Course Outline

PSYC1001

Psychology 1A

School of Psychology

Faculty of Science

T1, 2019

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1. Staff

Position	Name	Email	Consultation times and locations	Contact Details
Course Convenor	Dr David White	david.white@unsw.edu.au	By appointment	Mathews 1002
Lecturer				
Tutor				

2. Course information

Units of credit: 6

Pre-requisite(s): None

Teaching times and locations: PSYC1001 Timetable

2.1 Course summary

This course introduces key conceptual, theoretical and methodological underpinnings of psychology as a basic science, with emphasis on the social bases of behaviour. After an initial review of the historical foundations for the scientific study of human behaviour, several specific topics related to the social aspects of human behaviour are discussed. Specific topics covered in this course include: development, theories of personality, theories of consciousness, and social influences on behaviour. In addition, training in the methods of psychological inquiry and in the critical evaluation of research.

2.2 Course aims

This course aims to provide a broad perspective on scientific approaches to studying psychology. Each topic is delivered by a different lecturer, including world leading researchers in the topic that is being presented. This structure aims to provide students with insight into the different methods, scientific traditions and motivations driving modern psychological science. We also aim to provide students with an understanding of how basic understanding of psychological processes can be applied to benefit society.

2.3 Course learning outcomes (CLO).

At the successful completion of this course the student should be able to:

1. Recognise diverse but complementary theoretical and experimental approaches to major psychological issues.
2. Recognise and appreciate the role of the scientific method in psychology.

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3. Think critically about the information presented throughout this course.
4. Understand ethical issues in psychological research.
5. Communicate effectively when interpreting, evaluating and reviewing psychological research.
6. Better understand the application of psychological theories and principles to everyday life.
7. Carry out targeted information searches more effectively.

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2.4 Relationship between course and program learning outcomes and assessments

	Program Learning Outcomes						
CLO	1. Knowledge	2. Research Methods	3. Critical Thinking Skills	4. Values and Ethics	5. Communication, Interpersonal and Teamwork	6. Application	**Assessment**
1.	Lectures, tutorials, online activities textbook, quizzes	Lectures, tutorials, online activities textbook, quizzes					Research skills assessment, Research participation, exams
2.	Lectures, tutorials, online activities textbook, quizzes	Lectures, tutorials, online activities textbook, quizzes					Research skills assessment, Research participation, exams
3.			Lectures, tutorials, online activities textbook, quizzes				Research skills assessment
4.	Lectures, tutorials, online activities textbook, quizzes	Lectures, tutorials, online activities textbook, quizzes		Lectures, tutorials, online activities textbook, quizzes			Research skills assessment
5.			Lectures, tutorials, online activities textbook, quizzes		Lectures, tutorials, online activities textbook, quizzes		Research skills assessment
6.	Lectures, tutorials, online activities textbook, quizzes			Lectures, tutorials, online activities textbook, quizzes		Lectures, tutorials, online activities textbook, quizzes	Research skills assessment, Research participation, exams
7.		Lectures, tutorials, online activities textbook, quizzes	Lectures, tutorials, online activities textbook, quizzes		Tutorials, Student Collaborative Quizzes		Research skills assessment

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3. Strategies and approaches to learning

3.1 Learning and teaching activities

The aim of the lectures is to give you the opportunity to learn about the content, issues, and theories in the major topic areas of modern psychology. Psychology 1A covers the following topics: Psychological and clinical perspectives; Psychological development of the individual; How human beings interact and influence each other in social situations; Normal and altered states of consciousness; Personality, individual differences and their measurement; Emotion and motivation; The impact of psychological factors on physical health; Cultural psychology.

Each topic will be given by one or two different lecturers, so that you will have the benefit of their different specialised interests and knowledge. In addition, it will be common to find a lecturer presenting several different theories about the same body of data. We hope you will find this diversity both challenging and exciting. It reflects the dynamic nature of scientific understanding in psychology, and means there should be something of interest to every psychology student who is curious about how the mind works.

The tutorial component has two main roles. Firstly, as the classes are relatively small they represent an opportunity for you to engage with your tutor and other students in a more interactive form of learning than is possible in the large-class lectures. Secondly, they also perform an essential role in showing you how psychology is put into action through the conduct of simplified experiments and other demonstrations. Interactive discussion will also be encouraged group activities and watching videos. Although the tutorials consist mainly of material related to the lecture component, many tutorials will also contain independent research-related material.

Online activities, including interactive lessons, revision quizzes and collaborative peer-to-peer revision tools (StudentQuiz) 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 more secure understanding of individual topics.

