



# PSYH4464

## Science and Practice of Psychology in context

Session 1, Weekday attendance, North Ryde 2020

*Department of Psychology*

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## General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Simon Boag

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Corequisites

PSYH490 or PSYH4490 or PSYH495 or PSYH4495

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit explores the development of modern psychology and the way that we understand the subject matter of psychological science. The first part of the unit looks at the history of modern psychology and at some of the rival schools of thought that underlie different approaches in psychology today. Some of the associated controversies within the history of psychology are also addressed, including the relation between psychology and the eugenics movement, and the development of the modern concept of mental disorder. The second part of the unit explores the manner in which we conceptualise the subject matter within psychology. Major concepts within psychology will be examined (eg, behaviour, cognition and motivation) and common weaknesses in psychological arguments identified with an aim to developing critical thinking skills.

## Important Academic Dates

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

## Learning Outcomes

**ULO1:** Describe and outline the philosophical origins of modern empirical Psychology

**ULO2:** List and critique the central assumptions of modern empirical Psychology,

**ULO3:** Trace the development of the conception of western Psychology from the Scientific Revolution to the present day

**ULO4:** Describe and critique some of the major concepts in modern Psychology.

## Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
<a href="#">Essay Plan (Research)</a>	10%	No	Week 5
<a href="#">Essay</a>	50%	No	Week 8
<a href="#">Short Answer examination</a>	40%	No	Week 13

### Essay Plan (Research)

Assessment Type [1](#): Plan

Indicative Time on Task [2](#): 25 hours

Due: **Week 5**

Weighting: **10%**

Students submit a 500 word essay plan outlining the major concepts in the essay topic, and providing an introductory paragraph for the essay.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- List and critique the central assumptions of modern empirical Psychology,
- Describe and critique some of the major concepts in modern Psychology.

### Essay

Assessment Type [1](#): Essay

Indicative Time on Task [2](#): 45 hours

Due: **Week 8**

Weighting: **50%**

Students prepare a 1500 word essay critically evaluating a selected topic, demonstrating their “point of view” based on the readings.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- List and critique the central assumptions of modern empirical Psychology,
- Describe and critique some of the major concepts in modern Psychology.

### Short Answer examination

Assessment Type [1](#): Examination

Indicative Time on Task [2](#): 30 hours

Due: **Week 13**

Weighting: **40%**

Students will be provided with a variety of topics, one week prior to the examination. Students

will be required to complete two short answer questions in class in one hour.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Describe and outline the philosophical origins of modern empirical Psychology
- List and critique the central assumptions of modern empirical Psychology,
- Trace the development of the conception of western Psychology from the Scientific Revolution to the present day
- Describe and critique some of the major concepts in modern Psychology.

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<sup>1</sup> If you need guidance or support to understand or complete this type of assessment, please contact the Learning Skills Team

<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

Suggested reading: Hergenhahn, B. R. (2009). An introduction to the History of Psychology. Wadsworth Cengage Learning

## 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/p) (<https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/p>

[olicy-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](http://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 improve your marks and take control of your study.

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

## Student Enquiry Service

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

If you are a Global MBA student contact [globalmba.support@mq.edu.au](mailto:globalmba.support@mq.edu.au)

## Equity 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.

## 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.