



PSYC11011 *Current Trends in Psychology*

Term 2 - 2017

Profile information current as at 20/04/2024 02:14 am

All details in this unit profile for PSYC11011 have been officially approved by CQUniversity and represent a learning partnership between the University and you (our student). The information will not be changed unless absolutely necessary and any change will be clearly indicated by an approved correction included in the profile.

General Information

Overview

This is an introductory unit designed to provide students with up-to-date knowledge of the latest trends in both research and careers in psychology and the social sciences. It is a vehicle for the presentation of practical information about opportunities in Psychology and an opportunity to hear visiting speakers talk about their own careers and or research. The unit aims to educate students pursuing a career in psychology and the social sciences about the various career paths available with the aim of assisting them in making informed decisions about their career options and study plan across their course of enrolment. Students will also have an opportunity to learn about research from an applied perspective through participation in current research projects.

Details

Career Level: *Undergraduate*

Unit Level: *Level 1*

Credit Points: 6

Student Contribution Band: 10

Fraction of Full-Time Student Load: 0.125

Pre-requisites or Co-requisites

There are no requisites for this unit.

Important note: Students enrolled in a subsequent unit who failed their pre-requisite unit, should drop the subsequent unit before the census date or within 10 working days of Fail grade notification. Students who do not drop the unit in this timeframe cannot later drop the unit without academic and financial liability. See details in the [Assessment Policy and Procedure \(Higher Education Coursework\)](#).

Offerings For Term 2 - 2017

- Adelaide
- Bundaberg
- Distance
- Rockhampton

Attendance Requirements

All on-campus students are expected to attend scheduled classes – in some units, these classes are identified as a mandatory (pass/fail) component and attendance is compulsory. International students, on a student visa, must maintain a full time study load and meet both attendance and academic progress requirements in each study period (satisfactory attendance for International students is defined as maintaining at least an 80% attendance record).

Website

[This unit has a website, within the Moodle system, which is available two weeks before the start of term. It is important that you visit your Moodle site throughout the term. Please visit Moodle for more information.](#)

Class and Assessment Overview

Recommended Student Time Commitment

Each 6-credit Undergraduate unit at CQUniversity requires an overall time commitment of an average of 12.5 hours of study per week, making a total of 150 hours for the unit.

Class Timetable

[Regional Campuses](#)

Bundaberg, Cairns, Emerald, Gladstone, Mackay, Rockhampton, Townsville

[Metropolitan Campuses](#)

Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth, Sydney

Assessment Overview

1. **Portfolio**

Weighting: 20%

2. **Group Discussion**

Weighting: 20%

3. **Written Assessment**

Weighting: 60%

Assessment Grading

This is a graded unit: your overall grade will be calculated from the marks or grades for each assessment task, based on the relative weightings shown in the table above. You must obtain an overall mark for the unit of at least 50%, or an overall grade of 'pass' in order to pass the unit. If any 'pass/fail' tasks are shown in the table above they must also be completed successfully ('pass' grade). You must also meet any minimum mark requirements specified for a particular assessment task, as detailed in the 'assessment task' section (note that in some instances, the minimum mark for a task may be greater than 50%). Consult the [University's Grades and Results Policy](#) for more details of interim results and final grades.

CQUniversity Policies

All University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).

You may wish to view these policies:

- Grades and Results Policy
- Assessment Policy and Procedure (Higher Education Coursework)
- Review of Grade Procedure
- Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – Domestic Students
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – International Students
- Student Refund and Credit Balance Policy and Procedure
- Student Feedback – Compliments and Complaints Policy and Procedure
- Information and Communications Technology Acceptable Use Policy and Procedure

This list is not an exhaustive list of all University policies. The full list of University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).

Previous Student Feedback

Feedback, Recommendations and Responses

Every unit is reviewed for enhancement each year. At the most recent review, the following staff and student feedback items were identified and recommendations were made.

Feedback from Have your say evaluation feedback

Feedback

Most of the students commented how much they appreciated the breadth and variety of lectures, e.g. "I love learning of all the new avenues that Psychology can lead to. Has been a wonderful journey so far"

Recommendation

Maintain the current format with guest lecturers from a wide range of fields, showcasing the diversity of Psychology as a discipline and as a profession.

Feedback from Have your say evaluation feedback

Feedback

There was a generally widespread appreciation of the time and commitment put into to guiding and responding to students, for example... "Dr. George Stuart is a fantastic lecturer, was very good at explaining things to us students during lectures and was very assisting in clarification any students needed on assignments."

