



Course Outline

PSYC5001

Graduate Diploma of Psychology

Introduction to Psychology 1

School of Psychology

Faculty of Science

1. Staff

| Position | Name | Email | Consultation times and locations | Contact Details |
|-----------------|------|-------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Course Convenor | | | Email | Email |

2. Course information

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Units of credit: | 6 |
| Pre-requisite(s): | Program Pre-requisite: Bachelor's Degree of any kind (Australian Qualification standard or equivalent) |
| Teaching times and locations: | |

2.1 Course summary

This course introduces the content and methods of psychology as a basic science, with an emphasis on the social bases of behaviour. The course will cover several specific topics related to the social aspects of human behaviour. Each week students will explore one of the following topics: development psychology, theories of personality, theories of emotion and motivation, cross-cultural psychology, health psychology and social influences on behaviour. In addition, training in the methods of psychological inquiry and in the critical evaluation of research is also provided. This course is appropriate for students with and without a background in science and is taught entirely online through Moodle.

2.2 Course aims

This course aims to provide students with introductory knowledge about several psychological content areas, including the theories of: human development, personality, emotion and motivation, social influence on behaviour, health psychology, and, cross-cultural psychology. The course introduces the basic principles about the use of scientific method as a foundation of critical thinking and a sceptical inquiry.

2.3 Course learning outcomes (CLO)

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

1. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of a diverse range of psychological issues including, individual differences and their measurement, development of the individual, emotion and motivation, health psychology, social and cross-cultural psychology.
2. Recognise and appreciate the role of the scientific method in psychology enabling you to demonstrate practical skills in conducting a literature search for peer reviewed papers.

3. Develop critical thinking skills in the context of psychology allowing you to evaluate competing theoretical and empirical perspectives, to effectively select and apply relevant information to support psychological arguments.
4. Develop an understanding of the values, research and professional ethics of psychology enabling you demonstrate the need to acknowledge and respect work and intellectual property rights of others through appropriate citations in oral and written communication.
5. Develop effective communication skills within a psychology context enabling you to demonstrate scientific writing skills, including the ability to formulate and communicate arguments based on the theoretical and empirical evidence.
6. Demonstrate the importance of developing a culturally sensitive approach to societal issues based on research from a diverse perspective.

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 Readings Formative revision quizzes | | | | Tutorials Q and A forum | Lectures Tutorials Online activities Readings Formative revision quizzes | Secured quizzes Information literacy portfolio Literature review |
| 2. | | Online Activities Readings Tutorials | Online Activities Readings Tutorials | | Online activities | | Secured quizzes Information literacy portfolio Literature review |
| 3. | Lectures Tutorials Online activities | | Lectures Tutorials Online activities Readings | | Tutorials Study Group Forum | Tutorials Online activities | Information literacy portfolio Literature review |
| 4. | | | | Tutorials Online activities | | Tutorials Online activities | Secured quizzes Information literacy portfolio |

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|----|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|--|
| | | | | | | | Literature review |
| 5. | | | Tutorials Online activities | | Tutorials | | Information literacy portfolio Literature review |
| 6. | Lectures Tutorials | | | Lectures Tutorials | | Tutorials Online activities | Secured quizzes Information literacy portfolio Literature review |

3. Strategies and approaches to learning

3.1 Learning and teaching activities

The course web page is available through the e-learning Moodle site: <https://moodle.telt.unsw.edu.au/login/index.php>. Login with your student number and password, and follow the links to the PSYC page.

The course will be delivered over six weeks, covering six major topic areas. The major topics will be delivered in Weeks 1 to 6, with a new topic presented each week. Students are expected to engage with all materials delivered each week. There will be a combination of formative and summative assessments throughout the course. The expected level of engagement is 18-19 hours per week, including preparation for the “secured” quizzes and written assessments.

Each week students can expect the following:

Lectures will be digitally recorded. Links to the lecture recordings will be available on the course web page. Lecture slides will be also available on the Moodle course page. This will be broken down into 6 x 20-minute lectures covering the main concepts for each sub-topic of the week

Online Tutorials will be held in weeks 1-6. There are six (6), two (2) hour tutorials delivered through Blackboard Collaborate on the Moodle course page each week. All tutorials will be live streamed for synchronous participation and recorded for asynchronous participation, should a student be unable to join the synchronous tutorial at the designated time. Students will be able access the recorded tutorials, for the remainder of the course. Tutorial discussions are based on lecture content and readings. In order to participate in class discussions, you will need to prepare for tutorials by reviewing the available materials.

Online activities: Each week there will be a range of online activities, including formative revision quizzes and interactive learning modules using a range of adaptive learning platforms. These activities will allow students to explore the topics of the week in greater depth and provide formative assessment for the students and revision opportunities.

Readings: There will be assigned readings each week that cover the major topic of the week. Students will need to complete the readings in order to prepare for the online tutorials (**4.5 hours**).

