

PSYC 3018 – Abnormal Psychology

Unit of Study Code:	PSYC3018
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Format of Unit:	2 x 1 hour lectures/week x 13 weeks 1 x 2 hour tutorial/week x 10 weeks
Credit Point Value:	6 Credit Points
Prerequisite:	8 credit points of Intermediate Psychology including PSYC (2014 or 2114) and at least one other Intermediate Psychology Unit of study from PSYC (2011 or 2111), PSYC (2012 or 2112), PSYC (2012 or 2113).
Textbook:	Rieger, E. (Ed.) (2008) <i>Abnormal Psychology: Leading researcher perspectives</i> . Sydney: McGraw-Hill Education.
References:	To be announced in lectures and tutorials.
Assessment:	a) Formal Assessment: 60% One 2hr exam 25% One 2000 word essay Due date: Friday, 11/9 10% Tutorial presentation Due dates: weeks 3-11 5% Online Quiz Due dates: weeks 12 b) Out of class prescribed student workload 2hr/wk library research (essay & tutorial presentation)
Evaluation of teaching and learning:	Date: week 13 of semester Type: questionnaire

Unit of study general description:

This unit of study critically examines core issues in Abnormal Psychology. These include the conceptual and theoretical bases of the definition and classification of abnormal behaviours, as well as the diagnosis, explanation and treatment of psychological disorders. The unit of study will include topics such as:

(a) Adult abnormal psychology: Anxiety disorders (specific phobias, panic disorder, agoraphobia, OCD); Addictive disorders (drug, alcohol, gambling); Eating disorders (anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa); Mood disorders (dysthymia, major depressive disorder, cyclothymia, bipolar disorder); Schizophrenia, Personality disorders.

(b) Child abnormal psychology: Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder; Conduct disorder; Anxiety disorders, Depression.

Graduate Attributes and Student Learning Outcomes

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.

Graduate Attributes are the generic skills, abilities and qualities that students should acquire during their university experience and the School of Psychology is committed to providing an environment to promote these skills. This unit of study will provide students with generalised and transferable skills that will also be useful in careers outside psychology. The following graduate attributes and student learning outcomes will be developed through the course and assessed primarily in the major essay, tutorial quiz, student presentations, and exam.

1: Knowledge and Understanding of Abnormal Psychology

Display knowledge and understanding of the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, and empirical findings in research on abnormal psychology.

Student learning outcomes:

(i) Ability to describe, explain and evaluate major theories and research studies examining the definition, causes and treatment of various psychological disorders, including Mood disorders, Anxiety disorders; Addictive disorders; Eating disorders, Schizophrenia, and Personality disorders in adults.

(ii) Ability to describe, explain and evaluate major theories and research studies examining the definition, causes and treatment of common childhood disorders, including Mood disorders, Anxiety disorders, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and Conduct disorder.

2: Research Methods in Abnormal Psychology.

Understand and evaluate basic research methods used in Abnormal Psychology, including research design, data analysis and interpretation, and the appropriate use of technologies.

Student learning outcomes:

(i) To develop a critical understanding of the major methods of research in these areas.

(ii) To interpret statistical analyses.

(iii) Use web-search, word-processing, database, and email programs.

3: Critical Thinking Skills in Abnormal Psychology

Respect and use critical and creative thinking, sceptical inquiry, and the scientific approach to solve problems related to thought and behaviour.

Student learning outcomes:

- (i) Demonstrate an attitude of critical thinking that includes persistence, open-mindedness, and intellectual engagement.
- (ii) Evaluate the quality of information, including differentiating empirical evidence from speculation.
- (iii) Use reasoning and evidence to recognise, develop, defend, and criticise arguments.

4: Values in Abnormal Psychology

Value empirical evidence; act ethically and professionally; and understand the complexity of sociocultural and international diversity.

Student learning outcomes:

- (i) Recognise and respect social, cultural, linguistic, spiritual and gender diversity.
- (ii) 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)
- (iv) Be able to recognise and promote ethical practice in research.
- (v) Promote evidence-based approaches to understanding behaviour.

5: Communication Skills in Abnormal Psychology

Communicate effectively in a variety of formats and in a variety of contexts

Student learning outcomes:

- (i) Write a standard literature review or case report using American Psychological Association (APA) structure and formatting conventions.
- (iii) Demonstrate effective oral communication skills in various formats (e.g., debate, group discussion, presentation) and for various purposes.
- (iv) Collaborate effectively, demonstrating an ability to: work with groups to complete projects within reasonable timeframes; manage conflicts appropriately and ethically.

6: The Application of Abnormal Psychology

Understand and apply psychological principles to personal and social issues.

Student learning outcomes:

- (i) To develop an awareness of the applications of the theories and research findings of Abnormal Psychology in society.
- (ii) To develop an ability to critically evaluate media representations of mental health issues in society.

Evidence of learning:

During the semester, the learning outcomes will be assessed through participation in tutorial discussions, presentation, online quizzes, and the written assignment. At the end of semester, a multiple-choice + short answer exam will assess all learning outcomes, including all lecture, tutorial and set reading material.

SYLLABUS

The following lecture and tutorial outline contains the entire syllabus. The tutorial program consists of a mixture of class exercises, video demonstrations and discussions of topics related to lectures.