Recommendation

As a level 1 unit, there is initially a higher level of dependency as students make the transition to independent learners. This unit provides the scaffolding which should be maintained in future iterations in order to ensure students progress into level 2.

Feedback from Have your say evaluation feedback

Feedback

"The course had a range of different assessments that required multiple skills. I enjoyed the continuity of assessment 1 and 3. It was interesting to learn about the fields of psychology from people who were in it. Course coordinator was great."

Recommendation

Maintain the formative assessment (critical review and peer review) as these work well and are appreciated by students.

Unit Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

1. Distinguish and make informed decisions about the diverse career paths and fields of study within psychology and the social sciences.
2. Apply critical thinking to current research in the field of psychology and the social sciences.
3. Synthesize ideas and extract themes from current psychological literature
4. Communicate ideas effectively in writing and in adherence with APA style.
5. Articulate the key values and principles of psychology and the study of human behaviour across a range of research fields within psychology.
6. Interpret research findings with consideration to diverse populations and individual differences.
7. Apply the principles of effective learning to their own study as the basis for successful lifelong learning.

As per NPC1403

Alignment of Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Graduate Attributes



Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Learning Outcomes

Assessment Tasks	Learning Outcomes						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1 - Portfolio - 20%		•	•				
2 - Group Discussion - 20%	•	•			•	•	
3 - Written Assessment - 60%		•	•	•			•

Alignment of Graduate Attributes to Learning Outcomes

Graduate Attributes	Learning Outcomes						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1 - Communication				•	•		
2 - Problem Solving						•	•
3 - Critical Thinking		•	•	•	•		•
4 - Information Literacy			•				
5 - Team Work							
6 - Information Technology Competence				•			•
7 - Cross Cultural Competence		•	•		•	•	
8 - Ethical practice				•		•	
9 - Social Innovation							
10 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures							

Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Graduate Attributes

Assessment Tasks	Graduate Attributes									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1 - Portfolio - 20%	•		•	•		•				
2 - Group Discussion - 20%	•	•	•	•	•	•		•		
3 - Written Assessment - 60%	•	•	•	•			•	•		

Textbooks and Resources

Textbooks

PSYC11011

Prescribed

Publication manual of the American Psychological Association

Edition: 6th (2009)

Authors: American Psychological Association

American Psychological Association

Washington, D.C. , USA

ISBN: 978-1-4338-0561-5

Binding: Hardcover

Additional Textbook Information

Electronic, spiral bound and hardbound versions of this text are available. There are freely available summaries online and I will include links to these in Moodle, but this is a manual that will be useful throughout the psychology degree and in giving feedback on formatting, I will refer to pages in this manual.

[View textbooks at the CQUniversity Bookshop](#)

IT Resources

You will need access to the following IT resources:

- CQUniversity Student Email
- Internet
- Unit Website (Moodle)

Referencing Style

All submissions for this unit must use the referencing style: [American Psychological Association 6th Edition \(APA 6th edition\)](#)

For further information, see the Assessment Tasks.

Teaching Contacts

George Stuart Unit Coordinator

g.stuart@cqu.edu.au

Schedule

Week 1 - 10 Jul 2017

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Introduction to the unit/Critical thinking and belief in the paranormal	Suggested readings may be supplied by speaker	

Week 2 - 17 Jul 2017

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Guest speaker TBC	Suggested readings may be supplied by speaker	

Week 3 - 24 Jul 2017

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Guest speaker TBC	Suggested readings may be supplied by speaker	Portfolio Due: Week 3 Friday (28 July 2017) 12:00 am AEST

Week 4 - 31 Jul 2017

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Guest speaker TBC	Suggested readings may be supplied by speaker	

Week 5 - 07 Aug 2017

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Guest speaker TBC	Suggested readings may be supplied by speaker	

Vacation Week - 14 Aug 2017

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
No lecture		

Week 6 - 21 Aug 2017

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Guest speaker TBC	Suggested readings may be supplied by speaker	

Week 7 - 28 Aug 2017

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
The psychology of marketing	Suggested readings may be supplied by speaker	

Week 8 - 04 Sep 2017

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Guest speaker TBC	Suggested readings may be supplied by speaker	

Week 9 - 11 Sep 2017

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Effective clinical Psychology treatment Christopher Crawford	Suggested readings may be supplied by speaker	

Week 10 - 18 Sep 2017

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Guest speaker TBC	Suggested readings may be supplied by speaker	Written Assessment Due: Week 10 Friday (22 Sept 2017) 12:00 am AEST

