PSYC20044 *Applied Positive Psychology Project A*
Term 1 - 2021

Profile information current as at 14/12/2025 12:43 pm

All details in this unit profile for PSYC20044 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

Applied Positive Psychology Project A is the first of two integrated units. In these units, you will plan and design a research project - either a research study or systematic review - in an applied positive psychology/wellbeing and/or resilience-related field. Under the supervision of a qualified Academic supervisor, you will develop a research project proposal. This will involve undertaking (i) a preliminary literature review to identify and support your proposal; and (ii) developing a project plan, including proposed Methods, Data Collection and Analysis sections. As part of the unit, you will also complete a relevant ethics application for a proposed project. In the unit Applied Positive Psychology Project B (PSYC20045), which is Stage 2 of the process, following proposal approval, you will undertake your research study or systematic review.

Details

Career Level: *Postgraduate*
Unit Level: *Level 9*
Credit Points: *0*
Student Contribution Band: *10*
Fraction of Full-Time Student Load: *0*

Pre-requisites or Co-requisites

Pre-requisites: PSYC20036; PSYC20037; PSYC20038; PSYC20039; PSYC20040; PSYC20041; PSYC20042; PSYC20043
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 1 - 2021

- Online

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 0-credit Postgraduate unit at CQUniversity requires an overall time commitment of an average of 0 hours of study per week, making a total of 0 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. **Research Proposal**
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 feedback (evaluations).

Feedback

Students felt that the unit was well coordinated, with clear requirements for each assessment task.

Recommendation

The unit should retain its structure, including assessment requirements.

Feedback from Student feedback (evaluations).

Feedback

Students felt that they were supported by their research project supervisors.

Recommendation

Students should continue to work with at least one project supervisor with oversight from the Unit Coordinator.

Feedback from Student feedback (evaluations).

Feedback

Students appreciated the detailed and constructive feedback on their research proposal from two independent assessors.

Recommendation

The unit should continue the procedure of having independent staff members review students' research proposals.

Feedback from Student feedback (evaluations).

Feedback

One student indicated that they were unable to access library resources specific to their project.

Recommendation

The teaching team should work with students to make them aware of library resources available to students such as Interlibrary Loan and Document Delivery services.

Unit Learning Outcomes

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

1. Apply knowledge and ethical approaches from relevant research domains to develop a proposal for an applied Positive Psychology research project
2. Apply critical evaluation skills to identify and evaluate relevant research literature for a research project
3. Complete a relevant research ethics application for a project.

N/A - the Master of Applied Positive Psychology has no accreditation requirements.

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	3
1 - Research Proposal - 0%	●	●	●
2 - Practical Assessment - 0%	●		●

Alignment of Graduate Attributes to Learning Outcomes

Graduate Attributes	Learning Outcomes		
	1	2	3
1 - Knowledge	○	○	○
2 - Communication	○		○
3 - Cognitive, technical and creative skills	○		○
4 - Research	○	○	○
5 - Self-management	○	○	○
6 - Ethical and Professional Responsibility	○		○
7 - Leadership	○		
8 - 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
1 - Research Proposal - 0%	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	
2 - Practical Assessment - 0%	○	○	○	○		○		

Textbooks and Resources

Textbooks
PSYC20044

Supplementary

Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association
Seventh Edition (2019)
Authors: American Psychological Association
American Psychological Association
Washington, DC , DC , United States
ISBN: 978-1433832161
Binding: Paperback

Additional Textbook Information
There are no prescribed textbooks for this unit. However, the APA *Publication Manual* is a very useful resource for scholarly communication, writing up of a research study, and accurate referencing.

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

Teaching Contacts

Adam Gerace Unit Coordinator
a.gerace@cqu.edu.au

Schedule

Week 1 - 08 Mar 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Liaise with Supervisor to plan research project and literature search.	All resources, including notes, videos, and activities, are available on Moodle.	**Zoom Tutorial: Week 1 Monday (8 Mar 2021) 6:30-8:00 pm AEDT**

Week 2 - 15 Mar 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Commence research proposal and literature search.	All resources, including notes, videos, and activities, are available on Moodle.	

