Course Outline

PSYC3202

Cognitive and Clinical Neuroscience

School of Psychology

Faculty of Science

T3, 2020

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1. Staff

Position	Name	Email	Consultation times and locations
Course Convenor	Dr Susanne Schweizer	s.schweizer@unsw.edu.au	By appointment
Course Co-Convenor	Dr Louise Mewton*	louisem@unsw.edu.au	Email or by appointment, AGSM Level 1
Lecturer	Dr Aliza Werner-Seidler	a.werner-seidler@blackdog.org.au	By appointment
Lecturer	Dr Alicia Montgomery	Alicia.Montgomery@health.nsw.gov.au	By appointment
Lecturer	Dr Damien Mannion	d.mannion@unsw.edu.au	By appointment
Lecturer	A/Prof Thomas Whitford	t.whitford@unsw.edu.au	By appointment
Lecturer	Prof Richard Bryant	r.bryant@unsw.edu.au	By appointment
Lecturer	Dr Iain Perkes	iain.perkes@unsw.edu.au	By appointment
Lecturer	Prof Peter Lovibond	p.lovibond@unsw.edu.au	By appointment
Tutor	Elizabeth Haris	e.haris@unsw.edu.au	By appointment

*In 2020 please direct all course-related administration questions to Dr Louise Mewton who will be the course convenor while Dr Susanne Schweizer is on parental leave

2. Course information

Units of credit: 6

Pre-requisite(s): PSYC2101

Teaching times and locations: PSYC3202 Timetable

2.1 Course summary

This course will provide an advanced coverage of major systems of the brain and how they are involved in both normal and abnormal functioning. The course will also cover theoretical models of the aetiology and neural mechanisms of clinical pathologies (such as anxiety, depression, addiction, psychosis) and cognition, and the research evidence supporting them. Research methods in Clinical and Cognitive Neuroscience, including experimental, analogue, genetic, imaging, longitudinal and epidemiological studies will be covered to outline the strengths and limitations of these techniques. The course will consider both normal and abnormal functioning from the perspective of neuroscience, and will therefore also expand and deepen your understanding of human experimental psychology and its neural basis, including behaviour, cognition, emotion and development.

2.2 Course aims

This course aims to convey current knowledge concerning the neural mechanisms of normal and abnormal functioning. Students will gain an enhanced understanding of research methods, theoretical models and current debates in Clinical and Cognitive Neuroscience. The course also aims to improve students' skills in critical thinking, conceptual analysis, and oral and written communication.

2.3 Course learning outcomes (CLO)

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

1. Identify major systems of the human brain and how they relate to normal and abnormal functioning.
2. Explain theoretical models of the aetiology and neural mechanisms of clinical pathologies and cognition and the research evidence supporting them.
3. Identify the contributions and limitations of different research methods in Clinical and Cognitive Neuroscience, including experimental, analogue, genetic and imaging studies.
4. Understand the contribution of different areas of psychology such as cognition, development and neuroscience to the understanding of normal and abnormal functioning.
5. Critically analyse research findings and theoretical claims in Clinical and Cognitive Neuroscience.
6. Demonstrate advanced oral and written communication skills.

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, readings, online activities					Lectures, tutorials, readings, online activities	Tutorial preparation and participation, Proposal, Final exam.
2.	Lectures, tutorials, readings, online activities	Lectures, tutorials, readings, online activities					Tutorial preparation and participation, Proposal, Final exam.
3.	Lectures, tutorials, readings, online activities	Lectures, tutorials, readings, online activities				Lectures, tutorials, readings, online activities	Tutorial preparation and participation, Proposal, Final exam.
4.	Lectures, tutorials, readings, online activities	Lectures, tutorials, readings, online activities				Lectures, tutorials, readings, online activities	Tutorial preparation and participation, Proposal, Final exam.
5.	Lectures, tutorials, readings, online activities		Lectures, tutorials, readings, online activities			Lectures, tutorials, readings, online activities	Tutorial preparation and participation, Proposal, Final exam.
6.					Tutorials, readings		Tutorial preparation and participation, Proposal.