The course textbook supplements the lecture, tutorial and online material. Independent study using the textbook will enrich student's understanding of the topics covered on the course, and provide a more rounded understanding of links between different areas of psychology.

3.2 Expectations of students

It is expected that students are aware of UNSW Assessment policy and understand how to apply for special consideration if they are unable to complete an assignment/exam due to illness and/or misadventure.

It is expected that students have read through the School of Psychology Student Guide.

All news updates and announcements will be made on the 'Announcements' forum on the Moodle page and/or by email. It is the student's responsibility to check Moodle and their student emails regularly to keep up to date.

The final exam for this course will take place on campus during the UNSW examinations period. Students should not arrange travel during the UNSW exam period until the date of the final exam has been released. Students who arrange travel prior to the release of the final exam date will not be granted consideration in the event they are scheduled to be out of country when the final exam is to occur. This is especially important for study abroad students – do not arrange travel home until the final exam date has been released.

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You **must attend the tutorial in which you are enrolled for the duration of the session**; you are not allowed to arrange with a tutor to change tutorial. Attendance at tutorials is a necessary part of the course and tutorial content is examinable. Attendance at face to face tutorials is essential in accordance with UNSW Assessment Implementation Procedure. Additionally, it is the University policy that **students who attend less than 80% of their possible classes may be refused final assessment or may not be issued with a final grade for the course**. If you are unable to attend your scheduled tutorial in a given week for medical reasons, contact your tutor and the Course Administrator immediately by e-mail at psychology@unsw.edu.au and you may be assigned to a different tutorial. There are strict University regulations on class sizes due to health and safety considerations, so it is **not** permissible to simply attend an alternative tutorial, without first getting approval. Once approved, you should inform the tutor of the alternative class about your attendance on the day, as well as inform your own tutor by email. You should not attend alternative tutorials other than in exceptional circumstances and with approval, as it could significantly impact your assessment. There is, however, one exception: if you are enrolled in a tutorial that is affected by a public holiday, you must attend another tutorial that week. Ensure that you arrange this in advance. If you are enrolled in a Friday tutorial and cannot attend university due to illness, a replacement tutorial is not possible. Ensure that you submit a medical certificate to your tutor so that your attendance is explained on your record. Where possible, material from the tutorial will be published on Moodle for revision purposes.

Unless specifically identified as being voluntary, all class work set during a course must be completed. Failure to do so will be recorded as 'unsatisfactory class work'. Because the assignments are designed to assess key student learning outcomes of the course, as stipulated by the Australian Psychological Accreditation Council (APAC), failure to complete one of these may result in performance below that required for accreditation, and you may be refused admission to other Psychology courses.

Students registered with Disability Support Services must contact the course co-ordinator immediately if they intend to request any special arrangements for later in the course, or if any special arrangements need to be made regarding access to the course material. Letters of support must be emailed to the course coordinator as soon as they are made available.

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4. Course schedule and structure

This course consists of 3 hours of lecture material, 1 hour of face to face tutorials and 1 hour of online modules. Students are expected to take an additional 6 hours of self-determined study to complete assessments, readings, and exam preparation.

Week	Lecture topic/s	Tutorial/lab topics	Online modules	Self-determined activities
Week 1 18/02/2019	Intro (1) / Clinical Perspectives (1) / Psychological Perspectives (1)	N/A	Course Orientation module, Quiz	Textbook Readings, Collaborative student quizzes
Week 2 25/02/2019	Developmental Psychology (3)	Writing Skills	Quiz	Textbook Readings, Collaborative student quizzes
Week 3 4/03/2019	Developmental Psychology (3)	Developmental Psych	Quiz	Textbook Readings, Collaborative student quizzes
Week 4 11/03/2019	Social Psychology (3)	Social Psych	Online lesson Social Psychology, Quiz	Textbook Readings, Collaborative student quizzes
Week 5 18/03/2019	Social Psychology (3)	Mid-semester Exam	Quiz	Textbook Readings, Collaborative student quizzes
Week 6 25/03/2019	Emotion and Motivation (3)	Emotion & Motivation	Online lesson Emotion & Motivation, Quiz	Textbook Readings, Collaborative student quizzes
Week 7 1/04/2019	Personality (3)	Personality	Online Lesson Personality, Quiz	Textbook Readings, Collaborative student quizzes
Week 8 8/04/2019	Personality (2), Consciousness (1)	Consciousness	Online Lesson Consciousness, Quiz	Textbook Readings, Collaborative student quizzes