Week 11 - 25 Sep 2017

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Guest speaker TBC	Suggested readings may be supplied by speaker	

Week 12 - 02 Oct 2017

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Guest speaker TBC	Suggested readings may be supplied by speaker	Peer reviewed group discussion Due: Week 12 Friday (6 Oct 2017) 10:16 am AEST

Review/Exam Week - 09 Oct 2017

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
No exam		

Exam Week - 16 Oct 2017

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
No exam		

Assessment Tasks

1 Portfolio

Assessment Type

Portfolio

Task Description

As part of this course, you are required to take part in two studies, run by either staff or students in the Psychology department at CQUniversity. The studies take a wide variety of forms, from 'live' experiments to online surveys etc. To find out what's on offer, go to the CQUniversity Psychology web site

<https://moodle.cqu.edu.au/course/view.php?id=2622>

and look under the section 'Research Projects'. At the end of the survey or experiment, you will be given some information about the study and a link to the 'CQU Current Trends 1st year participation registration form'. Here you must

enter your student number, name, unique project identifier (which will be given to you by the experimenter) and e-mail address (used to send an automatic receipt to you that you can keep as proof of participation). Please note that in the interests of anonymity, these personal details are not sent to the researcher and this form is separate from any information gathered in the study.

Remember that you have only 3 weeks from the start of term to participate, though you may begin participation before the

start of Term 2 if studies are available.

Participation is an important part of learning, giving an insight into the design and execution of psychology studies.

However, you may choose not to participate in any studies in which case you may submit an alternative assessment (see

Assessment 3 for details).

Assessment Due Date

Week 3 Friday (28 July 2017) 12:00 am AEST

Return Date to Students

You will receive an automated response once you have registered your participation

Weighting

20%

Assessment Criteria

This is the first part of a two-part assessment, the marking criteria for which are described in Assessment 3.

Referencing Style

- [American Psychological Association 6th Edition \(APA 6th edition\)](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

Those participating in the studies must complete the 'Current Trends 1st year Participation Register' before the deadline.

This will automatically be relayed to the Course Co-ordinator. Those who opt for the alternative essay assignment (see Assessment 3) will need to submit via Moodle before the deadline.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Apply critical thinking to current research in the field of psychology and the social sciences.
- Synthesize ideas and extract themes from current psychological literature

Graduate Attributes

- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy
- Information Technology Competence

2 Peer reviewed group discussion

Assessment Type

Group Discussion

Task Description

This is a two part exercise involving review and peer review.

Part 1 (Review): Select at least one of the lectures given in this course and write a 500+/-50 word critical commentary, summarising the topic highlighting the extent to which research findings were well founded; there were flaws in the research; there were advantages/disadvantages with the career described; extent to which the research/area of practice was limited/biased to specific group/cohort etc.

Part 2 (Peer Review): Choose a review from a fellow student and comment on the following criteria (100 words+/-50):

- Adherence to the word limit
- Succinctness of description and arguments
- Clarity of arguments
- Level of critical analysis

Assessment Due Date

Week 12 Friday (6 Oct 2017) 10:16 am AEST

Return Date to Students

Assignments will be returned within 3 weeks of the submission due date

Weighting

20%

Assessment Criteria

Each part of the assignment is worth 10% of the total marks for the course and will be awarded in an all or nothing fashion

Marks will only be awarded to what are considered by the course coordinator to be 'serious attempts'

The following criteria would constitute non-serious attempts:

- Nonsensical, abusive or irrelevant (non topic related) comments
- Deviance from specified word limits

Referencing Style

- [American Psychological Association 6th Edition \(APA 6th edition\)](#)

Submission

Offline

Submission Instructions

Both review and peer review should be posted in the Assessment 2 forum on the unit Moodle page

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Distinguish and make informed decisions about the diverse career paths and fields of study within psychology and the social sciences.
- Apply critical thinking to current research in the field of psychology and the social sciences.
- Articulate the key values and principles of psychology and the study of human behaviour across a range of research fields within psychology.
- Interpret research findings with consideration to diverse populations and individual differences.

Graduate Attributes

- Communication
- Problem Solving
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy
- Team Work
- Information Technology Competence
- Ethical practice

3 Written Assessment

Assessment Type

Written Assessment

Task Description

By the end of week 3, you should all have taken part in at least two studies (unless you've chosen to opt out of this and submit the alternative essay instead) and for this assignment you must write a 1500 word descriptive/reflective account

of one of those studies.

