



PSYC8981

Clinical Psychology Practical Placement 1

Session 1, Special circumstances, North Ryde 2021

Archive (Pre-2022) - Department of Psychology

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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 activities on campus, and most will keep an online version available to those students unable to return or those who choose to continue their studies online.

To check the availability of face-to-face 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

Carolyn Schniering

carolyn.schniering@mq.edu.au

Michelle Player

michelle.player@mq.edu.au

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

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Weekly Supervision (WIL)	33%	Yes	Throughout the placement
Mid-placement review (MPR)	33%	Yes	50-80 client contact hours
End of placement review (EPR)	34%	Yes	120-130 client contact hours

Weekly Supervision (WIL)

Assessment Type ¹: Work-integrated task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 100 hours

Due: **Throughout the placement**

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: **50-80 client contact hours**

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: **120-130 client contact hours**

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

Delivery is in the placement setting with a range of resources including supervision, readings, and other assessment and treatment tools.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.au). 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](#)

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

To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.au) and use the [search tool](#).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/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.