



PSYC8981

Clinical Psychology Practical Placement 1

Session 2, Special circumstance, North Ryde 2020

Department of Psychology

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Disclaimer

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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

Ros Knight

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Carolyn Schniering

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

(PSYC985 or PSYC8985) and (PSYC986 or PSYC8986)

Corequisites

(PSYC988 or PSYC8988) and (PSYC989 or PSYC8989) and (PSYC987 or PSYC8987)

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit is the first practical placement unit for the Master of Clinical Psychology program and is conducted in the Macquarie University Psychology Clinic on campus under close supervision. It provides the opportunity to put theory/techniques gained in coursework units into practice and develops the provisional psychologist's identity as a Clinical Psychologist. Activities include face-to-face assessment and treatment of genuine clients; professional administrative tasks such as risk management, note keeping and report writing; and supervision activities, both individual and group with an overall workload of approximately 500 hours. Students are required to complete at least a thousand hours across all placements in the program to meet accreditation requirements. By the time students finish this first placement unit, they will have gained basic competencies in 10 domains as identified by the accrediting body APAC as Core Competencies to become a Clinical Psychologist.

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: Apply depth and breadth of knowledge and scholarly understanding required of clinical psychologists in determining client needs and designing and implementing

evidence-based interventions

ULO2: Demonstrate higher level critical thinking skills in their ability both to generate and evaluate new, professionally-oriented knowledge.

ULO3: Communicate effectively across a wide range of client groups, colleagues and other professionals, using a variety of formats to function empathically within and across cultures and life stages.

ULO4: Apply knowledge of the legislative frameworks relevant to clinical psychologists and undertake practice according to professional standards and the Psychology Board of Australia's code of ethics

ULO5: Demonstrate the entry level capabilities required of practising clinical psychologists, along with the professional and personal skills for assessing continuous development needs

General Assessment Information

Placements may occur in a variety of settings where psychological services are provided to clients. Students on placement must meet the psychology discipline's fitness to practice requirements as well as adhere to all the guidelines provided in placement manuals and any other specific policy and procedures provided by a provider hosting an external placement.

Students must comply with any instructions given by a supervisor including any request to pause or terminate a placement. If requested to leave a placement, students must notify the Course clinical placement coordinator within 24 hours. Following notification, a review of the circumstances leading to the request will be investigated. If the circumstances indicate that request was solely because of issues with the placement provider an alternate placement will be arranged. Alternatively if the request was made because of concerns regarding the student, the issue will be managed according to the University's procedures.

Assessment Tasks

| Name | Weighting | Hurdle | Due |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|--------|--|
| <u>Weekly Supervision (WIL)</u> | 33% | Yes | Approximately one hour per day of placement attendance |
| <u>Mid-placement review (MPR)</u> | 33% | Yes | Due approximately half way through the placement |
| <u>End of placement review (EPR)</u> | 34% | Yes | Due upon completion of the placement |

Weekly Supervision (WIL)

Assessment Type ¹: Work-integrated task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 100 hours

Due: **Approximately one hour per day of placement attendance**

Weighting: **33%**

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

Students participate in case management and intervention under close supervision of supervisors in the Macquarie University Psychology Clinic. Students will be assessed on several skills including formative assessment and treatment skills; professional conduct; self-reflection via log book; ethics and communication skills including professional report writing.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Apply depth and breadth of knowledge and scholarly understanding required of clinical psychologists in determining client needs and designing and implementing evidence-based interventions
- Demonstrate higher level critical thinking skills in their ability both to generate and evaluate new, professionally-oriented knowledge.
- Communicate effectively across a wide range of client groups, colleagues and other professionals, using a variety of formats to function empathically within and across cultures and life stages.
- Apply knowledge of the legislative frameworks relevant to clinical psychologists and undertake practice according to professional standards and the Psychology Board of Australia's code of ethics
- Demonstrate the entry level capabilities required of practising clinical psychologists, along with the professional and personal skills for assessing continuous development needs

Mid-placement review (MPR)

Assessment Type ¹: Work-integrated task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 1 hours

Due: **Due approximately half way through the placement**

Weighting: **33%**

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

This is a mid-placement assessment of competency, conducted in the placement setting with the supervisor using a standardised, validated competency assessment (CYPRS) tool. Feedback is on developing competency to a PASS level on each of eleven domains, with PASS ; specified as a score of 2.5 out of 5 on each domain.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Apply depth and breadth of knowledge and scholarly understanding required of clinical psychologists in determining client needs and designing and implementing evidence-based interventions
- Demonstrate higher level critical thinking skills in their ability both to generate and evaluate new, professionally-oriented knowledge.
- Communicate effectively across a wide range of client groups, colleagues and other professionals, using a variety of formats to function empathically within and across cultures and life stages.
- Apply knowledge of the legislative frameworks relevant to clinical psychologists and undertake practice according to professional standards and the Psychology Board of Australia's code of ethics
- Demonstrate the entry level capabilities required of practising clinical psychologists, along with the professional and personal skills for assessing continuous development needs

End of placement review (EPR)

Assessment Type ¹: Work-integrated task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 2 hours

Due: **Due upon completion of the placement**

Weighting: **34%**

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

This is an end of placement assessment of competency, conducted in the placement setting with the supervisor using a standardised, validated competency assessment (CYPRS) tool. Feedback is on developing competency to a PASS ; level on each of eleven domains, with PASS ; specified as a score of 3 out of 5 on each domain.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Apply depth and breadth of knowledge and scholarly understanding required of clinical psychologists in determining client needs and designing and implementing evidence-based interventions
- Demonstrate higher level critical thinking skills in their ability both to generate and evaluate new, professionally-oriented knowledge.
- Communicate effectively across a wide range of client groups, colleagues and other professionals, using a variety of formats to function empathically within and across cultures and life stages.
- Apply knowledge of the legislative frameworks relevant to clinical psychologists and

undertake practice according to professional standards and the Psychology Board of Australia's code of ethics

- Demonstrate the entry level capabilities required of practising clinical psychologists, along with the professional and personal skills for assessing continuous development needs

¹ 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.

² 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

Attendance at the Macquarie University Psychology Clinic for placement completion.

One lecture prior to commencement as part of Clinic orientation.

One set of online (7) certificates to be completed.

As a professional public facing unit, the clinic placement requires Professional attire, and provide your own stationery

As a regulated Health Profession, Psychology placements require Registration with the Psychology Board of Australia, a National Criminal Record Check, Working with Children Check be conducted prior to placement commencement.

Vaccination requirements must also be completed prior to commencement.

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](http://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central) (<http://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.