The Q and A Discussion Forum provides students with an opportunity to question and clarify the concepts and ideas mentioned in the lectures. Students are strongly encouraged to engage with this forum by posting questions or comments, and reading, answering, or replying to other student’s posts to enhance understanding of the content, critical thinking, and written communication skills.

Formative topic revision quizzes 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 proper understanding of each topic so that this knowledge can be built on in future content. The formative revision quizzes will be available through the MindTap section available on the Moodle course page. **NB: These formative quizzes do not contribute to the student’s final grade and are not to be confused with the “secured weekly quizzes”.**

3.2 Expectations of students

Moodle contains lectures, tutorials, content topic materials, assessment materials, and any updated information. You are expected to check Moodle regularly. You are also expected to regularly check your UNSW email. 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.

Given that the course content and all assessable components are delivered online, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that they have access to a computer with a stable internet connection and a browser capable of handling the features of the Moodle eLearning website and any of its content. There will be no special consideration granted due to internet connection or computer issues arising from personal technical issues. If an internet disconnection takes place during an assessment/exam, there will be no way of changing a mark and these will be allocated according to the progress that was saved.

NOTE: THIS COURSE REQUIRES SIGNIFICANT WEEKLY ASSESSABLE ENGAGEMENT THROUGH MOODLE. Students are expected to engage with all materials delivered each week. There will be a combination of formative and summative assessments throughout the course. **The expected level of engagement is on average 18-19 hours per week** (in the 6-week term). Average engagement levels are as follows (a) **2 hours** of engagement with the lecture content (6 x 20-minute lectures per week); (b) Tutorial attendance, **3 hours** per week including preparation for the tutorial discussion. Note we recommend that you complete the synchronous tutorial, however completion of the recorded asynchronous tutorial will also be accepted; (c) **4.5 hours** to complete the assigned activities, including revision modules; (d) **4.5 hours** to complete the assigned weekly readings; (e) **4-5 hours** to complete the weekly assessments (secured quizzes) and prepare for the major assessments.

Under no circumstances will employment be accepted as an excuse not to meet expectations for class participation or assessments. Remember, the term times are very short, so it is your responsibility to ensure that you do not fall behind with the ongoing assessment demands of the course.

Tutorial Attendance: Attendance and participation in tutorials is compulsory. All tutorials will be delivered in an online mode, through Blackboard Collaborate, given that this is a fully online course, it is understood that some students may be unavailable at the designated live tutorial time. Therefore, students will be required to participate in the tutorial in either a synchronous (as the tutorial is streamed live) or asynchronous (a recorded version of the tutorial).

NB: Engagement with online tutorials and timely completion of asynchronous online tutorials is essential in accordance with UNSW Assessment Implementation Procedure.

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

It is expected that students have read through the Graduate Diploma in Psychology (5331) Guide.

4. Course schedule and structure

Each week this course typically consists of 2 hours of lecture material, 2 hours of face to face tutorials, 4.5 hours of online activities and 4.5 hours of readings. Students are expected to take an additional 5-6 hours each week of self-determined study to complete assessments, readings, and exam preparation.

| Week | Online Lecture topic/s | Online Tutorial/lab topics | Online modules | Self-determined activities |
|---------------|---|---|---|---|
| Week 1 | Personality Psychodynamic approach Trait theories and genetics Humanistic and Experiential | Online tutorial discussion based on lectures and readings of the major theories of personality. Students will explore how personality develops and is maintained over the lifespan. | Online activities based on lectures and assigned readings | Formative revision quizzes Additional textbook readings Additional textbook resources (Mindtap) |
| Week 2 | Developmental Psychology Genes vs. Environment Early vs. later experience Continuity vs. Discontinuity | Online tutorial – Introduction to the course Discussion based on lectures and readings, of psychological theories and evidence of issues related to developmental psychology. | Online activities based on lectures and assigned readings | Formative revision quizzes Additional textbook readings Additional textbook resources (Mindtap) |
| Week 3 | Social Psychology Social influence and conformity Attributions and stereotypes Attitudes and attraction | Online tutorial discussion based on lectures and readings. Discussion will focus on the role of the individual within a social context and how society influences the individual, including issues such as conformity, compliance, attitudes and stereotypes. | Online activities based on lectures and assigned readings | Formative revision quizzes Additional textbook readings Additional textbook resources (Mindtap) |