Week 9 15/04/2019	Consciousness (1), Health Psychology (2)	Health Psych	Quiz	Textbook Readings, Collaborative student quizzes
Week 10 22/04/2019	Health Psychology (1), Cultural Psychology (2)	Cultural Psych	Online Lesson Cultural Psych, Quiz	Textbook Readings, Collaborative student quizzes
Study period 2/05/2019				Exam preparation; revision
Exam period 6/05/2019				Exam preparation; revision

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5. Assessment

5.1 Assessment tasks

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

Assessment task	Length	Weight	Mark	Due date
Assessment 1: Research skills assessment	Varied	31%	/100	Varied
Assessment 2: Research participation	Varied	4%	/6	Week 10
Assessment 3: Mid-session exam	45 minutes	15%	/20	Week 5
Assessment 4: Final exam	2 hours	50%	/86	Exam period

Assessment 1: The Research Skills Assessment (RSA) contains three assignments that are set at different times during the semester. Further details and marking criteria for each assignment will be provided to students closer to the release date for each assignment:

Information literacy skills (ILS) for Psychology (5%): This will provide an insight into the role of the scientific method in psychology, and focus on the development of communication and information literacy skills, as well as critical thinking skills. Further details on this assignment will be released in Week 2 on Moodle.

Psychology in the media (10%): The aim of this assignment is to draw your attention to the differences between scientific research reports and media focused outputs. You will practice skills in critical evaluation and conduct an effective literature search for relevant articles. The assignment will consist of answering a series of questions that will lead you to contrast the style of reporting in a media article with that of a scientific report. The assignment will be released in Week 3 on Moodle. **You must also email a copy to your tutor before the deadline.** See Section 9.3 for advice on submission of assignments.

Building a rationale (16%): Writing research reports in any area of science is an essential skill that reflects your ability to synthesise empirical (research-based) material and report your conclusions clearly and concisely. It is an exercise that requires a considerable level of both theoretical and conceptual understanding and critical analysis.

This written assignment focuses on the presentation of a short, coherent literature review and the careful development of a rationale for future experimentation. This exercise is designed to allow you to become familiar with the first step in the formal reporting style of psychological research, including the basic elements of effective and efficient scientific communication, and to further develop your information literacy skills.

You will research the theoretical background to a provided topic area and write a short literature review based on your reading of a few papers. You will then be required to build a convincing and logical rationale for further experimentation. You need to think carefully and creatively about the research that has been conducted. What are the remaining questions in this field? What were some of the problems with the previous experiments? How might these questions be answered in a future experiment?

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This is an individual (as opposed to a group) exercise, which means that each student will submit an assignment that they have prepared on their own. This assignment will be released on the Moodle course in Week 5. Detailed information regarding the content and format of the “Building a rationale” assignment will also be given in tutorials in Week 5.

You should note the following:

1. Failure to submit any assessment task may be regarded as a failure to complete the course.

2. All assignments you submit must be your own, independent work. The work you submit in the assignment will be based on your reading and on material given in lectures and tutorial classes, but it should not be simply a restatement of any material that has been provided. Although it is often useful to discuss with other students the structure or requirements of an assignment, or work completed as part of a tutorial, **you should be very careful when preparing your report to ensure that it represents your own work**. The similarity of student submissions is checked very carefully; in the event that similarity is detected, both students will be investigated for academic misconduct.

Assessment 2: You will be able to participate in psychological research within the School for up to 12 points throughout the semester, 6 of which are compulsory (4%) and up to 6 optional (up to 4% bonus). Points are earned at a rate of 1 point per hour of research participation. By participating in on-going research you learn first-hand about the ways in which research in psychology is conducted, and can appreciate the application of the concepts that you encounter in lectures and tutorials. You will also find out about theories and areas of investigation that are beyond those you study in the course, giving you an insight into the research that academics are conducted in the School of Psychology. **In this sense, you are very much contributing to the advancement of psychological science.** Clearly, the study of human behaviour cannot progress without humans to observe and we ask that you act in a responsible way to ensure your research participation provides useful data to researchers within our school.

Every researcher is under the general supervision of an Ethics committee, and is therefore required to satisfy certain conditions that ensure ethical practice during an experiment (e.g., to provide information regarding the nature and aims of the study). There is no compulsion to participate in any particular study and it is quite in order to decline to participate after an explanation of what is involved has been given.

Sona: Sona is a web-based facility that provides information to students about approved research projects as they become available. It also enables students enrolled in Psychology 1A to sign-up to participate in research projects of their choice. You can access Sona through Moodle.