3. Strategies and approaches to learning

3.1 Learning and teaching activities

This course provides an advanced coverage of research and theory concerning the neural mechanisms of normal and abnormal functioning. It builds on, and assumes knowledge from, PSYC2101 Assessment, Personality and Psychopathology and PSYC2081 Learning and Physiological Psychology.

To achieve the course learning outcomes, you will need to attend the lectures and tutorials, read the prescribed articles prior to the tutorials, and engage actively with the material.

Lecture attendance is compulsory. The two lectures per week will be the main method for conveying core course content. The lectures will outline both normal and abnormal human behaviour from the perspective of neuroscience. For each topic we will consider relevant evidence and theoretical models. Examples will be selected to give you exposure to Clinical and Cognitive Neuroscience and the different types of experimental designs used in the field. Lecture slides and recordings will be made available online.

The weekly two-hour tutorials will focus on readings selected to expand on and provide alternative perspectives on the material covered in lectures. Tutorials will include brief oral presentations by students, followed by group discussion of the readings and related issues. The tutorials will provide an opportunity to deepen your understanding of theories and research in Clinical and Cognitive Neuroscience, to engage in critical discussion debate and active learning, and improve your skills in oral communication. The tutorials will also be used to introduce students to techniques used in Neuroscience research

Online learning activities will complement material covered in the face to face lectures and tutorials.

The research proposal will allow you to apply your knowledge and skills to the design of a research study that will address an important question or gap in knowledge in Clinical and Cognitive Neuroscience, and to improve your written communication.

The final exam will test all of the course learning outcomes, with an emphasis on conceptual understanding rather than rote learning.

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 the School of Psychology Student Guide.

Tutorial Allocation: You must attend your allocated tutorial as scheduled in your university timetable. We will not permit permanent changes to tutorial allocations once enrolment closes. You may be permitted to arrange a one-off swap for medical or personal reasons. If you need to swap tutorials, you must email the tutor to arrange this.

Tutorial Attendance: to ensure students are consistently working towards achieving the foundational graduate competencies required by the APAC Accreditation Standards, attendance at tutorials is compulsory and will be recorded at the beginning of each tutorial. These Accreditation Standards are incorporated in Program and Course Learning Outcomes. Anyone who arrives more than 20 minutes late to a tutorial will be recorded as being absent from that tutorial. Attendance at 80% of tutorials is

required for eligibility to pass the course. If unable to attend a tutorial for medical or significant personal reasons, you must provide a medical certificate to your tutor. If you do not provide a certificate, you will be recorded as being absent from the tutorial.

NB: Attendance at tutorials is essential in accordance with UNSW Assessment Implementation Procedure.

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 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 or elsewhere until the final exam date has been released.

Students registered with Disability 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.

4. Course schedule and structure

Each week this course typically consists of 2 hours of lecture material and 1-hour tutorials (supplemented with 1 hour of viewing relevant student presentations). Intermitentlly there will be additional online content. Students are expected to take an additional 6 hours each week of self-determined study to complete assessments, readings, and exam preparation.

Week	Lecture topic/s	Tutorial/lab topics	Online activities	Self-determined activities
Week 1 14/09/2020	L1: Neuroanatomy L2: Cognitive Neuroscience	No tutorial	Introduction	Readings, Assessment preparation, Revision
Week 2 21/09/2020	L3: Neuroimaging methods L4: The structure of psychopathology	No tutorial	Academic writing	Readings, Assessment preparation, Revision
Week 3 28/09/2020	L5: The brain in childhood focus on OCD L6: The brain in childhood focus on autism	Presentations on: The brain in childhood focus on OCD & The brain in childhood focus on autism		Readings, Assessment preparation, Revision
Week 4 05/10/2020	PUBLIC HOLIDAY L7: The brain in older age focus on old age psychiatry	Presentations on: The brain in older age focus on old age psychiatry & The brain in adolescence focus on social disorders		Readings, Assessment preparation, Revision
Week 5 12/10/2020	L8: The brain in adolescence focus on social disorders L9: The anxious brain	Presentations on: The anxious brain & The reward-processing brain focus on addiction		Readings, Assessment preparation, Revision
Week 6 19/10/2020	FLEX WEEK- No lecture	FLEX WEEK- No tutorial		Readings, Assessment preparation, Revision

