

ISN503 Psychopathology and Pharmacology

Unit Description

Psychopathology and Pharmacology familiarises students with the diagnosis and classification systems for psychological disorders (DSM-V & ICD-11) in adults and young people. Students will learn the principles and practices involved in psycho-pharmacological treatments, their indications, contraindications, and adverse effects.

Required Textbooks and Readings

American Psychiatric Association. (2013). *Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders* (5th ed.). Washington, DC: Author.

Julien, R.M. et al. (2007). *A primer on drug action: A Comprehensive guide to the actions, uses, and side effects* (11th Ed.). New York: Freeman & Co.

Muse, Mark., & Moore, B.A. (2012). *Handbook of Clinical Psychopharmacology for Psychologists*. Hoboken: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

**Textbooks are not finalised and 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
Master of Psychology (Clinical)	One semester	Core	Fifth year, Semester 1	Dr Rosalind Case	TBA

Learning Outcomes and Assessments

Learning outcomes for Unit	Assessment tasks		
	Type	When assessed – year, session and week	Weighting (% of total marks for unit)
To be familiar with the diagnosis and classification systems for psychological disorders (DSM-V & ICD-11) in adults and young people	Exam [30 item multiple choice test plus two short answers]	Year 1, semester 1, week 10	50%
To gain knowledge of the basic principles and practices involved in psycho-pharmacological treatments, their indications, contraindications, and adverse effects	Exam – see above		
To be familiar with the diagnosis and classification systems for psychological disorders (DSM-V & ICD-11) in adults and young people	Lectorial activities [Class exercises: Diagnostic vignettes/Role plays/Case presentations]	Year 1, semester 1, various weeks	50%
To gain knowledge of the basic principles and practices involved in psycho-pharmacological treatments, their indications, contraindications, and adverse effects	Lectorial activities – see above	Year 1, throughout semester 1	

Delivery mode

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

Full-time or Part-time study



Pre-requisites and co-requisites

Successful completion of a four-year, APAC accredited, sequence of study in psychology with a H2A average or higher and passing selection interviews and psychometric testing.

Other Resources and Requirements

None.

Unit weighting as a percentage of the year

Unit credit points	Total course credit points
10	200

Student workload

No. timetabled hours per week	No. personal study hours per week	Total workload hours per week
3 (1x2 hour lecture; 1x1 hour practical)	6	9

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