You must be registered on Sona to receive research participation credit. A batch registration occurs at the start of the semester, **and you must log on in Week 2 to activate your account**. If you enrol after Week 1, or if you encounter any difficulties logging on to Sona, please contact sona@psy.unsw.edu.au. More information about Sona can be accessed in the Sona Student guide, available on Moodle. Remember it is your responsibility to ensure that you can access Sona.

Signing up to Participate: It is a good idea to complete your research participation requirement early, as fewer studies may be available towards the end of the semester. Any issues regarding outstanding credit must be resolved between you and the researcher by Wednesday 6th June 2018. If you are unable to resolve this issue, contact sona@psy.unsw.edu.au.

Only sign up for a study if you are sure you can attend on time. If you sign up and then do not attend without a reasonable excuse, 0.5 points will be deducted from your participation balance. This is because a failure to attend causes considerable inconvenience and cost to researchers. If you are going to miss, or have missed a study for which you have signed up, you should contact the researcher as soon as possible, and you may be able to reschedule. It is at the researcher’s discretion whether penalties are applied or rescinded.

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When you attend an experiment, the researcher will explain as much as is possible about the study and will give you an opportunity to withdraw if you wish. Keep in mind that you may withdraw at any time during the study and this will not jeopardise your relationship with the researchers, PSYC1001, or the university in general.

Research Debriefing Discussion: In order to receive credit for your participation, you must discuss the experiment that you have completed with the researcher. They will debrief you on the study and provide you with a handout detailing your discussion. You should keep the handout for future reference. This is also an opportunity for you to ask any additional questions that you may have. No details of any individuals who took part in the study will be published; students will be anonymous members of the sample tested. If the researcher does not give you an adequate debrief of the study, contact Dr Damien Mannion (d.mannion@unsw.edu.au).

Credit for Participation: You will receive 4% course credit once you complete the required 6 points of participation. Please note that your final point balance will incorporate both studies that you have completed AND any penalties for failure to attend. In addition, you may choose to complete additional research participation for bonus credit. Up to 6 additional points can earn you a maximum 4% course credit (e.g., 3 additional points = 2% course credit).

Many students wait until the final weeks of teaching to complete their research participation. **We strongly advise against this strategy as there will be limited research opportunities available.** Try to space out your participation across the course of the semester to ensure you have access to more available studies.

As your final credit for research participation will be derived from Sona records, you are responsible for ensuring that your Sona point balance shows all research that you have participated in. If any discrepancy arises, you must email sona@psy.unsw.edu.au no later than Wednesday 6th June, 2018.

Prescreening Questionnaire: When you log in to the Sona system, you will be invited to complete a prescreening survey. These questionnaires are important to researchers to help them identify potential participants for future research. That means that if you choose to complete a questionnaire within the prescreening survey, in some cases this will determine which studies are and are not available for you to sign up for. Whether or not you take the prescreening survey, you will still be able to sign up for a variety of studies that do not have any specific selection criteria. In fact, the vast majority of studies do not have any specific selection criteria, and whether or not you choose to complete the prescreening survey will not affect your ability to complete the required number of credit hours. In exchange for completing one or more questionnaires in the prescreening survey, you will earn 1 Sona point (equivalent to 1 hour participation time).

It is important to note that completion of any or all of the prescreening surveys is entirely optional. Choosing to decline to participate in the prescreening surveys will not jeopardise your relationship with the School of Psychology or UNSW. If you decline to take the prescreening survey at first, you will be able to access the survey at a later time.

Deception: Usually the initial description of the study will be accurate. However, on occasion the researcher may find it necessary to mislead you as to the true purpose of the study. Such deception can occur in one of two ways. The researcher may simply omit important information, or the researcher may actually misrepresent the true nature of the study. These types of deception will only occur when there is no other way to obtain meaningful data given the rationale for the experiment. All elements of deception will have been approved by the applicable ethics committee. At the end of a study involving deception, the researcher is obliged to describe the deception and to explain why it was necessary.

Confidentiality: Only the researcher and the researcher's supervisor have access to information that specifically identifies you with the data you provided. Although data collected from you may be reported on an individual or group basis in a publication, you can assume anonymity and confidentiality.

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Complaints: If you have any complaints, you can obtain a Research Participation Complaint Form from the Psychology Office (Mathews Level 15). Your comments will be forwarded to the course coordinator and will remain completely confidential. Alternatively, you may contact the course coordinator directly if you wish.

Alternative Assignment: If you have an objection to participating as a subject in any research, you should talk to the Course Coordinator by the end of Week 7. The Course Coordinator will arrange an alternative assignment for you to complete in order to obtain the required research participation marks (4%).

