



# PSYC1021

## Introduction to Psychological Applications

### Session 1 2013

#### School of Psychology Faculty of Science, UNSW

#### Course description, Learning Outcomes and Objectives

PSYC1021 is worth 6UOC and is restricted to students currently enrolled in program 3432 (Bachelor of Psychology) and for selected Psychological Science students. This course offers an introduction to psychology as a scientific discipline and as a profession, with special emphasis on initiating the academic and professional development of students in the Bachelor of Psychology program. The content of this course is structured around the graduate attributes associated with the scientist-practitioner model, the basis for the training of psychologists in Australia and internationally. This course also provides a first step in your development of psychological literacy, that is, the capacity to utilise your psychological knowledge, skills and attitudes in a constructive manner, with the aspirational goal of becoming a psychologically literate global citizen.

#### Learning Objectives

The principal learning objectives of the course are to:

- Introduce the key features of undertaking research within psychology;
- Assist students in developing skills of analytical, critical and creative thinking;
- Assist students in developing the ability to identify defined issues of social significance and convert them into scientifically meaningful research;
- Assist students in developing effective oral communication skills;
- Familiarise students with the skills involved in identifying, documenting, and reflecting upon relevant achievements in relation to graduate and professional attributes;
- Familiarise students with the skills involved in quality resume preparation and job application;
- Introduce the different areas and key issues in professional psychology, especially within the forensic, organisational, and clinical psychology contexts.

Graduate Attributes consist of the knowledge, skills and dispositions that you should acquire during your university experience. A set of graduate attributes has recently been revised (APAC 2012) Australian Four-year Undergraduate Program.

#### Graduate Attribute 1: Knowledge and Understanding of Psychology

(Demonstrate understanding of the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in the core topics of psychology, as outlined by the National Accreditation Body (currently the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council).)

This course is not focussed so much on content as on the skills and dispositions inherent in an undergraduate psychology education.

#### Graduate Attribute 2: Research Methods in Psychology

(Understand, apply and evaluate basic research methods in psychology, including research design, data analysis and interpretation, and the appropriate use of technologies.)

In this course, you should achieve to at least an introductory level the following student learning outcomes (SLOs):

- Describe the basic characteristics of the science of psychology.

- Describe, apply and evaluate the different research methods used by psychologists.
- Demonstrate practical skills in laboratory based and other psychological research.
- Design and conduct basic studies to address psychological questions: frame research questions; undertake literature searches; critically analyse theoretical and empirical studies; ~~to~~ ~~date~~ testable hypotheses; operationalise variables; choose an appropriate methodology; make valid and reliable measurements; analyse data and interpret results; and write research reports.

These SLOs will be developed through practical and assessments in particular. They will be assessed primarily in the Group Assignments 1 and 2 and in the final examination, but also in journal entries.

#### Graduate Attribute 3: Critical Thinking Skills in Psychology

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### Graduate Attribute 6: Learning and the Application of Psychology

(Understand and apply psychological principles to personal, social, and organisational issues.)

In this course, you should achieve to an introductory level the following learning outcomes:

- Describe major areas of applied psychology (e.g. clinical, counselling, organisational, forensic, health).
- Apply psychological principles to promote personal development through regulation in setting and achieving career and personal goals; assess performance accurately; incorporate feedback for improved performance; purposefully evaluate the quality of one's thinking (metacognition).
- Demonstrate a capacity for independent learning to sustain personal and professional development in the changing world of the science and practice of psychology.

These SLOs will be developed through lecture, practical and assessment activities. They will be assessed primarily in the journal entries and in the final examination, but also in Group Assignment 2 and the Careers Assignment.

