UNSW Course Outline

PSYC4073 Psychology Honours Research Project 12 Units of Credit - 2024

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General Course Information

Course Code : PSYC4073
Year : 2024
Term : Term 3
Teaching Period : T3
Is a multi-term course? : No
Faculty : Faculty of Science
Academic Unit : School of Psychology
Delivery Mode : Research
Delivery Format : Standard
Delivery Location : Kensington
Campus : Sydney
Study Level : Undergraduate
Units of Credit : 12

Useful Links

Handbook Class Timetable

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

Students are required to write and submit a thesis based on research carried out across the year.

The exact nature and form of research will be determined by the student and supervisor.

Course Aims

The overall aim of this course is to provide research training and advanced disciplinary knowledge.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Construct a research project that demonstrates critical thinking and judgement in developing new understanding.
CLO2 : Demonstrate cognitive skills that review, analyse, consolidate and synthesize knowledge.
CLO3 : Identify and formulate solutions to complex problems with intellectual independence.
CLO4 : Demonstrate a broad understanding of a body of knowledge and theoretical concepts with advanced understanding in some areas.
CLO5 : Demonstrate initiative and judgement in scholarship.
CLO6 : Demonstrate an ability to adapt knowledge and skills in diverse contexts.
CLO7 : Demonstrate responsibility and accountability for own learning and practice and in collaboration with others within broad parameters.
CLO8 : Demonstrate communication skills to present a clear and coherent exposition of knowledge and ideas to a variety of audiences.
CLO9 : Construct a research project that demonstrates technical skills in research and design.
CLO10 : Demonstrate coherent and advanced knowledge of the underlying principles and concepts in one or more disciplines, and knowledge of research principles and methods.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Construct a research project that demonstrates critical thinking and judgement in developing new understanding.	• Research Proposal and panel meeting • Thesis • Honours conference talk
CLO2 : Demonstrate cognitive skills that review, analyse, consolidate and synthesize knowledge.	• Research Proposal and panel meeting • Thesis • Honours conference talk
CLO3 : Identify and formulate solutions to complex problems with intellectual independence.	• Research Proposal and panel meeting • Thesis • Honours conference talk
CLO4 : Demonstrate a broad understanding of a body of knowledge and theoretical concepts with advanced understanding in some areas.	• Research Proposal and panel meeting • Thesis • Honours conference talk
CLO5 : Demonstrate initiative and judgement in scholarship.	• Research Proposal and panel meeting • Thesis • Honours conference talk
CLO6 : Demonstrate an ability to adapt knowledge and skills in diverse contexts.	• Research Proposal and panel meeting • Thesis • Honours conference talk
CLO7 : Demonstrate responsibility and accountability for own learning and practice and in collaboration with others within broad parameters.	• Research Proposal and panel meeting • Thesis • Honours conference talk
CLO8 : Demonstrate communication skills to present a clear and coherent exposition of knowledge and ideas to a variety of audiences.	• Research Proposal and panel meeting • Thesis • Honours conference talk
CLO9 : Construct a research project that demonstrates technical skills in research and design.	• Research Proposal and panel meeting • Thesis • Honours conference talk
CLO10 : Demonstrate coherent and advanced knowledge of the underlying principles and concepts in one or more disciplines, and knowledge of research principles and methods.	• Research Proposal and panel meeting • Thesis • Honours conference talk

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

Learning and Teaching in this course

This course covers the research component of the Honours year in psychology. It consists of no formal classes: instead students meet with their supervisor(s) and undertake independent research.

Additional Course Information

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
- Equitable Learning Services
- Health and safety

It is expected that students familiarise themselves with the information contained in this guide

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Research Proposal and panel meeting	0%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: Week 5 of T1
Thesis	100%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: 09/10/2024 04:00 PM
Honours conference talk	0%	Due Date: 17/10/2024 09:00 AM

Assessment Details
Research Proposal and panel meeting

Assessment Overview

To assist in the development of the research study, students are required to write a research proposal and discuss this proposal with a panel consisting of the supervisor and two other academic staff members. The proposal should be about 8 pages in length, and summarises the planned research, its rationale and expected outcomes. The following headings should be incorporated: Background (practical or theoretical problem of interest, summary of literature), Aims/hypotheses, Design, Equipment/procedures, and Analysis/Expected outcomes. The purpose of the proposal is for student to set out clearly what student is planning to do, why is it being done, how it is going to be done, and how are the results going to be interpreted. Research panels consist of three academic staff members: thesis supervisor, and two other academic staff members who provide feedback and advice about research design, methodology, and

