



# PSY 934

## Dissertation

FY1 Day 2016

*Department of Psychology*

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## General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff Maria Kangas <a href="mailto:maria.kangas@mq.edu.au">maria.kangas@mq.edu.au</a>
Credit points 8
Prerequisites Admission to MClinPsych and PSY933
Corequisites
Co-badged status PSY934 Session 1
Unit description This unit involves the conduct of research appropriate to the discipline of clinical psychology, and requires the submission of a piece of research in the form of a journal article, usually of around 5000–8000 words plus a literature review in the form of a critical review paper. This work and the literature review started in PSY933 are submitted together for external marking.

## Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

## Learning Outcomes

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

Conducting critical evaluations of theories and empirical studies for a particular population/ topic relevant to clinical psychology.

Designing and conducting an empirical research project which has direct relevance for clinical psychology.

Writing a literature review in journal format suitable for a psychology journal.

Writing an empirical paper in journal format suitable for a psychology journal.

## Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Due
<a href="#">Literature Review</a>	50%	24 October 2016
<a href="#">Empirical Paper</a>	50%	24 October 2016

### Literature Review

Due: **24 October 2016**

Weighting: **50%**

PSY934 consists of two main pieces of work submitted together in binded thesis:

1. The Literature Review paper
  2. The Empirical journal paper
- The Literature Review must involve a critical appraisal of a specific topic area relevant to clinical psychology.
  - The Literature Review can be closely related to; and can be used in the formulation of the Empirical Journal Article, however the introduction section of the empirical paper should not be a simple cut and paste job of select paragraphs from the Literature Review paper.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Conducting critical evaluations of theories and empirical studies for a particular population/ topic relevant to clinical psychology.
- Writing a literature review in journal format suitable for a psychology journal.

### Empirical Paper

Due: **24 October 2016**

Weighting: **50%**

PSY934 consists of two main pieces of work submitted together in binded thesis:

1. The Literature Review paper
  2. The Empirical journal paper
- The Literature Review can be closely related to; and can be used in the formulation of the Empirical Journal Article, however the introduction section of the empirical paper should not be a simple cut and paste job of select paragraphs from the Literature Review paper.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Conducting critical evaluations of theories and empirical studies for a particular population/ topic relevant to clinical psychology.
- Designing and conducting an empirical research project which has direct relevance for clinical psychology.
- Writing an empirical paper in journal format suitable for a psychology journal.

## Delivery and Resources

Students will be required to find a Supervisor from a member of staff from the Department of Psychology who agrees to supervise their dissertation work by mid-Session 1 (of enrolling in prerequisite unit for PSY933). The supervisor will assist the student to complete the requirements of this unit as well as unit PSY934.

For Unit PSY934 there are no seminars as students are required to receive regular supervision from their nominated supervisor.

## Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](#). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

Academic Honesty Policy [http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic\\_honesty/policy.html](http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html)

**New Assessment Policy in effect from Session 2 2016** [http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy\\_2016.html](http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy_2016.html). For more information visit [http://students.mq.edu.au/events/2016/07/19/new\\_assessment\\_policy\\_in\\_place\\_from\\_session\\_2/](http://students.mq.edu.au/events/2016/07/19/new_assessment_policy_in_place_from_session_2/)

Assessment Policy prior to Session 2 2016 <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy.html>

Grading Policy prior to Session 2 2016 <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html>

Grade Appeal Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/gradeappeal/policy.html>

Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public [http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/complaint\\_management/procedure.html](http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/complaint_management/procedure.html)

Disruption to Studies Policy [http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption\\_studies/policy.html](http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html) *The Disruption to Studies Policy is effective from March 3 2014 and replaces the Special Consideration Policy.*

In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the [Learning and Teaching Category](#) of Policy Central.

## Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: [https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student\\_conduct/](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/)

## Results

Results shown in *iLearn*, or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit [ask.mq.edu.au](#).

## Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

## Learning Skills

Learning Skills ([mq.edu.au/learningskills](http://mq.edu.au/learningskills)) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module for Students](#)
- [Ask a Learning Adviser](#)

## Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

## Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at [ask.mq.edu.au](http://ask.mq.edu.au)

## IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit [http://www.mq.edu.au/about\\_us/offices\\_and\\_units/information\\_technology/help/](http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/).

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

## Graduate Capabilities

### PG - Capable of Professional and Personal Judgment and Initiative

Our postgraduates will demonstrate a high standard of discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgment. They will have the ability to make informed choices and decisions that reflect both the nature of their professional work and their personal perspectives.

This graduate capability is supported by:

## Learning outcome

- Designing and conducting an empirical research project which has direct relevance for clinical psychology.

## Assessment task

- Empirical Paper

## PG - Discipline Knowledge and Skills

Our postgraduates will be able to demonstrate a significantly enhanced depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content knowledge in their chosen fields.

This graduate capability is supported by:

## Learning outcomes

- Conducting critical evaluations of theories and empirical studies for a particular population/ topic relevant to clinical psychology.
- Designing and conducting an empirical research project which has direct relevance for clinical psychology.
- Writing a literature review in journal format suitable for a psychology journal.
- Writing an empirical paper in journal format suitable for a psychology journal.

## Assessment tasks

- Literature Review
- Empirical Paper

## PG - Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

Our postgraduates will be capable of utilising and reflecting on prior knowledge and experience, of applying higher level critical thinking skills, and of integrating and synthesising learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments. A characteristic of this form of thinking is the generation of new, professionally oriented knowledge through personal or group-based critique of practice and theory.

This graduate capability is supported by:

## Learning outcomes

- Conducting critical evaluations of theories and empirical studies for a particular population/ topic relevant to clinical psychology.
- Designing and conducting an empirical research project which has direct relevance for clinical psychology.
- Writing a literature review in journal format suitable for a psychology journal.

- Writing an empirical paper in journal format suitable for a psychology journal.

## Assessment tasks

- Literature Review
- Empirical Paper

## PG - Research and Problem Solving Capability

Our postgraduates will be capable of systematic enquiry; able to use research skills to create new knowledge that can be applied to real world issues, or contribute to a field of study or practice to enhance society. They will be capable of creative questioning, problem finding and problem solving.

This graduate capability is supported by:

## Learning outcomes

- Conducting critical evaluations of theories and empirical studies for a particular population/ topic relevant to clinical psychology.
- Designing and conducting an empirical research project which has direct relevance for clinical psychology.
- Writing a literature review in journal format suitable for a psychology journal.
- Writing an empirical paper in journal format suitable for a psychology journal.

## Assessment tasks

- Literature Review
- Empirical Paper

## PG - Effective Communication

Our postgraduates will be able to communicate effectively and convey their views to different social, cultural, and professional audiences. They will be able to use a variety of technologically supported media to communicate with empathy using a range of written, spoken or visual formats.

This graduate capability is supported by:

## Learning outcomes

- Designing and conducting an empirical research project which has direct relevance for clinical psychology.
- Writing a literature review in journal format suitable for a psychology journal.
- Writing an empirical paper in journal format suitable for a psychology journal.

## Assessment tasks

- Literature Review

- Empirical Paper

## PG - Engaged and Responsible, Active and Ethical Citizens

Our postgraduates will be ethically aware and capable of confident transformative action in relation to their professional responsibilities and the wider community. They will have a sense of connectedness with others and country and have a sense of mutual obligation. They will be able to appreciate the impact of their professional roles for social justice and inclusion related to national and global issues

This graduate capability is supported by:

### Learning outcome

- Designing and conducting an empirical research project which has direct relevance for clinical psychology.

### Assessment task

- Empirical Paper