Assessment 3: This will allow you to test your understanding of the course content covered in the first **4** weeks of the course. All questions will be multiple choice. The mid-semester exam will include questions based on the lecture material, the tutorial material and the textbook readings. Topics that will be covered in the exam include Psychological Perspectives (Killcross), Clinical Perspectives (Bryant), Developmental Psychology (Richmond), and Social Psychology (Forgas only). Further details will be provided in a Moodle announcement nearer the time.

Assessment 4: This exam is held during the University examination period and is designed to promote an understanding of diverse theoretical and empirical approaches, across a broad range of psychological issues. Questions on the final examination will be based on material covered in lectures and tutorials.

As shown above, 50% of the total marks for Psychology 1A are determined before the end-of-semester examination. The assessment is, therefore, essentially of the continuous, rather than "one-shot exam" type. The assessment also takes a number of forms and is therefore designed such that no student should be too heavily penalised by a "bad day" or a weakness in one particular form of assessment.

UNSW grading system: https://student.unsw.edu.au/grades

UNSW assessment policy: https://student.unsw.edu.au/assessment

5.2 Assessment criteria and standards

Further details and marking criteria for each assessment will be provided to students closer to the assessment release date (see 4.1: UNSW Assessment Design Procedure).

5.3 Submission of assessment tasks

Assessment 1: In accordance with UNSW Assessment Policy the essay must be submitted online via Turnitin.

Late penalties: deduction of marks for late submissions will be in accordance with School policy (see: Psychology Student Guide).

Special Consideration: Students who are unable to complete an assessment task by the assigned due date can apply for special consideration. Special consideration applications must be submitted to Student Central within 3 working days of the assessment due date along with a physical copy of the supporting documentation. Students who have experienced significant illness or misadventure during the assessment period may be eligible. Only circumstances deemed to be outside of the student's control are eligible for special consideration (see - https://student.unsw.edu.au/special-consideration). In the case of take-home assessment tasks, misadventure must occur for at least 3 consecutive days during the assessment period. If approved, students may be given an extended due date to complete take-home assessments, or an alternative assessment may be set.

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Alternative assessments: will be subject to approval and implemented in accordance with UNSW Assessment Implementation Procedure.

Supplementary examinations: will be made available for students with approved special consideration application and implemented in accordance with UNSW Assessment Policy.

5.4. Feedback on assessment

Feedback on all pieces of assessment in this course will be provided in accordance with UNSW Assessment Policy.

Assessment	When	Who	Where	How
1	Continuous, after each element of assignment	Tutors, Automatic feedback on answers to quizzes via Moodle	Moodle and Turntin	Detailed feedback from tutors via Turnitin, feedback on quiz accuracy from Moodle
2	After each participation	Researcher running the SONA study	At the location of the experiment	Debrief on aims, research goals and design of the study participated in
3	Grades released on Moodle around Week 6	Grades released by coordinator	Moodle	Score for exam. Detailed feedback on request via one-to-one meeting
4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

6. Academic integrity, referencing and plagiarism

The APA (6th 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 6th edition.

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.[1] 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 and **plagiarism** can be located at:

[1] International Center for Academic Integrity, 'The Fundamental Values of Academic Integrity', T. Fishman (ed), Clemson University, 2013.

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- The *Current Students* site https://student.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism, and
- The *ELISE* training site http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise/presenting

The *Conduct and Integrity Unit* provides further resources to assist you to understand your conduct obligations as a student: https://student.unsw.edu.au/conduct.

7. Readings and resources

Textbook	Lilienfeld et al. (2015). *Psychology: from inquiry to understanding*. (2nd ed.) Pearson Australia: Melbourne, VIC.
Course information	Available on Moodle
Required readings	School of Psychology Student Guide.
Recommended internet sites	UNSW Library UNSW Learning Centre ELISE Turnitin Student Code of Conduct Policy concerning academic honesty Email policy UNSW Anti-racism policy statement UNSW Equity and Diversity policy statement UNSW Equal opportunity in education policy statement

8. Administrative matters

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
- Disability Support Services
- Health and safety

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

9. Additional support for students

- The Current Students Gateway: https://student.unsw.edu.au/

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- Academic Skills and Support: https://student.unsw.edu.au/academic-skills
- Student Wellbeing, Health and Safety: https://student.unsw.edu.au/wellbeing
- Disability Support Services: https://student.unsw.edu.au/disability-services
- UNSW IT Service Centre: https://www.it.unsw.edu.au/students/index.html

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