



## UNSW Course Outline

# PSYC5007 The Individual, Culture and Society - 2024

Published on the 28 Feb 2024

## General Course Information

Course Code : PSYC5007

Year : 2024

Term : Hexamester 2

Teaching Period : KF

Is a multi-term course? : No

Faculty : Faculty of Science

Academic Unit : School of Psychology

Delivery Mode : Online

Delivery Format : Standard

Delivery Location : Distance Education

Campus : Sydney

Study Level : Postgraduate

Units of Credit : 6

### Useful Links

[Handbook Class Timetable](#)

## Course Details & Outcomes

### Course Description

This course will provide an advanced overview of topics relating to self-identity, culture and sociality. Topics will include the formation of identity, cross-cultural psychology, indigenous psychology, biological mechanisms underpinning social learning and attribution, as well as social

disorders. The course will cover the principles and methodology of research into social phenomena such as affiliation, attraction, group behavior and prejudice. The course is appropriate for the student with knowledge of advanced statistics and research methods. The course content will be delivered via asynchronous (pre-recorded) lectures, synchronous tutorials, readings and self-paced modules and quizzes.

## **Course Aims**

The aim of this course is to provide students with knowledge of self-identity and its development, culture and cross-cultural topics as well as indigenous psychology, including interpersonal relationships and group behaviour. The focus of the course will be on current theories and research evidence. The implications of the evidence for modern cultural and societal context will be explored and discussed for each topic. This course provides foundational knowledge for further studies and research in social psychology.

## **Relationship to Other Courses**

In order to enrol in PSYC5007, completion of the PSYC5001-PSYC5004 sequence is required.

# Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CL01 : Recognise and compare major theories and research evidence in human social behaviour, group dynamics and social influences, indigenous psychology, morality, aggression, emotion and the individual in society.
CL02 : Compare and evaluate different research methods and research evidence in social psychology.
CL03 : Effectively communicate relevant results and issues in research in social psychology to broad audiences and in different formats.
CL04 : Identify, examine and critically analyse evidence and effectiveness of assessment practices and strategies related to issues with marginalised, minority and indigenous groups within the current and historical perspective.
CL05 : Critically evaluate literature and develop an evidence-based argument for issues related to the impact of majority cultures on minority cultures and indigenous populations within the context of social psychology.
CL06 : Critically evaluate primary and secondary reports of evidence-based research and provide a critical analysis of the validity of the secondary reports.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CL01 : Recognise and compare major theories and research evidence in human social behaviour, group dynamics and social influences, indigenous psychology, morality, aggression, emotion and the individual in society.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weekly Quizzes</li> <li>• Critical Analysis</li> </ul>
CL02 : Compare and evaluate different research methods and research evidence in social psychology.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Critical Reflection Portfolio</li> <li>• Critical Analysis</li> </ul>
CL03 : Effectively communicate relevant results and issues in research in social psychology to broad audiences and in different formats.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Critical Reflection Portfolio</li> <li>• Critical Analysis</li> </ul>
CL04 : Identify, examine and critically analyse evidence and effectiveness of assessment practices and strategies related to issues with marginalised, minority and indigenous groups within the current and historical perspective.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weekly Quizzes</li> <li>• Critical Analysis</li> </ul>
CL05 : Critically evaluate literature and develop an evidence-based argument for issues related to the impact of majority cultures on minority cultures and indigenous populations within the context of social psychology.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Critical Analysis</li> </ul>
CL06 : Critically evaluate primary and secondary reports of evidence-based research and provide a critical analysis of the validity of the secondary reports.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Critical Reflection Portfolio</li> </ul>

# Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

## Learning and Teaching in this course

Moodle contains lectures, tutorials, content topic materials, assessment materials, and any updated information. You are expected to check Moodle regularly. You are also expected to check your UNSW email regularly. All news updates and announcements will be made on the 'Announcements' forum on the Moodle page and/or by email. You must check Moodle and your student emails regularly to keep up to date.

Given that the course content and all assessable components are delivered online, you must ensure that you have access to a computer with a stable internet connection and a browser capable of handling the features of the Moodle eLearning website and any of its content. No special consideration will be granted due to internet connection or computer issues arising from personal technical issues. If an internet disconnection takes place during an assessment/exam, there will be no way of changing a mark, and these will be allocated according to the progress that was saved. To help you establish whether your computer/internet access is suitable for the online exam/s, a test quiz is available. This quiz will not contribute to final marks and can be completed multiple times to test computer/internet connection prior to assessments/exams.

