



COGS1010

Delusions and Disorders of the Mind and Brain

Session 1, Weekday attendance, North Ryde 2020

Department of Cognitive Science

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Anne Castles

anne.castles@mq.edu.au

Vince Polito

vince.polito@mq.edu.au

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit is designed to provide you with an understanding of the basic cognitive disorders and higher-level delusions that can arise either developmentally or as a result of brain injury. You will learn about the characteristic features of these disorders and delusions, and about how the patterns of symptoms displayed can be accounted for in terms of models of normal cognitive processing. Where relevant, you will be familiarised with theories about the underlying causes of the conditions, and with experimental investigations of the efficacy of particular treatments. Patterns of similarities and differences of conditions will be critically examined. Conditions covered include: dyslexia, specific language impairment (SLI), aphasia, agnosia, amnesia, autism, synaesthesia, auditory hallucination, delusion and schizophrenia.

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:

ULO1: Describe the characteristic features of a range of delusions and cognitive disorders.

ULO2: Explain key concepts and theories about the underlying causes of a range of delusions and cognitive disorders.

ULO3: Analyse the strengths and weaknesses of competing explanations and theories

of a range of delusions and cognitive disorders.

ULO4: Critique popular or prejudicial claims about delusions, disorders, and the mind from an informed and evidence-based perspective.

Assessment Tasks

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

Assessment details are no longer provided here as a result of changes due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Students should consult [iLearn](#) for revised unit information.

[Find out more about the Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) and potential impacts on staff and students](#)

General Assessment Information

More Information about the Mid Semester Exam

- The mid-semester exam will be an online exam, held in week 7. The exact date and timing will be announced on iLearn.
- The exam will consist of 30 multiple choice questions on content from the first half of the course.
- Feedback: Mid-Semester Exam scores will be posted on iLearn after grading is complete. We will provide a score but no individual feedback on the mid-semester exam. We will provide general feedback on topics and advice on particular areas that need further study.

More Information about the Formal Exam (End of the Semester)

- The Final Exam will be held during the University Examination period. You are expected to present yourself for examination at the time and place designated in the University Examination Timetable. The timetable will be available in Draft form approximately eight weeks before the commencement of the examinations and in Final form approximately four weeks before the commencement of the examinations.
- The only exception to not sitting an examination at the designated time is because of documented illness or unavoidable disruption. In these circumstances you must submit a request via the University's Ask MQ System (as outlined in the Special Consideration Policy: <https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policies/special-consideration>).

- If a Supplementary Examination is granted as a result of the Special Consideration process the examination will be scheduled after the conclusion of the official examination period. Students applying to sit for the supplementary examination must check the web for information.
- Supplementary Exams are only offered to students who have satisfactorily completed all other assessments for the unit and were unable to sit the final exam.
- You are advised that it is Macquarie University policy not to set early examinations for individuals or groups of students. All students are expected to ensure that they are available until the end of the teaching semester, which is the final day of the official examination period.
- Feedback: Final Exam scores will be posted on iLearn at the end of semester. Individual feedback will be available from the course convenor during consultation hours.

More Information about the Online Quizzes

- There are quick online quizzes embedded within the lecture content from week 2 to week 12.
- These ask about the basic course content.
- Quizzes are open until the end of week 12, but we encourage students to complete quizzes every week.
- Your first attempt for each quiz is what counts toward the grade, but additional attempts are allowed in order to revise content.
- The two lowest quiz scores do not count toward calculation of the assessment grade.
- Feedback: You will be shown your score for each quiz immediately after completion.

More Information about the Participation

- The participation score is based on tutorial attendance.
- Students can miss up to 2 classes without penalty.
- Students must attend the tutorial class they are enrolled in.
- It is the student's responsibility to ensure they are marked off on the role during each tutorial.
- In unavoidable circumstances, there is a procedure for attending another tutorial class. The steps to follow are outlined in the 'Essential Course Information' section on iLearn.
- Feedback: Participation scores will be available on iLearn at the end of semester.

Delivery and Resources

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

Any references to on-campus delivery below may no longer be relevant due to COVID-19.

Please check here for updated delivery information: https://ask.mq.edu.au/account/pub/display/unit_status

The lectures will be fully online via iLearn, with interactive activities, and each topic in the course will be delivered by experts in the field of cognitive science. In addition students will attend face-to-face tutorials weekly. It is essential that students have adequate access to the internet as most of the course material and activities are accessed online in the form of:

- Video interviews
- Audio and video lectures
- Unit readings (note that there is no prescribed textbook for this unit)
- Online activities and quizzes
- Online database research
- Participation in online discussion forums

Access to a reasonably fast internet connection would be ideal, given the large amount of video content. Also, please note that in order to access Resources and Activities in your online unit, you will need a browser such as Firefox or Chrome. iLearn will operate on the following browsers, it is recommended that you upgrade your browser to the most recent version:

- Firefox
- Chrome
- Safari
- Internet Explorer 8 or later

Unit Schedule

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

The unit schedule/topics and any references to on-campus delivery below may no longer be relevant due to COVID-19. Please consult [iLearn](#) for latest details, and check here for updated delivery information: https://ask.mq.edu.au/account/pub/display/unit_status

- Topic 1: Dyslexia
- Topic 2: Aphasia
- Topic 3: Specific Language Impairment

- Topic 4: Agnosia
- Topic 5: Amnesia
- Topic 6: Autism
- Topic 7: Disorders of the Self
- Topic 8: Delusions
- Topic 9: Modelling Delusions With Hypnosis
- Topic 10: Schizophrenia
- Topic 11: Synaesthesia

Note that the lectures for all topics are fully online and are accessible through the relevant section on the iLearn page. The topics will be discussed in more detail during the weekly face-to-face tutorials.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central \(https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central\)](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Grade Appeal Policy](#)
- [Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#) (**Note:** *The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4 December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.*)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit the [Student Policy Gateway \(https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway\)](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit [Policy Central \(https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central\)](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/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/study/getting-started/student-conduct>

Results

Results published on platform other than [eStudent](#), (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) 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](#) or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@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) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to help you improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Getting help with your assignment](#)
- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module](#)

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- [Subject and Research Guides](#)
- [Ask a Librarian](#)

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](#)

If you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@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/.

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.