UNSW Course Outline

PSYC7222 Advanced Topics in Clinical Psychology - 2024

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General Course Information

Course Code : PSYC7222
Year : 2024
Term : Term 1
Teaching Period : T1
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 is an advanced course within the Master of Psychology (Clinical) program comprising a workshop series that explores complex clinical issues, including working with severe client presentations and specific client populations. Candidates will be encouraged to take an

evidence-based approach, linking research evidence, clinical judgment and diversity factors. This course introduces the theory and practice of more severe psychological conditions, including defining features and characteristics; diagnostic and assessment issues; evidence-based intervention strategies; and procedures for evaluating outcome of interventions. This course emphasises the importance of individual and cultural diversity factors in the practice of clinical psychology when working with clients from diverse backgrounds. The course also focuses on developing the understanding of candidates in inter-professional learning and practice, including consultation and collaboration with other professionals particularly in the context of complex client presentations.

Course Aims

The aim of the course is to develop the knowledge and clinical judgment of candidates in diagnosing, assessing and providing treatment to clients with complex presentations or who belong to specific populations in an individually and culturally responsive manner.

Relationship to Other Courses

PSYC7212 (ACCP1), PSYC7204 (ACCP2) and PSYC7221 (Evidence Based Clinical Psychology) are pre-requisites for this course.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Apply advanced psychological knowledge, including theories of psychological disorders, models of health and international taxonomies, to their practice in clinical psychology as it relates to severe and complex mental health issues.
CLO2 : Apply advanced psychological knowledge to assessment in clinical psychology, including use of assessment processes, development of case formulation and evaluation of client processes, as it relates to severe and complex mental health issues.
CLO3 : Apply advanced psychological knowledge to interventions in clinical psychology, including selection of interventions and appreciation of contextual issues, as it relates to severe and complex mental health issues.
CLO4 : Integrate consideration of diversity issues and culturally responsive practice into the application of psychological knowledge, assessment and interventions in clinical psychology.
CLO5 : Integrate inter-professional learning and practice principles, including consultation and collaboration with other professionals, in clinical psychology practice.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Apply advanced psychological knowledge, including theories of psychological disorders, models of health and international taxonomies, to their practice in clinical psychology as it relates to severe and complex mental health issues.	• Intervention Plan
CLO2 : Apply advanced psychological knowledge to assessment in clinical psychology, including use of assessment processes, development of case formulation and evaluation of client processes, as it relates to severe and complex mental health issues.	• Intervention Plan
CLO3 : Apply advanced psychological knowledge to interventions in clinical psychology, including selection of interventions and appreciation of contextual issues, as it relates to severe and complex mental health issues.	• Intervention Plan
CLO4 : Integrate consideration of diversity issues and culturally responsive practice into the application of psychological knowledge, assessment and interventions in clinical psychology.	• Culturally Responsive Practice Essay • Working with Indigenous Clients and Communities Reflection Paper • Intervention Plan
CLO5 : Integrate inter-professional learning and practice principles, including consultation and collaboration with other professionals, in clinical psychology practice.	• Inter-Professional Practice Reflection Paper • Intervention Plan

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System | Microsoft Teams | Zoom

Learning and Teaching in this course

The clinical workshops in this course will provide advanced training in the assessment, diagnosis and treatment of a range of complex clinical conditions. They follow on, and assume knowledge, from PSYC7212, PSYC7204 and PSYC7221. The scientist-practitioner focus of the course is exemplified by the emphasis on and coverage of both dominant theoretical models and up-to-date developments in evidence-based practice.

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

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Inter-Professional Practice Reflection Paper Assessment Format: Individual	25%	Due Date: 23/02/2024 05:00 PM
Culturally Responsive Practice Essay Assessment Format: Individual	25%	Due Date: 08/03/2024 05:00 PM
Working with Indigenous Clients and Communities Reflection Paper Assessment Format: Individual	25%	Due Date: 22/03/2024 05:00 PM
Intervention Plan Assessment Format: Individual	25%	Due Date: 05/04/2024 05:00 PM

Assessment Details

Inter-Professional Practice Reflection Paper

Assessment Overview

You will be asked to submit a 750-word (max) reflection paper on inter-professional learning and practice. In the paper, you will be asked to reflect on your scores on a self-assessment measure around your inter-professional practice competencies and articulate ways that you can improve your ability and comfort in working as part of an inter-professional team. This paper is due in Week 2 and feedback will be provided through marker comments and follow-up discussions.

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

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO5 : Integrate inter-professional learning and practice principles, including consultation and collaboration with other professionals, in clinical psychology practice.

