PSYC14051 *Psychology Research Project A*
Term 2 - 2020

Profile information current as at 09/05/2024 03:13 am

All details in this unit profile for PSYC14051 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

Psychology Research Project A (PSYC14051) is the first of two units which will introduce you to the process of undertaking research in the discipline of psychology. Over the two units, you will independently undertake a scholarly investigation, under the supervision of a qualified supervisor within the psychology discipline. The purpose of the Psychology Research Project A unit is to provide you with the experience of proposing and planning an independent research project. The research question examined will be developed in consultation with your supervisor and will have either theoretical or applied significance in the psychology discipline. In Psychology Research Project A you will complete a research project proposal and an ethics application for that proposed project. Successful completion of this unit requires that Psychology Research Project A (PSYC14051) and Psychology Research Project B (PSYC14052) are undertaken in two consecutive University terms (e.g. Term 1 and Term 2, or Term 2 and Term 3).

Details

Career Level: *Undergraduate*
Unit Level: *Level 4*
Credit Points: *12*
Student Contribution Band: *10*
Fraction of Full-Time Student Load: *0.25*

Pre-requisites or Co-requisites

Students must be enrolled in CC42 Bachelor of Psychological Science (Honours) Co-requisites: PSYC14047 and PSYC14050.
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 - 2020

- Mixed Mode

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).

Residential Schools

This unit has a Compulsory Residential School for distance mode students and the details are:
Click here to see your Residential School Timetable.

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 12-credit Undergraduate unit at CQUniversity requires an overall time commitment of an average of 25 hours of study per week, making a total of 300 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. **Written Assessment**
Weighting: Pass/Fail
2. **Practical Assessment**
Weighting: Pass/Fail

Assessment Grading

This is a pass/fail (non-graded) unit. To pass the unit, you must pass all of the individual assessment tasks shown in the table above.

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 Student Evaluations

Feedback

More Qualtrics support required as there was a transition to this new platform during Term 1 2020.

Recommendation

Develop or source accessible resources for Qualtrics to support students.

Feedback from Student Evaluations

Feedback

Residential School could be earlier in the term to make information less overwhelming.

Recommendation

Honours team to review placement of residential school and consider whether an earlier timing is appropriate.

Unit Learning Outcomes

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

1. Develop a research proposal for a psychology-based research project
2. Complete a CQUniversity Human Research ethics application (or an Animal Research ethics application where appropriate) for a psychology-based research project.

The purpose of the two-term long Psychology Research Project (A & B) is to provide you with training in developing, conducting, and communicating research across theoretical and applied domains. This requires you to undertake an investigation of a research question in psychology and to report the investigation in written scholarly form. The research question will be of theoretical or applied significance to an area of psychology and the investigation and subsequent dissertation will be carried out under the principal supervision of a member of the psychology staff.

The thesis is an individual research project where the expectation is that you, with advice from your supervisor(s), will be responsible for, and participate in, all steps of the investigation and reporting.

Successful completion of this unit requires that Psychology Research Project A and Psychology Research Project B are undertaken in two consecutive University terms (e.g. Term 1 and Term 2, or Term 2 and Term 3).

Learning outcomes of this unit fulfil the level 2 pre-professional core competencies required by the updated Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC) guidelines, specifically 2.5: Investigate a substantive individual research question relevant to the discipline of psychology. The unit also meets the study criteria as specified by the Psychology Board of Australia (PsyBA) as appropriate for study at level 8 as stated by the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF).

Alignment of Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Graduate Attributes

| — N/A Level | ○ Introductory Level | ○ Intermediate Level | ● Graduate Level | ○ Professional Level | ○ Advanced Level |

Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Learning Outcomes

Assessment Tasks	Learning Outcomes	
	1	2
1 - Written Assessment - 0%	●	

Assessment Tasks	Learning Outcomes	
	1	2
2 - Practical Assessment - 0%		•

Alignment of Graduate Attributes to Learning Outcomes

Graduate Attributes	Learning Outcomes	
	1	2
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 - Written Assessment - 0%	•	•	•	•					•	
2 - Practical Assessment - 0%	•	•	•					•		

Textbooks and Resources

Textbooks

There are no required textbooks.

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 7th Edition (APA 7th edition)](#)
For further information, see the Assessment Tasks.