For those who opted not to take part in the studies, you must write a maximum 2500 word descriptive/reflective essay on your experience in any lecture in this series.

Assessment Due Date

Week 10 Friday (22 Sept 2017) 12:00 am AEST

Submitted through Moodle

Return Date to Students

Within three weeks of the submission deadline (if handed in on time)

Weighting

60%

Assessment Criteria

The essay must be formatted throughout using APA format. Sub-headings may be used, but are not necessary. Citations must be used throughout to support all reported findings, theories or quotations, though direct quotations should be avoided where possible.

The word count will include all words from and including the first word of the title to the last word of the conclusions, and includes any in-text citations or captions within the text, but does not include references or appendices. An assignment which does not fall within 10% above or below the specified word limit will be subject to a word count penalty of up to 10% of the total possible grade. Words in assignments that exceed 10% of the word count are not assessed/graded and this may also affect the marks given.

Your essay will be assessed according to the following marking scheme which will be used to assess the Course Learning Outcomes. The total final mark is out of 60%. Marks will be awarded from 0 - 15 for each of the following 5 criteria...

1. Length: 1500 words for those who completed Assessment 1 and 2500 words for those who opted out of Assessment 1
2. Evidence of critical thinking
3. Evidence of literature search and appropriate use of citations with evidence of synthesis of ideas/literature
4. Rational/logical development of arguments
5. Effective communication: Style and structure of writing and adherence to APA style. This includes adherence to the following...

Title: Must have a title that describes well the topic to be discussed (either the study or the area of professional psychology)

Introduction: Not more than one paragraph, giving some historical background to the area and setting the scene

Main body: Develop the main themes of your chosen topic here

Conclusions: One or two paragraphs summarising the preceding section and, most importantly, giving your assessment of the status and possible future directions of the area, either in terms of research or professional development

Reference section: Must include full references for all citations given in the essay

Referencing Style

- [American Psychological Association 6th Edition \(APA 6th edition\)](#)

Submission

Offline

Submission Instructions

Submit through Unit Moodle page

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Apply critical thinking to current research in the field of psychology and the social sciences.
- Synthesize ideas and extract themes from current psychological literature
- Communicate ideas effectively in writing and in adherence with APA style.
- Apply the principles of effective learning to their own study as the basis for successful lifelong learning.

Graduate Attributes

- Communication
- Problem Solving
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy
- Cross Cultural Competence
- Ethical practice

Academic Integrity Statement

As a CQUniversity student you are expected to act honestly in all aspects of your academic work.

Any assessable work undertaken or submitted for review or assessment must be your own work. Assessable work is any type of work you do to meet the assessment requirements in the unit, including draft work submitted for review and feedback and final work to be assessed.

When you use the ideas, words or data of others in your assessment, you must thoroughly and clearly acknowledge the source of this information by using the correct referencing style for your unit. Using others' work without proper acknowledgement may be considered a form of intellectual dishonesty.

Participating honestly, respectfully, responsibly, and fairly in your university study ensures the CQUniversity qualification you earn will be valued as a true indication of your individual academic achievement and will continue to receive the respect and recognition it deserves.

As a student, you are responsible for reading and following CQUniversity's policies, including the [Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure](#). This policy sets out CQUniversity's expectations of you to act with integrity, examples of academic integrity breaches to avoid, the processes used to address alleged breaches of academic integrity, and potential penalties.

What is a breach of academic integrity?

A breach of academic integrity includes but is not limited to plagiarism, self-plagiarism, collusion, cheating, contract cheating, and academic misconduct. The Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure defines what these terms mean and gives examples.

Why is academic integrity important?

A breach of academic integrity may result in one or more penalties, including suspension or even expulsion from the University. It can also have negative implications for student visas and future enrolment at CQUniversity or elsewhere. Students who engage in contract cheating also risk being blackmailed by contract cheating services.

Where can I get assistance?

For academic advice and guidance, the [Academic Learning Centre \(ALC\)](#) can support you in becoming confident in completing assessments with integrity and of high standard.

What can you do to act with integrity?



Be Honest

If your assessment task is done by someone else, it would be dishonest of you to claim it as your own



Seek Help

If you are not sure about how to cite or reference in essays, reports etc, then seek help from your lecturer, the library or the Academic Learning Centre (ALC)



Produce Original Work

Originality comes from your ability to read widely, think critically, and apply your gained knowledge to address a question or problem