

ISN304 Behavioural Economics and Civilisation

Unit Description

Behavioural Economics and Civilisations will introduce the following areas of behavioural economics and civilization: psychological factors underlying economic drivers, the interplay with biology, the role of history and genetic inheritance in social cohesion and economic development, civilizations prosperity and stagnation, understanding the psychological and physiological drivers of civilization and prevailing views of society. Students will develop the ability to discuss and debate critical issues of human nature, review arguments for and against a prescribed proposition using behavioural economics as a basis, and show an understanding of the related behavioural psychological and physiological implications.

Required Textbooks and Readings

Baddeley (2013) Behavioural Economics and Finance. Routledge

*Textbooks may be subject to change prior to the start of semester

Administrative Details

Associated higher education awards	Duration	Core or Elective	Level	Unit Coordinator	Other Teaching Staff
Bachelor of Psychology	One semester	Core	Third year, Semester 1	TBA	TBA

Learning Outcomes and Assessments

Learning outcomes for Unit	Assessment tasks		
	Type	When assessed – year, session and week	Weighting (% of total marks for unit)
Introduce the following areas of behavioral economics and civilization: psychological factors underlying economic drivers, the interplay with biology, the role of history and genetic inheritance in social cohesion and economic development, civilizations prosperity and stagnation, understanding the psychological and physiological drivers of civilization and prevailing views of society.	Exam [120 item multiple choice test]	Year 3, semester 2, week 14	40%
Develop an understanding of the effects of psychological, social, cognitive, and emotional factors on the economic decisions of individuals and institutions and the consequences for market prices, returns, and the resource allocation.	Exam – see above		
Explore an aspect of human nature and review arguments for and against a prescribed proposition using behavioral economics as a basis.	Essay [1500 words]	Year 3, semester 2, week 10	40%

Learning outcomes for Unit	Assessment tasks		
	Type	When assessed – year, session and week	Weighting (% of total marks for unit)
Understand the behavioral psychological and physiological implications related to a set proposition	Essay – see above		
Develop the ability to discuss and debate critical issues in the following areas of human nature: psychological factors underlying economic drivers, the interplay with biology, the role of history and genetic inheritance in social cohesion and economic development, civilizations prosperity and stagnation, understanding the psychological and physiological drivers of civilization and prevailing views of society.	Tutorial activities (discussion, debates, presentations)	Year 3, throughout semester 2	20%

Delivery mode

Face to face on site with E-learning (online) components;

Full-time or Part-time study

Pre-requisites and co-requisites

Pass grade or higher in all Year 1 and 2 units



Other Resource and Requirements

None

Unit weighting as a percentage of the year

Unit credit points	Total course credit points
12.5	400

Student workload

No. timetabled hours per week	No. personal study hours per week	Total workload hours per week
4 (1x2 hour lecture; 1x1 hour face-face tutorial and 1x1 hour online activities)	6	10

**Unit outlines may be subject to change. The most up-to-date outlines will be provided to students once the semester commences*