UNSW Course Outline

PSYC7420 Professional and Ethical Practice (Forensic) 4 - 2024

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General Course Information

Course Code : PSYC7420
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 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 part of the requirements for competency attainment. Presented through lectures

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

Course Aims

The aim 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 lectures and workshop, and practiced through role plays leading to practice within placements.

Relationship to Other Courses

pre-requisites - successful completion of PSYC7409, 7410 and 7419 (PEP1, 2, 3)

Course Learning Outcomes

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

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Microsoft Teams

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Reflection on cultural workshop Assessment Format: Individual	10%	Start Date: Not Applicable
Skill development Assessment Format: Individual	40%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: Not Applicable
PEP log book Assessment Format: Individual	10%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: Friday 5pm of week 10 or 11, depending on easter weekend
Review Assessment Format: Individual	40%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: as organised with course convenor
Placement completion Assessment Format: Individual	0%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: 5pm Friday of week 10

Assessment Details
Reflection on cultural workshop

Assessment Overview

You will be asked to submit a 1000-word (max) reflection paper on culturally responsive practice, specifically relating to forensic practice 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 forensic 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. This paper is due in Week 4 and feedback will be provided through marker comments and follow-up discussions.

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

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Apply knowledge of Forensic Psychological practice in order to utilise a culturally respectful, evidence-based approach to understand and change behaviour and attitudes.
- CLO3 : Communicate effectively (orally and in writing) and respectfully in a variety of formats and contexts in multidisciplinary forensic psychology environments.
- CLO4 : Evaluate skill development through reflective and reflexive tasks, and feedback from others.

1000 words

Submission notes

required Friday 5pm of week following cultural workshop

Assignment submission Turnitin type

Not Applicable

Skill development

Assessment Overview

Presentations and groups on agreed topics will be run in lectures on weeks 2/3 to 9. You will engage in facilitation of a group as agreed upon in Week 1. You will present on the group topic for approximately 15 minutes, then prepare the 'group' for the module they will be participating as group members in. The group will run for the remainder of the class with one break for feedback. On the date of the group/presentation, the follow documentation is required from the presenters:

- Presentation slides/notes

- Session/module preparation

Within one week of class, the following documentation is required:

- Summary of the session with notes on each group member's participation

NOTE: if you participate in more than one group, marks will be averaged. You will be marked on a rubric with the following skills: 1. Presentation, 2. set up of the group, 3. awareness of group dynamics and cofacilitation skills, and 4. showing teaching skills and related activities.

Feedback offered will be both oral and written based on a rubric.

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

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Apply knowledge of Forensic Psychological practice in order to utilise a culturally respectful, evidence-based approach to understand and change behaviour and attitudes.
- CLO3 : Communicate effectively (orally and in writing) and respectfully in a variety of formats and contexts in multidisciplinary forensic psychology environments.

Detailed Assessment Description

Please note that while the general assessment description holds, we will be working on a single topic for group this term in response to feedback.

PEP log book

Assessment Overview

You will provide reflections of lectures and workshops provided in PSYC7420 with a 3 focus on how you will implement your learning into your professional practice. There is no word count for this activity and is due during the study or exam period (TBA). Feedback is either provided orally during Review or 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 forensic psychology environments.
- CLO4 : Evaluate skill development through reflective and reflexive tasks, and feedback from others.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

Not Applicable

Review

Assessment Overview

The review is an opportunity for you to demonstrate learning acquired through the program, through video presentation and accompanying documentation. You will have 90 minutes with the course convenor to go through your agenda that will outline the specific elements of the Review. Written documents must be sent at least three business days prior to Review to gain feedback (ensure you add an agenda item regarding review of written documents if you want feedback during the meeting). All documentation to be placed in your private channel in Teams. Review must be booked by end of week 9 (if you cannot make the time you have indicated on the poll, you are responsible for finding another available timeslot or exchanging a timeslot with another student).