Week 7 26/10/2020	L10: The reward-processing brain focus on addiction Midterm exam (cancelled due to COVID-19 related course structure changes)	Presentations on: The emotional brain: Focus on depression & Neuroscientifically informed treatments of psychiatric disorders	Readings, Assessment preparation, Revision
Week 8 02/11/2020	L11: The emotional brain: focus on depression L12: Neuroscientifically informed treatments	Presentations on: The tired brain focus on sleep disturbances in mental health & The stressed brain focus on PTSD	Readings, Assessment preparation, Revision
Week 9 09/11/2020	L13: The tired brain focus on sleep disturbances L14: The stressed brain focus on PTSD	Presentations on: The remembering brain focus on memory biases & The disorganised brain focus on thought disorders	Readings, Assessment preparation, Revision
Week 10 16/11/2020	L15: The remembering brain focus on memory biases L16: The disorganised brain focus on thought disorders	No tutorial	Readings, Assessment preparation, Revision
Study period 24/11/2020			Exam preparation
Exam period 27/11/2020			Exam preparation

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: Tutorial preparation, participation and peer review	6 weeks	10%	/100	Weekly tutorial; Peer-review feedback due Friday Week 7
Assessment 2: Proposal presentation	10 minutes	15%	/100	Submitted online: Friday/Tuesday prior to the Monday/Thursday tutorials
Assessment 3: Research proposal	2000 words	35%	/100	Thursday Week 9
Assessment 4: Final exam	60 minutes	40%	/40	Exam period

Assessment 1: Tutorial participation & peer-review - Attendance and active participation in tutorials is an important component of the course. Students will be expected to study the set readings (2-3 per lecture) before each tutorial and contribute to discussion of issues related to the reading. Additionally, they will watch all presentations for that week's tutorial ahead of the tutorial and prepare questions relating to those presentations. The presenters will chair the discussion pertaining to their presentation.

In addition, as part of the tutorial assessment, students will provide feedback to one other student on their proposal draft. All students submit their draft proposal by Monday week 7 and feedback is due on Friday of week 7.

Assessment 2: Proposal presentations – Prior to the relevant tutorial, students post their research proposal presentations. The proposal presentations should focus on the background rationale for their proposal and their proposed study design. **Note presentation date will be considered in the assessment (i.e., earlier presentations will NOT be disadvantaged).**

Assessment 3: Research Proposal- Students will submit via Turnitin a 2000-word APA research proposal in the style of a grant application that is due in week 10. The proposal is worth 35% of the overall mark in the course. Further information on the format and approach for the research proposal will be provided to students closer to the release date of the assessment. Feedback will be provided online via Moodle no longer than 10 working days from the due date. Any assessments submitted after feedback is returned to students will not be marked and will receive a grade of 0.

Assessment 4: Final exam- The 1-hour final exam consisting of multiple choice questions will be scheduled during the official examination period.

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

Written assessments: In accordance with UNSW Assessment Policy written pieces of assessment must be submitted online via Turnitin. No paper or emailed copies will be accepted.

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. Students should also note that UNSW has a Fit to Sit/Submit rule for all assessments. If a student wishes to submit an application for special consideration for an exam or assessment, the application must be submitted prior to the start of the exam or before an assessment is submitted. If a student sits the exam/submits an assignment, they are declaring themselves well enough to do so and are unable to subsequently apply for special consideration. If a student becomes ill on the day of the exam, they must provide evidence dated within 24 hours of the exam, with their application.

Special consideration applications must be submitted to the online portal along with Third Party 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. Except in unusual circumstances, the duration of circumstances impacting academic work must be more than 3 consecutive days, or a total of 5 days within the teaching period. If the special consideration application is approved, students may be given an extended due date, or an alternative assessment/supplementary examination may be set. For more information see https://student.unsw.edu.au/special-consideration.

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
Tutorial participation	During tutorial	Tutor	In tutorial	Verbal
Proposal presentation	10 days from due date	Tutor and peers	Online and in tutorial	Moodle
Research proposal	10 days from due date	Markers	Online	Moodle
Final exam	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

6. Academic integrity, referencing and plagiarism

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.**

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:

- 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	Nil
Course information	Available on Moodle
Required readings	School of Psychology Student Guide. Weekly readings available on Moodle
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

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

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/
- 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