Week 3 - 22 Mar 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic

Continue work on proposal and literature search.	All resources, including notes, videos, and activities, are available on Moodle.	

Week 4 - 29 Mar 2021

Module/Topic	**Chapter**	**Events and Submissions/Topic**
Continue work on proposal. Finalise research questions/hypotheses, and work on design/methodology.	All resources, including notes, videos, and activities, are available on Moodle.	**Zoom Tutorial: Week 4 Monday (29 Mar 2021) 6:30-8:00 pm AEST**

Week 5 - 05 Apr 2021

Module/Topic	**Chapter**	**Events and Submissions/Topic**
Continue work on proposal and design/methodology, and begin ethics application.	All resources, including notes, videos, and activities, are available on Moodle.	

Vacation Week - 12 Apr 2021

Module/Topic	**Chapter**	**Events and Submissions/Topic**
Finalise proposal draft for submission to supervisor.		**Submit proposal draft to Supervisor.**

Week 6 - 19 Apr 2021

Module/Topic	**Chapter**	**Events and Submissions/Topic**
Incorporate feedback from supervisor into final thesis proposal for independent assessment in Week 8.	All resources, including notes, videos, and activities, are available on Moodle.	**Zoom Tutorial: Week 6 Monday (19 Apr 2021) 6:30-8:00 pm AEST**

Week 7 - 26 Apr 2021

Module/Topic	**Chapter**	**Events and Submissions/Topic**
Incorporate feedback from supervisor into final thesis proposal for independent assessment in Week 8.	All resources, including notes, videos, and activities, are available on Moodle.	

Week 8 - 03 May 2021

Module/Topic	**Chapter**	**Events and Submissions/Topic**
Refine ethics application. Commence more extensive literature review and/or consideration of methodology/search strategy.	All resources, including notes, videos, and activities, are available on Moodle.	**Final thesis proposal and Student Progress Report due.** **Research Project Research Proposal** Due: Week 8 Monday (3 May 2021) 5:00 pm AEST

Week 9 - 10 May 2021

Module/Topic	**Chapter**	**Events and Submissions/Topic**
Refine ethics application. Continue literature review and methodology.	All resources, including notes, videos, and activities, are available on Moodle.	**Supervisor Progress Report due.**

Week 10 - 17 May 2021

Module/Topic	**Chapter**	**Events and Submissions/Topic**
Supervisor and Proposal Assessor to provide Thesis Proposal feedback for integration into proposal. Incorporate feedback into research proposal. Refine ethics application.	All resources, including notes, videos, and activities, are available on Moodle.	

Week 11 - 24 May 2021

Module/Topic	**Chapter**	**Events and Submissions/Topic**

Incorporate feedback and refine literature review. Commence outline for Introduction and Methods sections of your thesis.

All resources, including notes, videos, and activities, are available on Moodle.

Week 12 - 31 May 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Incorporate feedback and continue drafting Introduction and Methods sections.	All resources, including notes, videos, and activities, are available on Moodle.	**Ethics submission due in Moodle. If Supervisor permission to submit ethics application to the Ethics Committee is received earlier, submission can occur earlier.** **Ethics Application** Due: Week 12 Monday (31 May 2021) 5:00 pm AEST

Review/Exam Week - 07 Jun 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Incorporate feedback and continue drafting Introduction and Methods sections.	All resources, including notes, videos, and activities, are available on Moodle.	**Proposal resubmission due (if required).**

Exam Week - 14 Jun 2021

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
Refine literature review and continue drafting Introduction and Methods sections.	All resources, including notes, videos, and activities, are available on Moodle.	

