review of the empirical evidence supporting the use of the approach, particularly when compared to other approaches. Most of the time, however, should be devoted to describing and demonstrating the approach in some detail (e.g., by roleplaying, illustrating a case, using videotapes, audiotapes, etc.). The presentation is graded as satisfactory/unsatisfactory.

Feedback will be provided within one week of the presentation through comments and a marked rubric. All assessments use competency-based standards. You must receive satisfactory on all assessment items to pass the course.

Students will be provided with information on the topics and key readings in Week 1. Please note that presentations will take place earlier this year, in Weeks 7 and 8.

Assessment Length

110 minutes

Assignment submission Turnitin type

Not Applicable

General Assessment Information

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

Referencing: 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.

Grading Basis

Satisfactory

Requirements to pass course

All assessments use competency-based standards. You must receive satisfactory on all assessment items to pass the course.

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 1 : 29 May - 2 June	Workshop	*** OUT OF SCHEDULE WORKSHOP *** **FRIDAY OF O-WEEK** **FRI 26/5: 9:30am-4:30pm** Mathews 927 Psychopharmacology - Prof Bronwyn Graham
	Lecture	**MON 29/5: 10am-12pm** Mathews 927 Introduction to Evidence Based Practice (EBP) - Dr Caitlin Cowan
	Lecture	**TUE 30/5: 10am-12pm** Mathews 927 Experimental Psychopathology - Prof Peter Lovibond
Week 2 : 5 June - 9 June	Lecture	**TUE 6/6: 10am-12pm** Mathews 927 Experimental Psychopathology - Prof Peter Lovibond
Week 3 : 12 June - 16 June	Lecture	**TUE 13/6: 10am-12pm** Mathews 927 Experimental Psychopathology - Prof Peter Lovibond
Week 4 : 19 June - 23 June	Lecture	**Tue 20/6: 10am-12pm** Mathews 927 Experimental Psychopathology - Prof Peter Lovibond

Week 5 : 26 June - 30 June	Lecture	**Tue 27/6: 10am-12pm** Mathews 927 CBT for Insomnia - Dr Elizabeth Mason
Week 7 : 10 July - 14 July	Assessment	**MON 10/7: 10am-12pm** Mathews 927 EBP student presentations - Dr Caitlin Cowan
	Assessment	**TUE 11/7: 10am-12pm** Mathews 927 EBP student presentations - Dr Caitlin Cowan
Week 8 : 17 July - 21 July	Assessment	**MON 17/7: 10am-12pm** Mathews 927 EBP student presentations - Dr Caitlin Cowan
	Assessment	**TUE 18/7: 10am-12pm** Mathews 927 EBP student presentations - Dr Caitlin Cowan
Week 9 : 24 July - 28 July	Lecture	**MON 24/7: 10am-12pm** Mathews 927 Alcohol and other drugs - Brendan Crozier
	Lecture	**TUE 25/7: 10am-12pm** Mathews 927 Alcohol and other drugs - Brendan Crozier
Week 10 : 31 July - 4 August	Lecture	**MON 31/7: 10am-12pm** Mathews 927 CBT for hoarding - Prof Jessica Grisham
	Workshop	***PLEASE NOTE EARLIER START TIME*** **TUE 1/8: 9am - 12pm**

		Mathews 927 Eating disorders - Dr Alice Kesby

Attendance Requirements

Please note that lecture recordings are not available for this course. Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and contact the Course Authority to make alternative arrangements for classes missed.

General Schedule Information

Given the professional training nature of the course, teaching and placement activities can occur outside of the standard term dates and times. Please check the specific dates and times of activities in the Course Schedule carefully.

Each week this course typically consists of 4 hours of lecture material (2 x 2 h workshops per week, scheduled on **Mondays 10am-12pm (Mathews 927)** and **Tuesdays 10am-12pm (Mathews 927)**, and 2 hours of practical activities/videos/online resources. Students are expected to take an additional 6 hours of self-determined study to complete assessments and readings.

Note that there is an additional full-day workshop scheduled for the topic of Psychopharmacology in O-Week **(Friday 26/5/23 in Mathews 927)**. As well, Eating disorders will be presented as a half day workshop in Week 10 (note the earlier start time: **9am-12pm Mathews 927**). There are no classes scheduled in Week 6, or on the Monday of Weeks 2, 4, 5, and 10 to account for these additional workshops.

All workshops will be delivered face to face at this stage. You will be notified in advance if circumstances change and a zoom meeting will be scheduled if required.

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

Required readings:

- School of Psychology Student Guide
- Master of Psychology (Clinical) Program Guide

No set textbook. Course information available on Moodle.

Recommended Resources

UNSW Library

[UNSW Academic Skills Support](#)

[ELISE](#)

[Turnitin](#)

[Student Code of Conduct](#)

[Policy concerning academic honesty](#)

[Email policy](#)

[UNSW Anti-racism policy statement](#)

[UNSW Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion policy statement](#)

Additional Costs

Not applicable.

Course Evaluation and Development

Please provide any feedback to the Course Convenor and we will do our best to incorporate this in order to improve the student experience for future years.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Education Learning Support Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Caitlin Cowan	c.cowan@unsw.edu.au	Mathews 1309	(02) 9348 0495	By appointment	No	Yes
Lecturer	Bronwyn Graham	bgraham@psy.unsw.edu.au	Mathews 1302		By appointment	No	No
	Peter Lovibond	p.lovibond@unsw.edu.au	Mathews 914		By appointment	No	No
	Jessica Grisham	jessicag@unsw.edu.au	Mathews 1303		By appointment	No	No

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 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/presentation

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: 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

School Contact Information

School of Psychology

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