



# PSYC8984

## Clinical Psychology Professional Practice

Session 2, Weekday attendance, North Ryde 2020

*Department of Psychology*

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#### Disclaimer

Macquarie University has taken all reasonable measures to ensure the information in this publication is accurate and up-to-date. However, the information may change or become out-dated as a result of change in University policies, procedures or rules. The University reserves the right to make changes to any information in this publication without notice. Users of this publication are advised to check the website version of this publication [or the relevant faculty or department] before acting on any information in this publication.

#### Notice

As part of [Phase 3 of our return to campus plan](#), most units will now run tutorials, seminars and other small group learning activities on campus for the second half-year, while keeping an online version available for those students unable to return or those who choose to continue their studies online.

To check the availability of face-to-face and online activities for your unit, please go to [timetable viewer](#). To check detailed information on unit assessments visit your unit's iLearn space or consult your unit convenor.

## General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Credit points 10
Prerequisites (PSYC988 or PSYC8988) and (PSYC989 or PSYC8989)
Corequisites (PSYC993 or PSYC8993) and (PSYC995 or PSYC8995)
Co-badged status
Unit description This unit will focus on the advanced professional practice skills necessary for a well-rounded competent therapist. Drawing upon the common factors related to the client-therapist relationship, issues of therapeutic integration will be explored when working with diverse groups. Students will develop skills in analysing the client-therapist relationship through a consideration of the therapeutic process to ensure well targeted therapeutic interventions. These skills and principles will be emphasised in application to diverse populations using primarily cognitive behavioural approaches, and in the light of ethical considerations.

## 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:** Report upon the therapeutic relationship through different modes of delivery, complex disorders, severe comorbidities, and diverse populations.

**ULO2:** Demonstrate both a creative and critical understanding of theory and evidence-based therapy integration

**ULO3:** Critically evaluate the prediction, prevention, and techniques to overcome resistance in cognitive behavioural therapy and other evidence-based approaches.

**ULO4:** Demonstrate a critical and current understanding of common and specific factors in therapy, and its implication for clinical practice.

**ULO5:** Demonstrate an understanding of methods of clinical supervision, and how to

overcome common challenges to effective clinical practice.

## General Assessment Information

Please see links to the Assessment Policy and the Special Consideration Policy in the Policies and Procedures section of this Unit Guide.

### Late submissions

All assessment tasks have a strict due date. Ordinarily, no extensions of time for submission of assessment tasks will be granted. If students experience unexpected, unavoidable, and serious circumstances affecting submission of assessable work they may lodge an application for Special Consideration via [ask.mq.edu.au](http://ask.mq.edu.au) with supporting documentary evidence. All requests for special consideration must be made no later than five working days after the due date of the assessment task. Where special consideration has not been granted, late submissions will not be accepted.

### Hurdle requirements

All of the assessment tasks are hurdle requirements - they require a minimum level of performance in order for students to pass the Unit. The assessment tasks allow demonstration of 'fitness to practice' as a clinical psychologist. Consistent with the Assessment Policy of the University, students who make a serious attempt at the task but fail to meet the required standards, will be provided with one additional opportunity to complete the task to a satisfactory standard. Failure of the second attempt will result in a Fail (FH) grade for the entire unit (even if the raw mark for the Unit is over 50) and this, in turn, will result in a delay in starting the Clinic placement or further placements. The required standards for the hurdle tasks will be provided via iLearn prior to completion of the task.

## Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
<a href="#"><u>Case Report</u></a>	15%	Yes	Week 6
<a href="#"><u>Case Report</u></a>	30%	Yes	Week 10
<a href="#"><u>Self-Reflective Report</u></a>	25%	Yes	Week 12
<a href="#"><u>A face-to face viva with a follow up self- reflective report</u></a>	30%	Yes	Week 13

## Case Report

Assessment Type <sup>1</sup>: Report

Indicative Time on Task <sup>2</sup>: 10 hours

Due: **Week 6**

Weighting: **15%**

**This is a hurdle assessment task (see [assessment policy](#) for more information on hurdle assessment tasks)**

Based upon a client vignette provided, the aim of this reflective 750 word report is to discuss theory, principles, and techniques in treatment that relate to overcoming resistance and maintaining a strong therapeutic alliance in CBT for complex diagnoses.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Report upon the therapeutic relationship through different modes of delivery, complex disorders, severe comorbidities, and diverse populations.
- Critically evaluate the prediction, prevention, and techniques to overcome resistance in cognitive behavioural therapy and other evidence-based approaches.
- Demonstrate a critical and current understanding of common and specific factors in therapy, and its implication for clinical practice.

## Case Report

Assessment Type **1**: Report

Indicative Time on Task **2**: 30 hours

Due: **Week 10**

Weighting: **30%**

**This is a hurdle assessment task (see [assessment policy](#) for more information on hurdle assessment tasks)**

Based upon a case provided, and drawing upon factors related to the therapeutic relationship and specific evidence-based techniques, students will demonstrate competency in the theory and practice of therapeutic integration of different approaches to psychotherapy in relation to complex diagnoses. The report is 1500 words.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Report upon the therapeutic relationship through different modes of delivery, complex disorders, severe comorbidities, and diverse populations.
- Demonstrate both a creative and critical understanding of theory and evidence-based therapy integration
- Critically evaluate the prediction, prevention, and techniques to overcome resistance in cognitive behavioural therapy and other evidence-based approaches.
- Demonstrate a critical and current understanding of common and specific factors in therapy, and its implication for clinical practice.

## Self-Reflective Report

Assessment Type **1**: Report

Indicative Time on Task **2**: 32 hours

Due: **Week 12**

Weighting: **25%**

**This is a hurdle assessment task (see [assessment policy](#) for more information on hurdle assessment tasks)**

Drawing upon material from the unit, students will briefly describe clinical settings where they expect potential challenges, including ways to overcome these. The report is 1500 words.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of methods of clinical supervision, and how to overcome common challenges to effective clinical practice.

## A face-to face viva with a follow up self- reflective report

Assessment Type <sup>1</sup>: Viva/oral examination

Indicative Time on Task <sup>2</sup>: 2 hours

Due: **Week 13**

Weighting: **30%**

**This is a hurdle assessment task (see [assessment policy](#) for more information on hurdle assessment tasks)**

Students will be required to conduct part of a treatment session in 20 minutes that incorporates advanced clinical and counselling skills and techniques to working with complex diagnoses in a multidisciplinary setting, and overcoming resistance. Following the viva, a 500 word report will summarise key reflections upon the performance and will be submitted the following day.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Report upon the therapeutic relationship through different modes of delivery, complex disorders, severe comorbidities, and diverse populations.
- Demonstrate both a creative and critical understanding of theory and evidence-based therapy integration
- Critically evaluate the prediction, prevention, and techniques to overcome resistance in cognitive behavioural therapy and other evidence-based approaches.
- Demonstrate a critical and current understanding of common and specific factors in therapy, and its implication for clinical practice.

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<sup>1</sup> If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
- the [Writing Centre](#) for academic skills support.

<sup>2</sup> Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation

## Delivery and Resources

Teaching will include weekly seminars, class discussions, videos/audio clips, role-plays, and practical skills training. There will be weekly required readings. Additional resources and reading material will be provided throughout the course during the relevant sections. Engagement with material and participation in class is essential. Classes will include didactic methods, debates, and self-reflection.

## Unit Schedule

Timetables for seminars can be found on the University website at: <https://timetables.mq.edu.au/2020/>

## 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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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/](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.