Assessment Tasks

1 Research Project Research Proposal

Assessment Type
Research Proposal

Task Description
For this assessment, you are required to complete a 2000 word (+/- 10%) proposal for a research project - either a research study or systematic review.
The research proposal will clearly justify why the project would be important to implement (i.e., it is a meaningful and important gap in the literature, and extends the research knowledge in the study area of interest). Your proposal will include: Background (of the relevant prior research in the area of interest), proposed Methods, Data Collection and Analysis sections, and examination of ethical issues and potential risks.
Further task details for the research proposal, including structure and exemplars, will be available on the unit Moodle site.

Assessment Due Date
Week 8 Monday (3 May 2021) 5:00 pm AEST

Return Date to Students
Week 10 Monday (17 May 2021)

Feedback and grade for this assessment will be provided within 2 weeks of submission.

Weighting
Pass/Fail

Minimum mark or grade
Pass

Assessment Criteria
The project proposal is a non-graded Pass/Fail assessment item. However, in order to be enrolled in the subsequent Applied Positive Psychology Project B (PSYC20045), where you will complete the next stage of your project, your supervisor and the Unit Co-ordinator must pass the proposal.
Your submitted research proposal will be evaluated by your supervisor and an independent assessor who will provide

feedback, required/suggested changes, and any recommendations regarding the project. You will be awarded either a Pass, a Resubmit, or a Discontinue grade by your supervisor and the assigned proposal assessor. A Pass requires no changes to the proposal. Where further details are needed to clarify the intent and suitability of the proposed project, you will be invited to resubmit your proposal. In an instance where your supervisor cannot support the continuation of the proposed project, and the recommendation of the independent assessor is that the project will discontinue, you will be notified that the proposal has failed to be supported and you cannot enroll in Applied Positive Psychology Project B (PSYC20045) for that year.

Referencing Style

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

Submission
Online

Submission Instructions
A submission portal will be provided in in the Assessment section of the unit Moodle site.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Apply knowledge and ethical approaches from relevant research domains to develop a proposal for an applied Positive Psychology research project
- Apply critical evaluation skills to identify and evaluate relevant research literature for a research project
- Complete a relevant research ethics application for a project.

Graduate Attributes

- Knowledge
- Communication
- Cognitive, technical and creative skills
- Research
- Self-management
- Ethical and Professional Responsibility
- Leadership

2 Ethics Application

Assessment Type
Practical Assessment

Task Description
For this assessment, you are required to complete an ethics application for the proposed research project.
You will complete an ethics application that is either submitted to the relevant ethics committee for approval (if approval is required for your study), or a completed ethics application that is submitted to your supervisor and the Unit Coordinator (if approval is not required).

Assessment Due Date
Week 12 Monday (31 May 2021) 5:00 pm AEST

Submission to the Ethics Committee can occur earlier if approved by Supervisor.

Return Date to Students
Exam Week Monday (14 June 2021)

Unit Co-ordinator will award a Pass mark for this assessment piece on submission of the application.

Weighting
Pass/Fail

Minimum mark or grade
Pass

Assessment Criteria
The ethics application is a non-graded Pass/Fail assessment item. However, in order to be enrolled in the subsequent Applied Positive Psychology Project B (PSYC20045), where you will complete the next stage of your project, an ethics application must be completed to the satisfaction of your supervisor/Unit co-ordinator.
Your supervisor will review your ethics application and give feedback before you submit the application to the relevant ethics committee or through the Moodle site. Before data collection for a research study can commence, the CQU Ethics Committee must approve your application.

Referencing Style

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

Submission
Online

Submission Instructions
A submission portal will be provided in in the Assessment section of the unit Moodle site.

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Apply knowledge and ethical approaches from relevant research domains to develop a proposal for an applied Positive Psychology research project
- Complete a relevant research ethics application for a project.

Graduate Attributes

- Knowledge
- Communication
- Cognitive, technical and creative skills
- Research
- Ethical and Professional Responsibility

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