Teaching Contacts

Amanda Rebar Unit Coordinator
a.rebar@cqu.edu.au
Amy Reynolds Unit Coordinator
a.reynolds@cqu.edu.au

Schedule

Week 1 - 13 Jul 2020

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Connect with supervisor, literature search, topic refinement, planning research project	N/A	None

Week 2 - 20 Jul 2020

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Begin first brain storm draft of the proposal; develop the research question/s. Finalise research question/s & hypotheses; select and design research tools (questionnaires, etc.).	N/A	None

Week 3 - 27 Jul 2020

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Residential school	N/A	Residential school will be hosted online. We will have recorded videos on Moodle and scheduled events. Please see the relevant materials on Moodle for more details.

Week 4 - 03 Aug 2020

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Continue draft and refinement of approach and methodology, write ethics application	N/A	None

Week 5 - 10 Aug 2020

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Discuss broad literature review and project with supervisor. Prepare ethics application.	N/A	None

Vacation Week - 17 Aug 2020

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
N/A	N/A	N/A

Week 6 - 24 Aug 2020

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Develop and refine the research design; methodology, analyses; prepare ethics application, continue refining research proposal for submission.	N/A	None

Week 7 - 31 Aug 2020

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Research Project Proposal and Student Progress Report Due in Moodle and to your supervisor via email	N/A	Submit Proposal and Student Progress Report on Moodle; Email supervisor with a link for supervisor progress report and full copy of your final proposal. **Thesis proposal** Due: Week 7 Friday (4 Sept 2020) 5:00 pm AEST

Week 8 - 07 Sep 2020

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Continue with ethics application (students can submit ethics application early if supervisor has approved)	N/A	None

Week 9 - 14 Sep 2020

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Supervisor progress reports due	N/A	Supervisor progress reports due

Week 10 - 21 Sep 2020

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Proposal feedback from your supervisor and independent assessor received and integrated into your thoughts for data collection	N/A	None

Week 11 - 28 Sep 2020

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Begin drafting outline for introduction and methods section of your empirical report	N/A	None

Week 12 - 05 Oct 2020

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Ethics submission	N/A	Ethics applications submission due in Moodle (and either also submitted ethics approval to ethics committee if new study, or wrote to ethics for approval of use of pre-existing data); Proposal resubmission due (if required)

Ethics application Due: Week 12 Friday (9 Oct 2020) 5:00 pm AEST |

Week 13 - 12 Oct 2020

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Refine Introduction based on proposal feedback, continue drafting method section of empirical report	N/A	N/A

Week 14 - 19 Oct 2020

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Refine Introduction based on proposal feedback, continue drafting method section of empirical report.	N/A	None

Week 15 - 26 Oct 2020

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

Week 16 - 27 Oct 2020

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

Assessment Tasks

1 Thesis proposal

Assessment Type
Written Assessment

Task Description
The submission of the research proposal is a compulsory, non-graded task. It is required to be submitted and passed for enrolment to continue in Research Project B in the following term. The proposal ensures that students and supervisors are on track and have a project that is feasible to be completed within the Honours year and meets APAC requirements. Students are expected to submit a well-written workable proposal in order to continue. In addition to the Supervisor, all proposals will be assessed by an independent assessor who will provide feedback and recommendations regarding the project.

PDF submission with APA formatting, double spaced, 12 point Times New Roman or Arial font. No more than 2000 words, including tables and to be formatted as follows:

· Project title
· Background rationale and theory, research aims and significance (500 – 800 words)
Please provide a brief description of the relevance of your proposed project to current research, a justification as to why your research should proceed and an explanation of its potential to contribute to existing knowledge/literature. Then, state the research objectives, key research questions, and significance of the project. Where relevant, state the specific hypothesis/hypotheses to be tested.
· Design and Methods (250-400 words)
Outline chronologically the proposed method/s, including data collection techniques, tasks participants will be asked to complete, estimated time commitment required of them and measures being used
o Do not include appendices, rather make sure that you have outlined broad measures and include in text citations for the measures you will be using in your proposed research
· Description of Participants and recruitment methods (100- 500 words)
o If seeking to recruit students/1st year psychology students, the details for how to do this are on the Moodle site
o If recruiting from other disciplines/Schools, contact the Thesis Coordinator, as the student and supervisor must have

that School's Dean's permission to recruit students.
· Potential ethical issues that you are aware of/risks (a response of a sentence or 2 to a paragraph relevant to project context: 50 – 200 words). There is no such thing as a risk-free study.
· Proposed Data analysis (150 – 250 words)
Describe the main analysis for research being proposed, include a description of the main analysis in line with the proposed hypothesis and/or exploratory nature of the proposed project.
o Students are required to purchase their own data analysis software – SPSS is the primary tool used to quantitate data as grad Pack from the bookstore or other online providers - see on the hub resources also
https://cqu.onthehub.com/WebStore/Welcome.aspx. NIVO is the primary tool used for qualitative data. Check with your supervisors and/or the Thesis Coordinator for arrangements.
· Reference list (not included in word count).

