

ISN411

Contemporary Professional Psychology

Unit Description

Contemporary Professional Psychology presents the issues and role of professional psychologists in contemporary Australia. This unit describes the role of the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA), professional frameworks and decision-making, professional competence, role of the regulatory board and the need for continuing professional development. Students will study theories associated with interviewing and basic counselling of diverse populations, develop their basic interviewing and counselling skills, and demonstrate basic interviewing and counselling skills on fellow students by presenting a videotaped session with a critical written analysis.

Required Textbooks and Readings

Morrissey, S. & Reddy, P. (Eds.). (2006). Ethics and professional practice for psychologists. Melbourne: Thomson.

Administrative Details

Associated higher education awards	Duration	Core or Elective	Level	Unit Coordinator	Other Teaching Staff
Bachelor of Psychological Science (Honours)	One semester	Core	Fourth year, Semester 2	Associate Professor Phil Kavanagh	TBA

Unit weighting as a percentage of the year

Unit credit points	Total course credit points
12.5	100

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

Learning Outcomes and Assessments

Learning outcomes for Unit
I. Understand the issues and role of professional psychologists within contemporary Australia.
II. Understand the role of the Australian Health Practitioners Regulation Agency, the Australian Psychological Society Code of Ethics, professional frameworks and decision making; professional competence [including boundaries], role of regulatory board [including complaints] and the need for continuing professional development.
III. Understand and critically evaluate theories and issues associated with interviewing and basic counselling of diverse populations.

Learning outcomes for Unit

IV. Develop and demonstrate basic interviewing and counselling skills.

Overview of Assessment Tasks

Assessment tasks		
Type	When assessed – year, session and week	Weighting (% of total marks for unit)
Tutorial Debate (10%) Groups will be required to prepare an in-class debate on an assigned topic related to contemporary professional psychology.	13th August - 27th August	10%
Video assessment (30%) Critically analyse a clinically relevant interview situation.	11:59pm 21st Sept Upload via Turnitin	30%
In class participation (10%) Tutorial attendance and participation (e.g., in-class discussion and questioning) will be evaluated upon a weekly basis.	Weekly	10%
Examination (50%) Closed book exam including 50 multiple choice questions and three short answer topics.	During exam period (TBA)	50%



Delivery mode

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

Full-time or Part-time study

Pre-requisites and co-requisites

None.

Other Resource and Requirements

None.

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