analysis. Where possible, panel members are assigned so that at least one member has expertise in a similar area of psychology. *At least three working days prior* to the panel meeting, students are expected to provide each panel member with their written research proposal. At the panel meeting, student is expected to speak on each of these points, and to lead the discussion of the proposed research. At panel meetings these staff members will get the opportunity to gain some familiarity with the proposed research and to evaluate student's understanding of the area. Feedback will be provided directly during the panel meeting.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Construct a research project that demonstrates critical thinking and judgement in developing new understanding.
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- CLO5 : Demonstrate initiative and judgement in scholarship.
- CLO6 : Demonstrate an ability to adapt knowledge and skills in diverse contexts.
- CLO7 : Demonstrate responsibility and accountability for own learning and practice and in collaboration with others within broad parameters.
- CLO8 : Demonstrate communication skills to present a clear and coherent exposition of knowledge and ideas to a variety of audiences.
- CLO9 : Construct a research project that demonstrates technical skills in research and design.
- CLO10 : Demonstrate coherent and advanced knowledge of the underlying principles and concepts in one or more disciplines, and knowledge of research principles and methods.

Assessment Length

10 pages

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This is not a Turnitin assignment

Hurdle rules

Students must submit their research proposal and panel meeting report and have it signed by their supervisor in order to continue in the course.

Generative AI Permission Level

No Assistance

This assessment is designed for you to complete without the use of any generative AI. You are not permitted to use any generative AI tools, software or service to search for or generate

information or answers.

For more information on Generative AI and permitted use please see [here](#).

Thesis

<u>Assessment Overview</u>

Students are required to write and submit a thesis based on research carried out across the year. The exact nature and form of research will be determined by the student and supervisor. However, research projects should be guided by the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council's Rules and Accreditation Standards for Psychology Courses (http://www.apac.psychology.org.au/), which state, among other things, that (Section 4.1.11):

- the research project must include an individual research question, individual intensive empirical literature review, **individual data analysis**, individual reporting of results and discussion, but may involve shared data collection; and.
- the research project should be structured so that **students participate in all of the steps involved** in research including the formulation of research questions, the design of the study including selection of appropriate methodology, **the collection and analysis of data** to test the research question, the interpretation of the findings and the writing up of the report.

The maximum length of the thesis (excluding tables, figures, bibliography and any appendix) is 15,000 words, (around 60 pages of double-spaced typing at about 240-250 words per page). Students receive written feedback from two examiners (neither of whom are their supervisor).

<u>Course Learning Outcomes</u>

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- CLO8 : Demonstrate communication skills to present a clear and coherent exposition of knowledge and ideas to a variety of audiences.
- CLO9 : Construct a research project that demonstrates technical skills in research and design.
- CLO10 : Demonstrate coherent and advanced knowledge of the underlying principles and concepts in one or more disciplines, and knowledge of research principles and methods.

Assessment Length

12,000 - 15,000

Assignment submission Turnitin type

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

Generative AI Permission Level

No Assistance

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Honours conference talk

Assessment Overview

Students will be required to participate in the honours conference. This involves presenting a 20 minute talk (including 5 minutes of question time). The talk will summarise the thesis including background, aims, methods, results and discussion.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Construct a research project that demonstrates critical thinking and judgement in developing new understanding.
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- CLO10 : Demonstrate coherent and advanced knowledge of the underlying principles and concepts in one or more disciplines, and knowledge of research principles and methods.

<u>Assignment submission Turnitin type</u>

This is not a Turnitin assignment

<u>Generative AI Permission Level</u>

No Assistance

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General Assessment Information

Special Consideration: Students who experience circumstances outside of their control that prevent them from completing an assessment task by the assigned due date due can apply for Special Consideration. Special Consideration applications should include a medical certificate or other documentation and be submitted via myUNSW within 3 days of the sitting/ due date.

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.

Once your application has been assessed, you will be contacted via your student email address and advised of the official outcome. If the special consideration application is approved, you may be given an extended due date, or an alternative assessment/supplementary examination may be set. For more information about special consideration, please visit: https:// student.unsw.edu.au/special-consideration.

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

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

Standard

Course Schedule

Attendance Requirements

Not Applicable - as no class attendance is required

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

Textbook: Nil

Course information: Available on Moodle

Required readings: School of Psychology Student Guide

Recommended internet sites

UNSW Library

Academic Skills

ELISE (Enabling Library and Information Skills for Everyone)

Turnitin

Student Code of Conduct

Academic Integrity

Email policy

UNSW Anti-Racism Policy Statement

UNSW Equity Diversity & Inclusion

Recommended Resources

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*
- *Equitable Learning Services*
- *Health and safety*

Additional support for students

- The Current Students Gateway: https://student.unsw.edu.au/
- Student Support Page: https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/student-support-unsw
- Academic Skills and Support: https://student.unsw.edu.au/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/
- COVID-related information: https://www.covid-19.unsw.edu.au/information-students

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Nathan Holmes					Yes	Yes
	Miriam Matamales					Yes	No
	Thomas Whitford					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, 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