Documentation includes:

- Agenda (with time marks, learning point from videos, as well as other relevant queries about professional development placements, feedback on documentation, etc.)
- Assessment:
o a letter to the head of the violent offender program outlining your findings and recommendations. Ensure you identify alternative resources if client is unsuitable
o Consent form for the program suitability assessment
o the protocol you utilized and your notes
- Therapy:
o Group session preparation (GSRS and ORS will not be required due to time restrictions)
o Critique of another student's presentation (preference is that this is shared with the other student)

Assessment Video – Specialized assessment for prison based treatment program suitability (client is a violent offender with moderate/high levels of psychopathy and has already met program eligibility). You are a facilitator within a violent offender group within a prison. Must show evidence of:
- explanation for assessment
- consent for assessment
- assessment of motivation for treatment,
- exploration of probability of treatment gain,
- barriers to treatment.

Therapy Video – 20 minute group psycho-educational session, teaching a skill. You must demonstrate:
- check in
- review of gained skills
- introduction and teaching of a new skill
- dealing with resistance within a group structure

* Preparation for Review: Each PEP course has video requirements for the Review, which involves organizing role plays with a PEP1 student who will be your 'client' – remember, this means that you will likely need to reciprocate and be their 'client' for their videos. Video your role plays (while doing role plays, please video both the 'therapist/assessor' and the 'client') ensuring that sound quality is adequate (if inadequate, then the required skills cannot be assessed). Ensure that you prepare your partner for their task (it generally does not work well to tell your 'client' to "wing it"). Provide (and ask for) feedback from your role play partner subsequent to the tasks.

Reviews generally occur in week 10-12 depending on the number of students.

Oral feedback is provided through the Review.

NOTE: The review marks are based on your preparation for the review, the required documentation, and showing ALL the required timemarks (with discussion).

The review utilises competency-based rubrics for marking. You must attain sufficient competence on all assessment items to pass the course.

<u>Course Learning Outcomes</u>

- CLO1 : Apply knowledge of Forensic Psychological practice in order to utilise a culturally respectful, evidence-based approach to understand and change behaviour and attitudes.
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<u>Assignment submission Turnitin type</u>

Not Applicable

Placement completion

<u>Assessment Overview</u>

Hurdle Task - Completion of mid placement review of first external placement with significant progress towards completion of first external placement, second placement organized or near to being organized. All placement related documentation must be provided to the Placement Coordinator indicating satisfactory progress for the course to be deemed complete.

This is a course requirement; 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.

<u>Course Learning Outcomes</u>

- CLO1 : Apply knowledge of Forensic Psychological practice in order to utilise a culturally respectful, evidence-based approach to understand and change behaviour and attitudes.
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- CLO4 : Evaluate skill development through reflective and reflexive tasks, and feedback from

others.

course outcome held unless or until hurdle task can be successfully met.

<u>Assignment submission Turnitin type</u>

Not Applicable

<u>Hurdle rules</u>

as noted

General Assessment Information

<u>Grading Basis</u>

Standard

Course Schedule

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

Week 1

overview of course assignments, preparation for groups, group documentation, group rules

Organization of groups for weeks 2-9 (class exercise). Exercises for session preparation, documentation, identifying group rules, ethics. We will be identifying a group topic (for example, domestic violence perpetrators group) and outlining the group modules that will run over the ensuing weeks of the course

Week 2 - 10 - cofacilitators will roleplay running each module of the group. Each cofacilitation team will be responsible for development and running of the module, and documentation.

Group 1 (or break for preparation)*

Student present on topic, prepare other students to be group participants, then run group.

Week 3 (3 hours)

Group 2

Student present on topic, prepare other students to be group participants, then run group.

[AM1]Discussion on changing exercise to one group (adolescent firestarters?) having it be an 8 week program where each set of cofacilitators develop and facilitate the group

Course Resources

Recommended Resources

groupwork slides from Orientation placement. literature search for chosen group topic.

Course Evaluation and Development

We will be slightly modifying the course based on feedback from students over several years.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Anita McGregor					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 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