W	Date	Tutorial topic	Lecture topic	Lecturer
1	27/07	-	Introduction to Abnormal Psychology	Szabó
	29/07		Classification and Diagnosis 1.	Szabó
2	03/08	1. What is 'abnormal'?	Classification and Diagnosis 2.	Szabó
	05/08		Psychotherapy evaluation.	Szabó
3	10/08	2. Diagnosis	Anxiety Disorders 1.	Szabó
	12/08		Anxiety Disorders 2.	Szabó
4	17/08	3. Anxiety Disorders	Anxiety Disorders 3.	Szabó
	19/08		Anxiety Disorders 4.	Szabó
5	24/08	4. Depression	Mood Disorders 1: Depression	Szabó
	26/08		Mood Disorders 2: Depression	Szabó
6	31/08	5. Child Abnormal Psychology	Child Abnormal Psychology 1.	Szabó
	02/09		Child Abnormal Psychology 2.	Szabó
7	07/09	- no tutorial -	Mood Disorders 3: Bipolar Disorder	Lawsin
	09/09		Schizophrenia 1.	Lawsin
8	14/09	6. Bipolar Disorder/ Psychosis	Schizophrenia 2.	Lawsin
	16/09		Addictive Behaviours 1: alcohol	Lawsin
9	21/09	7. Addictive Behaviours	Addictive Behaviours 2: drug	Lawsin
	23/09		Addictive Behaviours 3: gambling	Lawsin
<i>Mid-session break: Monday 28th September to Friday 2nd October</i>				
10	05/10	-- no tutorial -	<i>Labour day</i>	
	07/10		Eating Disorders 1: Anorexia Nervosa	Lawsin
11	12/10	8. Eating Disorders	Eating Disorders 2: Bulimia Nervosa	Lawsin
	14/10		Couples and Marital Problems	Lawsin
12	19/10	9. Couples and Marital	Psychology of aging	Lawsin
	21/10		Personality Disorders 1.	Tiliopoulos
13	26/10	10. Revision / feedback	Personality Disorders 2.	Tiliopoulos
	28/10		Personality Disorders 3.	Tiliopoulos

School of Psychology Plagiarism Policy information for Students

Plagiarism is not permitted

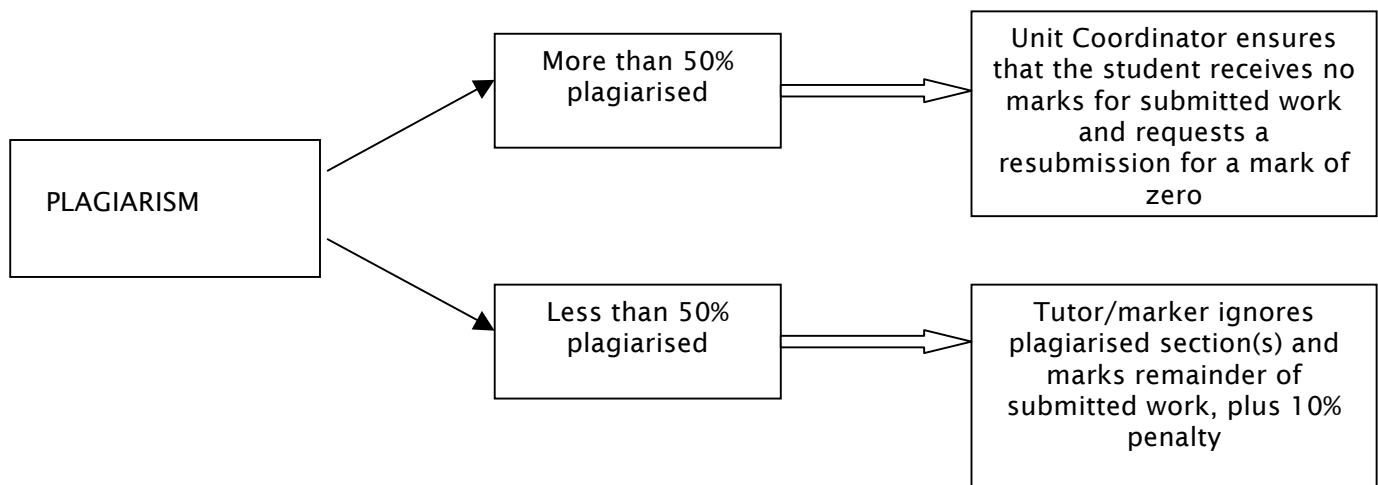
i) Are you sure you know what plagiarism is?

Please refer to the University policy on plagiarism:

<http://www.usyd.edu.au/senate/policies/Plagiarism.pdf>

ii) The School of Psychology will penalise **all** submitted work that is plagiarised;

iii) The School of Psychology is using software to detect **all** forms of plagiarism.



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The University of Sydney Library is a distributed system of 14 libraries with a collection of over 5 million items. Fisher Library is located on Eastern Avenue, Camperdown Campus. Fisher Library has the most resources relevant to Psychology.

Poppy Prezios is your Psychology Faculty Liaison Librarian. You can find her at Badham Library Ground Floor, Badham Building Science Rd, Camperdown Campus. You can phone her on 0434 606 913 or email at p.prezios@library.usyd.edu.au.

Psychology books in high demand

Reserve (located on Level 2 of Fisher Library) is a 2 hour loan collection. Most of the required and recommended items will be here. Details of items required can be located in the catalogue.

<http://opac.library.usyd.edu.au/search/r>

Psychology Guide

includes links to Psychology databases, internet resources, information on tests and more.

<http://libguides.library.usyd.edu.au/psychology>

Finding items on your reading lists

Your reading lists will contain different styles of citations, depending on the type of publication. The link below will take you to help on finding items on your reading list.

<http://elearning.library.usyd.edu.au/learn/readinglist/index.php>