Assessment Due Date
Week 7 Friday (4 Sept 2020) 5:00 pm AEST
AEST

Return Date to Students
Week 9 Friday (18 Sept 2020)

Weighting
Pass/Fail

Assessment Criteria
All aspects of the research proposal will be taken into account and scored by an independent reviewer on aspects including the background/rationale/research questions/hypotheses, the proposed design and methods, participants and recruitment, and data management and analyses. Reviewers will be asked to assess whether the proposal achieved a 'pass'/'resubmit'/''fail' and provide comments in written form which will be returned to the student so that the student may improve their thesis project into the next term project.

Referencing Style

- American Psychological Association 7th Edition (APA 7th edition)

Submission
Online

Submission Instructions
Thesis proposals will need to be submitted on Moodle and in an email to your supervisor

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Develop a research proposal for a psychology-based research project

Graduate Attributes

- Communication
- Problem Solving
- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy
- Social Innovation

2 Ethics application

Assessment Type
Practical Assessment

Task Description
All students enrolled in the Research Project MUST complete an ethics application that is either submitted to the relevant ethics committee for approval, or a simulated application that is submitted to their Supervisor and the Thesis Coordinator.
If you are starting a NEW STUDY: you will need to submit your ethics application to Moodle and get approval to conduct the study from the Human Research Ethics Committee prior to starting your study.
CQUniversity's Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC) procedures require the Supervisor to be named as Chief Investigator and the student as Associate Investigator, however, the student is expected to take responsibility for the completion and submission of the application. All applications MUST be approved by the Supervisor prior to submission. All submitted applications MUST be signed by the Supervisor. Students should consult with supervisors early in the year regarding timeframes for feedback on drafts of ethics applications.
Applications for Ethics Approval for your research project must be submitted directly to the CQUniversity HREC

(ethics@cqu.edu.au). Students can submit ethics applications at any time, subject to supervisor approval of submission. Students are not required to wait for the Honours Moodle Submission date to submit their ethics application form for approval. The HREC meetings occur every month, and students are permitted to submit to ethics meetings outside of these times. Additional due dates and meeting dates outside of these times can be found on the Psychology Honours Moodle site. Students are encouraged to utilise their proposal feedback before submitting their Ethics Application, however students can submit their ethics application, with their supervisors' approval, at any time. As HREC operates outside and independently of the Psychology Program, enquiries regarding the status of an application should be directed to the Ethics Secretary rather than the Thesis Coordinator or Head of Course (Honours).

Applications to the Animal Research Ethics Committee

Students who require ethics approval for animal-based research should consult directly with their supervisor and the Thesis Coordinator in the first instance.

If you are using PRE-EXISTING DATA from a previously completed study: you will need to complete a simulated ethics application and submit it to Moodle. You are not required to obtain individual ethics approvals from the ethics committee for the completion of their Research Project. You or your supervisor will need to request permission from the Human Research Ethics Committee (ethics@cqu.edu.au) to be given access to the data for your thesis.

Students must complete a simulated application for their component of the project in consultation with their supervisor. The simulated application MUST be submitted via Moodle by the specified date on the Research Project Moodle site. The simulated application is expected to be completed to the same standard as if the student was submitting to the ethics committee.

The ethics application forms can be accessed on Moodle Site.

Assessment Due Date
Week 12 Friday (9 Oct 2020) 5:00 pm AEST
AEST

Return Date to Students
Exam Week Friday (23 Oct 2020)
Thesis coordinator(s) will pass/fail mark

Weighting
Pass/Fail

Assessment Criteria
If students, have followed the instructions within the handbook (detailed above) and there are no ethical concerns for the study, then the mark will be 'pass'.

Referencing Style

- [American Psychological Association 7th Edition (APA 7th edition)](#)

Submission
Online

Submission Instructions
Ethics applications will need to be submitted via Moodle and in email to the ethics committee (either as new application or as permission to use pre-existing data)

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Complete a CQUniversity Human Research ethics application (or an Animal Research ethics application where appropriate) for a psychology-based research project.

Graduate Attributes

- Communication
- Problem Solving
- Critical Thinking
- 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