NOTE: THIS COURSE REQUIRES SIGNIFICANT WEEKLY ASSESSABLE ENGAGEMENT THROUGH MOODLE. You are expected to engage with all materials delivered each week. There will be a combination of formative and summative assessments throughout the course. The expected level of engagement is approximately 20 hours per week (in the 6-week term). Average engagement levels are as follows (a) 2-2.5 hours of engagement with the lecture content (5-6 lectures per week); (b) Tutorial attendance, 3 hours per week including preparation for the tutorial discussion. Note we recommend that you complete the synchronous tutorial, however completion of the recorded asynchronous tutorial will also be accepted; (c) 4.5 hours to complete the assigned activities, including revision modules; (d) 4.5 hours to complete the assigned weekly readings that accompany the content for each lecture topic; (e) 4-5 hours to complete the weekly assessments (secured quizzes) and prepare for the major assessments.

***Under no circumstances will employment be accepted as an excuse not to meet expectations for class participation or assessments.*** Remember, the term times are very short, so it is your responsibility to ensure that you do not fall behind with the ongoing assessment demands of the

course.

**Tutorial Attendance:** Attendance and participation in tutorials is compulsory. All tutorials will be delivered in an online mode, through Blackboard Collaborate. Given that this is a fully online course, it is understood that some students may be unavailable at the designated live tutorial time. Therefore, you will be required to participate in the tutorial either synchronously (as the tutorial is streamed live) or asynchronously (a recorded version of the tutorial). NB: Engagement with online tutorials and timely completion of asynchronous online tutorials is essential in accordance with UNSW Assessment Implementation Procedure. You are expected to be aware of the UNSW Assessment policy and understand how to apply for special consideration within the Graduate Diploma Special consideration policies and procedures if you cannot complete an assignment/exam due to illness and/or misadventure. It is expected that students have read through the Graduate Diploma in Psychology (5331) Guide.

## Additional Course Information

### Learning and teaching activities

This is a fully online course, all materials, lectures and tutorials are delivered through Moodle.

The course web page is available through Moodle: <https://moodle.telt.unsw.edu.au/login/index>. Login with your student number and password, and follow the links to the PSYC page.

The course will be delivered over six weeks, covering six major topic areas. The major topics will be delivered in Weeks 1 to 6, with a new topic presented each week. Students are expected to engage with all materials delivered each week. There will be a combination of formative and summative assessments throughout the course. The expected level of engagement is approximately 20 hours per week, including preparation for the weekly quizzes and written assessments.

Each week students can expect the following:

**Lectures** will be digitally recorded. Links to the lecture recordings will be available on the course web page. Lecture slides will be also available on the Moodle course page. This will be broken down into 6 lectures covering the main concepts for each sub-topic of the week.

**Online tutorials** will be held in weeks 1-6. There are six (6), two (2) hour tutorials delivered through Blackboard Collaborate on the Moodle course page each week. All tutorials will be live

streamed for synchronous participation and recorded for asynchronous participation, should a student be unable to join the synchronous tutorial at the designated time. Students will be able access the recorded tutorials, including a transcript of tutor and student contributions, for the remainder of the course. Tutorial discussions are based on lecture content and readings. In order to participate in class discussions, you will need to prepare for tutorials by reviewing the available materials.

**Online activities:** Each week there will be a range of online activities, including formative revision quizzes and interactive learning modules. These activities will allow students to explore the topics of the week in greater depth and provide formative assessment for the students and revision opportunities.

**Readings:** There will be assigned readings each week that cover the major topic of the week. Students will need to read scientific journal articles in order to prepare for the online tutorials. In addition, as part of this preparation students are encouraged to post one comment/discussion point on the Study Group Forum and reply to the comment of at least two other students in the course.

**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 Study Group Forum will help students gain an understanding of the material, critique the contributions of fellow students, and help develop written communication skills.

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

**Formative 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.

# Assessments

## Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Weekly Quizzes Assessment Format: Individual	10%	Start Date: Thursday Week 1-6 at 7am Due Date: Sunday Week 1-6 at 11:59pm
Critical Reflection Portfolio Assessment Format: Individual	40%	Start Date: Week 1 Due Date: Week 3
Critical Analysis Assessment Format: Individual	50%	Start Date: Week 1 Due Date: Week 6

## Assessment Details

### Weekly Quizzes

#### Assessment Overview

You will be required to complete 6 quizzes under official exam conditions. Quizzes are conducted under timed conditions and are designed to be taken without reference to lecture notes or study resources. These quizzes will cover the content of the lectures and readings. The quizzes will be held in weeks 1-6 and will cover content presented in the week they are released. The weekly quizzes form part of a continuous assessment. The top five grades out of the six quizzes will be used to count towards the final weekly quiz grade which accounts for 10% of the course mark. The purpose of this assessment is to test your level of comprehension regarding the course material. Your marks and solutions will be provided on completing each quiz.

#### Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Recognise and compare major theories and research evidence in human social behaviour, group dynamics and social influences, indigenous psychology, morality, aggression, emotion and the individual in society.
- CL04 : Identify, examine and critically analyse evidence and effectiveness of assessment practices and strategies related to issues with marginalised, minority and indigenous groups within the current and historical perspective.

#### Assessment Length

20 multiple choice questions

#### Submission notes

Moodle quiz

#### Assessment information

Not applicable

### Assignment submission Turnitin type

Not Applicable

## **Critical Reflection Portfolio**

### Assessment Overview

The purpose of this assessment is to provide students with the opportunity to critically evaluate secondary reports of psychological research.

You will complete a critical reflection on two pieces of psychological research presented in the media. You may choose any articles from popular media outlets or popular psychology magazines that relate to personality, social and cultural psychology.

You will find the original research article and reflect on the difference in the presentation of the findings between popular psychology and peer review journal publications by answering a series of questions related to validity of the media reports. The word limit for this assessment is 2000 words. The assessment information will be available on the first day of the course. The assessment is due in Week 2. You will receive feedback through a series of in-text comments. You will prepare for this assessment by participating in tutorial activities and reviewing the assigned readings.

### Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO2 : Compare and evaluate different research methods and research evidence in social psychology.
- CLO3 : Effectively communicate relevant results and issues in research in social psychology to broad audiences and in different formats.
- CLO6 : Critically evaluate primary and secondary reports of evidence-based research and provide a critical analysis of the validity of the secondary reports.

### Assessment Length

2000 words

### Submission notes

Text file

### Assessment information

Not applicable

### Assignment submission Turnitin type

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



reports.

## **Critical Analysis**

### **Assessment Overview**

The aim of this assessment is to write a critical analysis of the literature on an issue related to a minority group in Australian society OR an issue related to cultural psychology and indigenous issues in general.

You will identify an issue of interest in this area, complete a literature review and evaluate the possible psychological explanations for this issue. You will complete a critical analysis of the existing literature, providing an overview of historical circumstances and current strategies in place for dealing with their chosen issue.

This assessment should be between 1500 and 2000 words. The assessment information will be available on the first day of the course. The assessment is due in Week 5. You will receive feedback through annotated rubric and a series of in-text comments. You will prepare for this assessment by participating in tutorial activities and reviewing the assigned readings.

### **Course Learning Outcomes**

- CL01 : Recognise and compare major theories and research evidence in human social behaviour, group dynamics and social influences, indigenous psychology, morality, aggression, emotion and the individual in society.
- CL02 : Compare and evaluate different research methods and research evidence in social psychology.
- CL03 : Effectively communicate relevant results and issues in research in social psychology to broad audiences and in different formats.
- CL04 : Identify, examine and critically analyse evidence and effectiveness of assessment practices and strategies related to issues with marginalised, minority and indigenous groups within the current and historical perspective.
- CL05 : Critically evaluate literature and develop an evidence-based argument for issues related to the impact of majority cultures on minority cultures and indigenous populations within the context of social psychology.

