



UNSW Course Outline

PSYC7421 Professional and Ethical Practice (Forensic) 5 - 2024

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General Course Information

Course Code : PSYC7421

Year : 2024

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

This course provides continued training in psychological assessment, treatment skills and ethical practices as required in the professional context. This course is associated with external placements as required by the Psychology Board of Australia as part of training. Presented

through workshops, material is balanced between lectures, case presentations and hands on experiential learning leading to in vivo experience in placements.

Course Aims

The focus of this course is to help students develop the professional skills and ethical decision making required for the practice of Forensic Psychology. Clinical skills related to the assessment and treatment of clients are introduced through workshops, and practiced through role plays leading to in vivo practice within placements.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Apply knowledge of Forensic Psychological practice in order to utilise an evidence-based approach to understand and change behaviour and attitudes.
CLO2 : Apply critical thinking skills to ethical decision making, client assessments, and intervention techniques.
CLO3 : Communicate effectively (orally and in writing) and respectfully in a variety of formats and contexts in multidisciplinary professional forensic psychology environments.
CLO4 : Evaluate skill development through reflective and reflexive tasks, and feedback from others.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Apply knowledge of Forensic Psychological practice in order to utilise an evidence-based approach to understand and change behaviour and attitudes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Completion of Case Report• Compulsory Activity - Placement
CLO2 : Apply critical thinking skills to ethical decision making, client assessments, and intervention techniques.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Completion of Case Report• Compulsory Activity - Placement
CLO3 : Communicate effectively (orally and in writing) and respectfully in a variety of formats and contexts in multidisciplinary professional forensic psychology environments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• PEP log book• Completion of Case Report• Compulsory Activity - Placement
CLO4 : Evaluate skill development through reflective and reflexive tasks, and feedback from others.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• PEP log book• Completion of Case Report• Compulsory Activity - Placement

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System | Microsoft Teams

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
PEP log book Assessment Format: Individual	10%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: Friday 5pm of week 10
Completion of Case Report Assessment Format: Individual	90%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: Friday 5pm of week 10
Compulsory Activity - Placement Assessment Format: Individual	0%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: Not Applicable

Assessment Details

PEP log book

Assessment Overview

You will provide reflections of workshops provided in PSYC7421 with a focus on how you will implement your learning into your professional practice. There is no word count for this activity and is due at 5pm on the Friday of week 10. Feedback is provided via email.

All assessments use competency-based rubrics for marking. You must attain sufficient competence on all assessment items to pass the course.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO3 : Communicate effectively (orally and in writing) and respectfully in a variety of formats and contexts in multidisciplinary professional forensic psychology environments.
- CLO4 : Evaluate skill development through reflective and reflexive tasks, and feedback from others.

Assessment Length

1500 words

Assessment information

post to Teams folder

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This is not a Turnitin assignment

Completion of Case Report

Assessment Overview

You will choose an assessment or treatment case from your external placement and provide an

in-depth Case Report. You will submit a high-quality case study intended to provide a more structured analysis of the assessment or treatment of a forensic case than would normally be provided in a client's file.

The Case Report should be a maximum of 2500 words (excluding reference list and appendices). The report is due at 5pm on the Friday of week 10.

Students will be evaluated on the following criteria for assessment cases:

- Assessment planning, including rationale for test battery (25%)
- Summary and consideration of assessment process (25%)
- Summary of findings/case conceptualisation and recommendations (with appropriate use of research) (35%)
- Post-case discussion (15%)

Students will be evaluated on the following criteria for treatment cases:

- Provision of a relevant history, formulation and treatment plan (25%)
- Summary of treatment (25%)
- Showed evidence of flexibility and adherence to treatment plan (evidence of hypotheses testing approach), Considered analysis of treatment and outcome (25%)
- Use of research/literature to support intervention (25%)

All assessments use competency-based rubrics for marking.

Hurdle: You must attain sufficient competence on all assessment items to pass the course.

Where case studies are found to be inadequate with respect to one or more areas, students will be provided one attempt to revise and resubmit their Case Report.

Note: Please ensure that you have the permission of your External Supervisor and/or their organization prior to embarking on your Case Report. Your External Supervisor should review and sign off that you independently provided the services to the client, and that the services reflect the nature of the actual intervention. Their approval and review should be submitted as appendices to your Case Report.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Apply knowledge of Forensic Psychological practice in order to utilise an evidence-based approach to understand and change behaviour and attitudes.
- CL02 : Apply critical thinking skills to ethical decision making, client assessments, and intervention techniques.
- CL03 : Communicate effectively (orally and in writing) and respectfully in a variety of formats and contexts in multidisciplinary professional forensic psychology environments.
- CL04 : Evaluate skill development through reflective and reflexive tasks, and feedback from

others.

Detailed Assessment Description

additional information on case report will be provided

Assessment Length

2500 words

Assignment submission Turnitin type

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

Compulsory Activity - Placement

Assessment Overview

Hurdle Task: You must have completed your first external placement and made satisfactory progress on your second external placement. This will be understood to mean that all placement documentation for your first placement has been submitted to the Placement Coordinator and the second external placement has begun and is progressing towards mid placement review. This is a course requirement. The Course Convenor will review relevant placement documents and/or consult with the external placement coordinator. If a placement is marked as an “unsuccessful completion”, the Program Director has the discretion to fail the student in the course and implement a remedial plan. A second failure can result in termination of the student’s program.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Apply knowledge of Forensic Psychological practice in order to utilise an evidence-based approach to understand and change behaviour and attitudes.
- CL02 : Apply critical thinking skills to ethical decision making, client assessments, and intervention techniques.
- CL03 : Communicate effectively (orally and in writing) and respectfully in a variety of formats and contexts in multidisciplinary professional forensic psychology environments.
- CL04 : Evaluate skill development through reflective and reflexive tasks, and feedback from others.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

Not Applicable

Hurdle rules

see resources provided by program on placement competency expectations.

General Assessment Information

This was moved to a satisfactory/unsatisfactory grading. Expectation is that the case report is of distinction/high distinction quality to be considered a 'pass'.

Grading Basis

Standard

Course Schedule

Attendance Requirements

Workshop and placement attendance required.

General Schedule Information

Course is provided in workshops (location/times will be provided when finalized)

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Program director	Anita McGreg or		Mathews 1009	90657923	as organized	No	Yes

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 Plagiarism

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, plagiarism and the use of AI in assessments can be located at:

- The [Current Students site](#),
- The [ELISE training site](#), and
- The [Use of AI for assessments](#) site.

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](#)
- [Student Support](#)
- [Academic Skills and Support](#)
- [Student Wellbeing, Health and Safety](#)
- [Equitable Learning Services](#)
- [UNSW IT Service Centre](#)
- Science EDI Student [Initiatives](#), [Offerings](#) and [Guidelines](#)