



PSYC22003 *Thesis I*

Term 1 - 2023

Profile information current as at 29/04/2024 08:50 pm

All details in this unit profile for PSYC22003 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

Thesis I (PSYC22003) is the first of two research units that form the cornerstone of the research component of the Master of Clinical Psychology. In this unit you will work under supervision to develop and submit a research proposal, Gantt chart and ethics application, which must be passed in order to progress to Thesis II (PSYC22004) in Term 2. These tasks will prepare you for data collection, analysis and interpretation and is linked to Thesis II (PSYC22004), thereby developing the research skills necessary for working as a Clinical Psychologist.

Details

Career Level: *Postgraduate*

Unit Level: *Level 9*

Credit Points: *12*

Student Contribution Band: *10*

Fraction of Full-Time Student Load: *0.25*

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 1 - 2023

- 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 12-credit Postgraduate 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. **Research Proposal**

Weighting: Pass/Fail

2. **Research Assignment**

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 Unit Coordinator self-reflection.

Feedback

Consider a schedule for non-compulsory Zoom sessions covering relevant topics related to the Unit.

Recommendation

Develop a topic schedule for the 2023 running of this Unit.

Feedback from Unit Coordinator self-reflection.

Feedback

Consider effective communication channels between research supervisors and the Unit Coordinator regarding student progress and support

Recommendation

Develop a short email or Qualtrics survey to send to supervisors to get feedback on student progress at two-time points throughout the term. This will allow for active feedback and dialogue between research supervisors and the Unit Coordinator. This process can identify any required support whilst providing an opportunity for feedback to improve the research experience for students.

Unit Learning Outcomes

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

1. Apply advanced knowledge and skills to plan a research project that is applicable to clinical psychology
2. Investigate methods to inform, formulate and test a research question, including methods of data collection appropriate to clinical psychology
3. Apply critical analysis and rigorous scientific inquiry to relevant literature in preparation of an ethics application and research proposal
4. Communicate research professionally, ethically and in a culturally appropriate manner fit for a range of audiences.

These Learning Outcomes are intended to link with the 2019 Australian Psychology Accreditation Council accreditation guidelines and in particular, Clinical Psychology guidelines and competencies of Knowledge of the Discipline and Research and Evaluation. In addition, the Learning Outcomes are linked with the CG17 Master of Clinical Psychology course Learning Outcome: "Demonstrate the capacity to formulate, research and successfully complete a discipline based research project."

Alignment of Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Graduate Attributes



Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Learning Outcomes

Assessment Tasks	Learning Outcomes			
	1	2	3	4
1 - Research Proposal - 0%	•	•	•	•
2 - Research Assignment - 0%			•	•

Alignment of Graduate Attributes to Learning Outcomes

Graduate Attributes	Learning Outcomes			
	1	2	3	4
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 - Research Assignment - 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

Claire Thompson Unit Coordinator
c.l.thompson@cqu.edu.au

Schedule

Week 1 - 06 Mar 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
n/a	n/a	n/a

Week 2 - 13 Mar 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
n/a	n/a	Non-compulsory Zoom Q&A session. Please see Moodle for dates and times.

Week 3 - 20 Mar 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
n/a	n/a	Submit one document to Moodle containing your draft Gantt chart and draft Research Proposal Both must have already been approved by your supervisor. Due date: 23:55 AEST Friday, 24 March 2023.

Week 4 - 27 Mar 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
n/a	n/a	Non-compulsory Zoom Q&A session. Please see Moodle for dates and times.

Week 5 - 03 Apr 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
n/a	n/a	n/a

Vacation Week - 10 Apr 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
n/a	n/a	Reviewer's comments on the draft Gantt chart and draft Research Proposal will be returned by the Unit Coordinator with any comments no later than 23:55 AEST Monday, 10 April, 2023.

Week 6 - 17 Apr 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
n/a	n/a	Non-compulsory Zoom Q&A session. Please see Moodle for dates and times.

Week 7 - 24 Apr 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
n/a	n/a	The final Gantt chart and Research Proposal must be uploaded to Moodle once comments from reviewers have been discussed with your supervisor and the proposal has been revised if necessary. Due date: 23:55 AEST Friday, 28 April, 2023. Research Proposal and Gantt chart Due: Week 7 Friday (28 Apr 2023) 11:55 pm AEST

Week 8 - 01 May 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
n/a	n/a	Non-compulsory Zoom Q&A session. Please see Moodle for dates and times.

Week 9 - 08 May 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
n/a	n/a	n/a

Week 10 - 15 May 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
n/a	n/a	Non-compulsory Zoom Q&A session. Please see Moodle for dates and times.

Week 11 - 22 May 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
n/a	n/a	n/a

Week 12 - 29 May 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
--------------	---------	------------------------------

n/a

n/a

Non-compulsory Zoom Q&A session. Please see Moodle for dates and times. By the end of Week 12, you need to have submitted:

- Proof of ethics application submission and/or approval (if required), and proof of organisational approvals to unit coordinator (if required)

Due date: 23:55 AEST Friday 2 June, 2023.