### **Assessment Length**

1500-2000 words

### **Submission notes**

Text file

### Assessment information

Not applicable

### Assignment submission Turnitin type

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

## **General Assessment Information**

Not applicable

### Grading Basis

Standard

### Requirements to pass course

Not applicable

# Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 1 : 11 March - 17 March	Lecture	The Individual Lectures 1 and 2: Self and identity Lectures 3 and 4: Attitudes and dissonance Lecture 5 and 6: Emotions and sociality
	Tutorial	Online tutorial discussion based on lectures and readings. You will discuss issues relating to the individual in society. Themes will include factors that influence our sense of self and identity, how humans process social information (social cognition) and how emotions affect tolerance, patience and our ability to function in society
Week 2 : 18 March - 24 March	Lecture	The Individual Lectures 1 and 2: Aggression Lectures 3 and 4: The angry brain Lectures 5 and 6: From conduct disorder to psychopathy
	Tutorial	Online tutorial discussion based on lectures and readings. You will discuss a number of issues related to the breakdown of the individual in society. Content will cover factors that influence violence and aggression and the neuropsychology of these emotions.
Week 3 : 25 March - 31 March	Lecture	Culture Lectures 1 and 2: What is culture? Lectures 3 and 4: Cross-cultural psychology Lectures 5 and 6: Indigenous psychology
	Tutorial	Online tutorial discussion based on lectures and readings. You will discuss definitions of culture, the development of culture and the impact of culture on the individual. You will focus on Indigenous psychology, addressing topics such as the importance of representation, engaging with Indigenous Peoples in a culturally respectful manner and the value that inclusion of Indigenous voices and knowledge have in the development of programs and policy.
Week 4 : 1 April - 7 April	Lecture	Culture Lectures 1 and 2: Stereotypes and prejudice Lectures 3 and 4: Dehumanisation Lectures 5 and 6: Combatting the fear of "The Other"
	Tutorial	Online tutorial discussion based on lectures and readings. You will discuss issues relating to the disharmonious aspects of group behaviour, such as racism, stereotyping, prejudice and dehumanisation. There will be a focus on exploring the psychological phenomena driving these behaviours as well as exploring evidence-based strategies to encourage you to recognise and combat your own prejudice.
Week 5 : 8 April - 14 April	Lecture	Society Lectures 1 and 2: Sociality and evolutionary psychology Lectures 3 and 4: Imitation and mirror neurons: Function, evolution and debates Lectures 5 and 6: Attribution and observational learning
	Tutorial	Online tutorial discussion based on lectures and readings. You will discuss the evolution of human sociality with a focus on the neurobiological structures that support imitation, attribution and observational learning.
Week 6 : 15 April - 21 April	Lecture	Society Lectures 1 and 2: Non-verbal communication Lectures 3 and 4: Morality, empathy and altruism Lectures 5 and 6: Affect, affiliation and attraction
	Tutorial	Online tutorial discussion based on lectures and readings. You will discuss and debate topics such as the evolution of altruism, cultural factors that influence attraction and the minimal requirements for the development of affiliation.

## Attendance Requirements

Students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes and review lecture recordings.

## General Schedule Information

Each week this course typically consists of 2-2.5 hours of lecture material, 2 hours of face to face tutorials, and 4.5 hours of online activities. Students are expected to take an additional 5-6 hours each week of self-determined study to complete assessments, readings, and quiz preparation.

# Course Resources

## Prescribed Resources

*Social Psychology* Edition, Kassin, Fein and Markus, Cengage, 10th edition. E-book copies of the textbook will be provided through Moodle along with MindTap additional resources.

## Recommended Resources

Not applicable

## Additional Costs

Not applicable

## Course Evaluation and Development

In order to gather comprehensive student feedback on the course, we utilise the anonymous myExperience survey as one of the primary methods. This survey provides a structured platform for students to share their thoughts, opinions, and suggestions regarding various aspects of the course. Additionally, students are encouraged to email their feedback directly to the program authorities for further discussion and consideration. The myExperience survey will be administered towards the end of the course to capture students' experiences and perspectives. The survey will cover different dimensions of the course, including teaching quality, course materials, assessments, and overall learning environment. The anonymous nature of the survey ensures that students can express their feedback freely and honestly.

Once the survey responses are collected, they will be analysed. The analysis will involve examining both quantitative and qualitative data to identify common themes, patterns, and areas for improvement. Quantitative data, such as ratings responses, will be aggregated and summarised to gain a quantitative overview of student satisfaction and areas of concern. Qualitative feedback, such as open-ended comments, will be carefully reviewed and categorised to extract valuable insights and specific suggestions.

Based on the findings from the analysis, appropriate actions will be taken to address the identified areas for improvement. These actions may include revising course materials, adjusting teaching approaches, providing additional support resources, or modifying assessment methods.

Feedback from students is considered a valuable asset in shaping the course. We aim to create a more student-centred learning experience by actively seeking and incorporating student input.

The feedback students provide serves as a catalyst for continuous improvement and ensures that the course responds to their needs and expectations

## Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Lecturer	Lidija Krebs-Lazendic					No	Yes
Administrator	Deliana Freky					No	No

## Other Useful Information

### School Contact Information

For GD Psych courses (PSYC5001 - PSYC5010), please email: [gdpsychology@unsw.edu.au](mailto:gdpsychology@unsw.edu.au).

For GCChildDev courses (PSYC5111 - PSYC5116), please email: [gcchilddev@unsw.edu.au](mailto:gcchilddev@unsw.edu.au)