The integrated acquisition of the graduate attributes, as partly indicated through assessment of the learning outcomes, comprises "psychological literacy". This course, as well as PYSC1-6(Y)-3(S)2(C)1]TJ 0.005 Tc -0tl7(e)





## Lecture and Practical Guide PSYC1021

Week	Lecture 1 <i>Tues 9-10am (MAT C)</i>	Lecture 2 <i>Wed 9-10am (MAT C)</i>	Practicals <i>Tue 10-12 (Mat 308); Wed 10-12 (Mat 104); Wed 1-3 (Mat 307)</i>	Assessment Tasks
1	5/3 JC Intro to course	6/3 JC Stanovich 4	No practicals	<i>Career Assignment handed out</i>
2	12/3 JC Stanovich Quiz 1 Stanovich 8	13/3 JC Stanovich Quiz 2 Stanovich 9, 12	12-13/3 SM Intro to group work Intro to research	<i>Group Assignment 1 handed out</i> <i>*Career Assignment due 14/3, 4pm</i> <i>*Stanovich Quiz in lectures</i>
3	19/3 EC Careers 1	20/3 JC Stanovich Quiz 3 Intro to research	19-20/3 SM Critical & Creative thinking (CCT); group	<i>*Stanovich Quiz in lectures</i>
4	26/3 EC Careers 2	27/3 JC Research Careers	26-27/3 no Sue EC Careers	
		29/3-7/4		
5	9/4 RK Forensic Psych 1	10/4 RK Forensic Psych 2	9-10/4 SM CCT Group Assignment due; group work	<i>*Group Assignment due in Practical Time</i> <i>Group Assignment 2 handed out</i> <i>*Journal 1. Due 15/4, 11pm</i>
6	16/4 AW Clinical psych 1	17/4 AW Clinical psych 2	16-17/4 SM CCT; group work	
7	23/4 MY Organisational psych 1	24/4 MY Organisational psych 2	23-24/4 SM Oral communication group work	
8	30/4 JCSM Study design consultation	1/5 SM Oral Communication Skills	30/4-1/5 SM Study design & method due;	

### Assessment

Although the Guide above may give the impression of heavy assessments, be assured that some aspects of the journal assignments will not take a long time (e.g., Journals should not take more than 15 min each). Moreover, group work should lighten the load!

All assessment components must be completed in order to satisfy the requirements of this course. There are THREE categories of assessment in this course, as outlined below. It is important to note that many of the assessment tasks involve

change in skill. For that reason, students are being asked to complete some tasks more than once. Their first attempt will be awarded only a small weighting or used as a baseline against which the later and/or final version(s) will be compared.

In this course there will on occasion, be the opportunity to receive bonus marks.

Assessment category	% marks	Week due
<b>1. Research and communication</b>		
- Group Assignment 1: Article Deconstruct:	5	5
- Group Assignment 2: Research project and Oral presentation	25	12
<b>2. Thinking like a psychologist</b>		
- Careers Assignment	2	2
- Journals	18	5, 8, 12, 14
- Class participation	10	
<b>3. Formal examinations</b>		
- Critical and creative thinking in-class quizzes	6	2-3
- Final exam	34	Final exam period
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>100</b>

Assessment details:

Research and Commu-116 Is:

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## Thinking Like a Psychologist

### Career Assignment (2%):

This CV and job application assignment, due on March 14, is designed as a trigger to help you think about what skills you would need to acquire to work in the area of psychology. In particular, you will be given a Job Advertisement and required to prepare a resume and a 150 word expression of interest to apply for the job. Later, Eva Chan's career-oriented lectures and practicals will familiarise you with the skills involved in developing, identifying, documenting, and reflecting upon career relevant achievements in relation to graduate and professional attributes. You will be asked to reflect on what you have learnt in the careers journal.

### Journal (18%):

The four written journal submissions are designed to help you reflect upon what you have learned in the lectures, practicals and assessment tasks. Specific instructions will be given for each journal entry, with greater assessment weighting being



Student Learning Outcomes	Level	Form/s of Assessment
use information in an ethical manner (e.g., acknowledge and respect the work and intellectual property rights of others through appropriate citations in oral and written communication).	1	[students: see blue box at end of this doc]
evaluate psychologists' behaviour in psychological research and other professional contexts in relation to the Australian Psychological Society "Code of Ethics" and the complementary "Ethical Guidelines", as well as the Australian "National Practice Standards for the Mental Health Workforce"	1	Group Research Project Presentation