Although not an assessment task, it is recommended that you submit at least one draft of the Literature Review to your supervisor.

Organisational Permissions & Ethical Clearances Due: Week 12 Friday (2 June 2023) 11:55 pm AEST

Review/Exam Week - 05 Jun 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
--------------	---------	------------------------------

Exam Week - 12 Jun 2023

Module/Topic	Chapter	Events and Submissions/Topic
--------------	---------	------------------------------

Assessment Tasks

1 Research Proposal and Gantt chart

Assessment Type

Research Proposal

Task Description

In the Thesis I unit, you are required to develop and submit a Research Proposal. This is a plan for the undertaking and reporting of your Research Project. The research proposal submission includes submission of a Draft Research Proposal, and a Final Research Proposal.

The Research Proposal should include a brief overview of the topic/area of research, including the gap in existing knowledge or practice that is to be addressed in the research project. The Research Proposal should also include detailed statements regarding the theoretical approach and/or methodology to be used, and the hypotheses that are to be assessed in the project.

The Research Proposal must include a Gantt chart, which is a commonly used technique for charting project tasks and identifying associated timelines.

More detail on the requirements of the Research Proposal and Gantt chart can be found in the Research Project Manual found in Moodle.

Students will be required to submit a draft research proposal (due on Friday of Week 3) and a final research proposal and Gantt chart (due on Friday of Week 7).

Assessment Due Date

Week 7 Friday (28 Apr 2023) 11:55 pm AEST

A draft of the Research Proposal and Gantt chart is due Friday 24 March 2023 - end of Week 3, Term 1. The final Research Proposal and Gantt chart, incorporating any changes requested during the review process, is due on 28 April 2023.

Return Date to Students

Week 9 Friday (12 May 2023)

Comments and suggestions for improvement on the draft Research Proposal and Gantt chart will be returned to students at the beginning of Week 6

Weighting

Pass/Fail

Minimum mark or grade

Pass

Assessment Criteria

The Research Proposal and Gantt chart are marked as either a Pass or a Fail.

The Research Proposal is compulsory and will need to be passed in order to continue on in Thesis I (and for enrolment in Thesis II in Term 2). That is, despite the fact that marks are not allocated for the proposal, students are required to submit a well-written and workable proposal in order to continue with the project in Term 2. If the proposal does not meet the minimum requirements after resubmission, the student and supervisor will be notified that the proposal has failed to be supported and they will be unable to enrol in Thesis II in Term 2.

Referencing Style

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

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

Submit via Moodle

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Apply advanced knowledge and skills to plan a research project that is applicable to clinical psychology
- Investigate methods to inform, formulate and test a research question, including methods of data collection appropriate to clinical psychology
- Apply critical analysis and rigorous scientific inquiry to relevant literature in preparation of an ethics application and research proposal
- Communicate research professionally, ethically and in a culturally appropriate manner fit for a range of audiences.

Graduate Attributes

- Knowledge
- Communication
- Cognitive, technical and creative skills
- Research
- Self-management

2 Organisational Permissions & Ethical Clearances

Assessment Type

Research Assignment

Task Description

If you are planning to conduct your research project in partnership with an external organisation, you will require their approval. Contact with outside agencies to arrange this approval will be made by the student, with guidance and assistance from the Supervisor.

If your research involves humans and their data, you will need approval from the CQUniversity Human Research Ethics Committee before you commence your project. Research projects requiring ethics approval include surveys, interviews, certain types of observational studies, administration of tests or stimuli, collection or use of human tissue, bone, blood or other body fluids, clinical trials, and accessing databases or archived information. Different kinds of studies require different levels of ethical clearance, your supervisor will be able to advise you on what level of ethical approval is required for your project.

If you are completing your research project by joining a pre-existing study, which already has ethics approval, then you may not need to complete another full ethics application. It may be necessary, however, to seek an amendment to the approved ethics application to include yourself (as the student) on the research team, and to add any measures that you may be particularly interested in. Again, your supervisor will be able to advise you whether an ethics amendment is required for your participation in a project.

Assessment Due Date

Week 12 Friday (2 June 2023) 11:55 pm AEST

Evidence of organisational permissions (if required) and submission or approval of ethical clearance (if required) is to be uploaded to Moodle by 23:55 AEST Friday, 2 June, 2023- end of Week 12, Term 1.

Return Date to Students

No feedback required for this task.

Weighting

Pass/Fail

Minimum mark or grade

Pass

Assessment Criteria

No Assessment Criteria

Referencing Style

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

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

Submit via Moodle

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Apply critical analysis and rigorous scientific inquiry to relevant literature in preparation of an ethics application and research proposal
- Communicate research professionally, ethically and in a culturally appropriate manner fit for a range of audiences.

Graduate Attributes

- Knowledge
- Communication
- Ethical and Professional Responsibility
- Leadership

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