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| <p>Week 4</p> | <p>Health Psychology Models of health psychology Stress and coping Placebo</p> | <p>Online tutorial discussion based on lectures and readings. Tutorial discussion will focus on exploring the three major models of health psychology and how these models can be used to explain both healthy and unhealthy behaviours.</p> | <p>Online activities based on lectures and assigned readings</p> | <p>Formative revision quizzes Additional textbook readings Additional textbook resources (Mindtap)</p> |
| <p>Week 5</p> | <p>Cultural Psychology Cultural norms and psychology Culture and personal psychology Cultural sensitivity in clinical practice</p> | <p>Online tutorial discussion based on lectures and readings. Discussion will explore the need for cultural sensitivity in the diagnosis and treatment of a range of psychological disorders. There will be a focus on the importance of indigenous psychology, including cultural practices, closing the gap and the importance of cultural sensitivity in practice.</p> | <p>Online activities based on lectures and assigned readings</p> | <p>Formative revision quizzes Additional textbook readings Additional textbook resources (Mindtap)</p> |
| <p>Week 6</p> | <p>Emotional and Motivation Theories of emotion Biology of emotion Theories of motivation</p> | <p>Online tutorial discussion based on lectures and readings. Students will discuss the theoretical and experimental evidence that explains the various types of motivation.</p> | <p>Online activities based on lectures and assigned readings</p> | <p>Formative revision quizzes Additional textbook readings Additional textbook resources (Mindtap)</p> |

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: “Secured” Quiz (continuous assessment 5 quizzes) | 20 MC questions per quiz | 50% (10% per “secured quiz) | /50 | Sunday 11:59pm week of release (Weeks 1,2,3,4,5,6) |
| Assessment 2: Information Literacy Skills Portfolio | 750 | 20% | /100 | Sunday Week 2 |
| Assessment 3: Literature Review | 1500 | 30% | /100 | Sunday Week 5 |

Assessment 1: “Secured” Quizzes 50%: Students will be required to complete 6 quizzes under official exam conditions. These quizzes will cover the content of the lectures and readings. The quizzes will be held in weeks 1-6 and will cover content presented in the week they are released. The “Secured” quizzes form part of a continuous assessment. The quiz will be released on Thursday of week and will remain open until Sunday 11:59pm of the same week. Each Quiz will include 20 multiple choice questions. The top five grades out of the six quizzes will be used to count towards the final secured quiz grade which accounts for 50% of the course mark.

Assessment 2 Information Literacy Skills Portfolio 20%: Students will be required to complete a comprehensive literature search using a range of databases. Students will need to find three peer-reviewed journal articles on any of the major topics presented in the course. They will then need to answer a series of questions designed to demonstrate knowledge of appropriate academic references. Evidence of the database search, the articles and the answer to the questions will need to be submitted using an e-portfolio. This will provide students with the opportunity to display research and critical analysis skills.

Assessment 3: Literature Review 30%: Students will be required to complete a literature review based on the concepts presented in one of the modules. The literature review will provide students with the opportunity to develop skills in research. There will be a focus on developing the skills for brief and concise communication which is important for scientific writing. This assessment should allow students to acquire discipline specific communication skills.

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 the Graduate Diploma in Psychology assessment policy. Students will receive a penalty of 5% per day for late submissions, including weekends. For example an assessment due on Sunday and submitted on Tuesday would be considered two days late leading to a penalty of $5\% \times 2 = 10\%$ from the total assessment mark.

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 through the special consideration portal available through myUNSW. *UNSW operates under 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.***

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

Alternative assessments: : there will be no alternative assessments due to the intensive nature of the course. Please refer to the Graduate Diploma in Psychology (5331) Guide for policies and procedures relating to misadventure.

Supplementary examinations: Students may apply for a supplementary exam, providing that this is not an ongoing issue. If students are unable to engage in all aspects of the course for two weeks or longer, they will be required to submit an application to withdraw from the course without penalty. Please refer to the Graduate Diploma in Psychology (5331) Guide for policies and procedures relating to misadventure.

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 |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|--------|
| "Secured" Quizzes | Monday following quiz submission | Course convenor | Gradebook | Moodle |
| Information Literacy Skills | Friday Week 4 | Course | Online | Moodle |

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|-------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|--------|--------|
| | | Convenor | | |
| Literature Review | 10 working days after due date | Course Convenor | Online | Moodle |

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:

- 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

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|-----------------------------------|--|
| Textbook | Psychology: Australia and New Zealand, 2 nd Edition. Bernstein, Pooley, Cohen, Gouldthorp, Provost & Cranney (2017). Cengage E-book copies of the textbook will be provided to students through Moodle along with MindTap additional resources |
| Textbook Resources | Cengage MindTap: available on Moodle course page. |
| Course information | Available on Moodle |
| Required readings | Graduate Diploma in Psychology (5331) Guide |
| Recommended internet sites | UNSW Library |

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

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| | <p>UNSW Learning centre</p> <p>ELISE</p> <p>Turnitin</p> <p>Student Code of Conduct</p> <p>Policy concerning academic honesty</p> <p>Email policy</p> <p>UNSW Anti-racism policy statement</p> <p>UNSW Equity and Diversity policy statement</p> <p>UNSW Equal opportunity in education policy statement</p> |
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8. Administrative matters

The *Graduate Diploma in Psychology (5331) 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 and the requirements set out in the Graduate Diploma Student Guide in regards to assessment and special consideration.

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>