Assessment Length

750 words

Assignment submission Turnitin type

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

Culturally Responsive Practice Essay

Assessment Overview

You will write a 1500-word (max) essay on culturally responsive practice of Clinical Psychology. In the essay, you will be asked to identify some key cultural assumptions that you bring to clinical practice and consider how these may differ from those of a client from another culture and the impact on your clinical practice. You will also be asked to discuss how you would manage these discrepancies in therapy. The essay is due in week 6 and feedback will be provided through marker comments on your essay.

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

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO4 : Integrate consideration of diversity issues and culturally responsive practice into the application of psychological knowledge, assessment and interventions in clinical psychology.

Assessment Length

Maximum 1500 words

Submission notes

Please note that for T1, 2024 this assessment is due in Week 6 (instead of Week 4)

Assignment submission Turnitin type

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

Working with Indigenous Clients and Communities Reflection Paper

Assessment Overview

You will be asked to submit a 1000-word (max) reflection paper on culturally responsive practice, specifically relating to clinical work with indigenous clients and communities. In the paper, you will be asked to reflect on the potential challenges that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people face when accessing clinical psychology services based on historical and contextual factors. You will also be asked to articulate what actions you have taken (or plan to take) to be a good ally for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People personally and professionally within clinical psychology. This paper is due in Week 4 and feedback will be provided through marker comments and follow-up discussions.

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

<u>Course Learning Outcomes</u>

- CLO4 : Integrate consideration of diversity issues and culturally responsive practice into the application of psychological knowledge, assessment and interventions in clinical psychology.

<u>Assessment Length</u>

Maximum 1000 words

<u>Submission notes</u>

Please note that for T1, 2024, this assessment is due in Week 6 (instead of Week 4)

<u>Assignment submission Turnitin type</u>

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

Intervention Plan

<u>Assessment Overview</u>

You will be asked to prepare an assessment and intervention plan (between 1200 and 1500 words) based on a client case vignette. In the plan, you will be required to consider what additional information you need and the way in which you would further assess areas of the client's presenting issues and functioning. You will need to consider some hypotheses about what is happening for the client based on the information available and try to integrate these hypotheses together in the form of a coherent formulation. You will also be asked to provide a tentative treatment plan based on the information provided and hypotheses generated. The assessment and intervention plan is due in Week 8 and feedback will be provided through marker comments.

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

<u>Course Learning Outcomes</u>

- CLO1 : Apply advanced psychological knowledge, including theories of psychological disorders, models of health and international taxonomies, to their practice in clinical psychology as it relates to severe and complex mental health issues.
- CLO2 : Apply advanced psychological knowledge to assessment in clinical psychology, including use of assessment processes, development of case formulation and evaluation of client processes, as it relates to severe and complex mental health issues.
- CLO3 : Apply advanced psychological knowledge to interventions in clinical psychology,

including selection of interventions and appreciation of contextual issues, as it relates to severe and complex mental health issues.

- CLO4 : Integrate consideration of diversity issues and culturally responsive practice into the application of psychological knowledge, assessment and interventions in clinical psychology.
- CLO5 : Integrate inter-professional learning and practice principles, including consultation and collaboration with other professionals, in clinical psychology practice.

<u>Assessment Length</u>

1200 - 1500 words

<u>Assignment submission Turnitin type</u>

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

General Assessment Information

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

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](#).

<u>Grading Basis</u>

Satisfactory

<u>Requirements to pass course</u>

Must be satisfactory across all assessment items.

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 1 : 12 February - 18 February	Workshop	Personality Disorders by Tony Merritt 14 February 2024 9am – 12noon MAT927
	Workshop	Working with Intellectual Disability by Sam Arnold 15 February 2024 10am – 12noon MAT1616 Interprofessional Learning and Practice by Shane Vassallo 15 February 2pm – 4pm MAT1616

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

Please note that the bulk of teaching activities for this course occurs in O-Week.

O-Week: 5 February - 9 February

Working with Older adults by Maurice Finn

9 February

10am – 12noon

MAT1616

Cross Cultural Clinical Psychology Practice by Angela Nickerson

9 February

1pm – 3.30pm

MAT1616

Plus other workshops as per Course Schedule section.

There is also the Indigenous Mental Health and Issues training which is still being finalised (currently not included in Course Outline) and will be confirmed by start of Term.

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

As part of this course, candidates will be attending training and events in relation to Indigenous Mental Health and Issues. Prior to participating in these training and activities, candidates must complete the 3 tasks below. Please allow sufficient time to get through this pre-training material.

- Watch Episode 1 of the First Australians series
- Read Chapter 2 of the Working Together book
- Read the APS Apology

Course Evaluation and Development

All candidates will have the opportunity to provide feedback via the UNSW MyExperience survey.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Chien Gooi		MAT805	9065 7754		Yes	Yes
	Shane Vassallo		MAT804	9065 7756		No	No
Lecturer	Tony Merritt					No	No
	Angela Nickerson					No	No
	Maurice Finn					No	No
	Adrienne Withall					No	No
	Sam Arnold					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