



PSYM7761

Advanced Issues in Physiological Psychology

Session 1, Special circumstances 2021

Archive (Pre-2022) - 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 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

Convenor

Christina Perry

christina.perry@mq.edu.au

Contact via 98504310

EMC Suite 10

consultation by appointment

Jennifer Cornish

jennifer.cornish@mq.edu.au

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Admission to MRes

Corequisites

Co-badged status

PSYH4461

Unit description

The aims of this seminar are to introduce and develop students' understanding and awareness of current topics in contemporary neuroscience. Students will develop the ability to critically evaluate, present and discuss research papers. This seminar series will cover a wide range of topics in the field of neuroscience such as neural stem cell research, transgenic research, neural basis of emotions, anxiety disorders, depression and drug addiction. Essay and presentation topics will be allocated or guided by the students' own interest in neuroscience.

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: Gain a greater understanding of the physiology and pharmacology of brain function

ULO2: Apply knowledge of brain function to understanding the underpinnings of mental illness, neurodevelopmental disorders and neurodegenerative diseases

ULO3: Critically analyse journal articles on mental illness, neurodevelopmental disorders and neurodegenerative diseases based on their methodological design, reasoning and data

ULO4: Clearly and efficiently communicate the reasoning, methodological design, and outcome of a research paper

General Assessment Information

Essay

Topics for the essay will be provided via iLearn on Monday 1st March or students may choose their own topic following approval from the convenors.

Submitting your essay

Please submit a copy of your essay (Microsoft word format only) via the turnitin link in iLearn. Essays will be returned by the end of Week 8.

A copy of the assignment must be kept as proof that the assignment was completed and submitted. Assignments will not be accepted after the return of marked assignments.

Assignments submitted by post will not be accepted.

You will be required to submit your assignment to Turnitin plagiarism detection software via the Internet. Your assignment will be automatically compared to work of other students in this unit, previous students in this unit and at other universities, as well as material available on the Internet in subscription-based journal format or otherwise freely accessible information. The results of the analysis will be sent only to the unit chairs, who will analyse the results in reference to the University's standard policy on plagiarism <http://www.student.mq.edu.au/plagiarism/>.

Penalties will be levied for late submission of assignment and for exceeding word limits:

Penalties for late submission: The penalty for late submission is 5% of the maximum mark per day overdue. For this assignment, worth 50%, this means that every day late will result in the loss of 5% $(0.05) \times 50 = 2.5$ marks from the total mark (50) for the assignment.

Penalty for exceeding word limit: For each 100 words over the word limit a penalty of 5% will be applied. This means that for this assignment that is worth 50%, a 5% penalty will result in the loss of 5% $(0.05) \times 50 = 2.5$ marks from the total mark (50) for the assignment. This means that you have 99 words on page 9 before penalty.

Request for Extensions for Assignments are granted by the Faculty Office:

Ordinarily, no extensions of time for submission of written work will be granted since ample time for preparation will have been given. If an extension is required for medical or other extenuating circumstances, students may request this in writing through ask.mq.edu.au with supporting documentary evidence (such as medical certificate, counsellor note, or similar). Ms Donna

Keeley will make all decisions regarding extensions. The course convenor will not grant extensions.

All requests for extensions must be made prior to the due date for the assignment.

If an extension is granted, the approval must be uploaded with the online submission of your essay to avoid any late penalty.

Research Presentation

Given weekly throughout the session (allocation to topic in week 1). You are to individually select a relevant neuroscience article and present your arguments in a 20-30 minute powerpoint presentation. You will be assessed on oral communication, clarity and presentation of information (rubric available on iLearn). Please email a copy of this paper to christina.perry@mq.edu.au prior to your presentation so that it can be made available to other students via iLearn. **All articles must be approved by the course convenor.**

On successful completion you will be able to:

- To gain a greater understanding of the physiology and pharmacology of brain function.
- To apply this knowledge of brain function to understanding the underpinnings of mental illness, neurodevelopmental disorders and neurodegenerative diseases.
- To critically analyse journal articles on mental illness, neurodevelopmental disorders and neurodegenerative diseases based on their methodological design, reasoning and data.
- To clearly and efficiently communicate the reasoning, methodological design, and outcome of a research paper.

Student participation

You are to ask one question during each weekly student presentation based on discussion and/or article.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- To critically analyse journal articles on mental illness, neurodevelopmental disorders and neurodegenerative diseases based on their methodological design, reasoning and data.
- To clearly and efficiently communicate the reasoning, methodological design, and outcome of a research paper.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Essay	50%	No	One of weeks 2-5 or 7-13
Research participation	35%	No	1/04/2021
Student participation	15%	No	Weeks 2-5, 7-13

Essay

Assessment Type ¹: Essay

Indicative Time on Task ²: 47 hours

Due: **One of weeks 2-5 or 7-13**

Weighting: **50%**

Students are required to submit an eight page essay (excluding references) critically evaluating research topics on an advanced physiological psychology issue.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Gain a greater understanding of the physiology and pharmacology of brain function
- Apply knowledge of brain function to understanding the underpinnings of mental illness, neurodevelopmental disorders and neurodegenerative diseases
- Critically analyse journal articles on mental illness, neurodevelopmental disorders and neurodegenerative diseases based on their methodological design, reasoning and data

Research participation

Assessment Type ¹: Presentation

Indicative Time on Task ²: 30 hours

Due: **1/04/2021**

Weighting: **35%**

Students are to individually select a relevant neuroscience article and present their arguments in a 30 minute PowerPoint presentation

On successful completion you will be able to:

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- Apply knowledge of brain function to understanding the underpinnings of mental illness, neurodevelopmental disorders and neurodegenerative diseases
- Critically analyse journal articles on mental illness, neurodevelopmental disorders and neurodegenerative diseases based on their methodological design, reasoning and data

- Clearly and efficiently communicate the reasoning, methodological design, and outcome of a research paper

Student participation

Assessment Type ¹: Participatory task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 10 hours

Due: **Weeks 2-5, 7-13**

Weighting: **15%**

Students are expected to participate in class discussions particularly during oral presentations to foster an understanding and critical evaluation of research papers that are read prior to class.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Gain a greater understanding of the physiology and pharmacology of brain function
- Apply knowledge of brain function to understanding the underpinnings of mental illness, neurodevelopmental disorders and neurodegenerative diseases
- Critically analyse journal articles on mental illness, neurodevelopmental disorders and neurodegenerative diseases based on their methodological design, reasoning and data

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

Unit is delivered as a 2-3 hour workshop each week. Information for the class is available on iLearn.

Unit Schedule

Lecture Program		Please check iLearn regularly in case there are changes to the schedule.
Week	Date	Topic
1	24 Feb	Review of Basic Physiological Psychology
2	3 Mar	Anxiety Disorders

3	10 Mar	Depression
4	17 Mar	Substance Use
5	24 Mar	Eating Disorders
6	31 Mar	No Class (essay due 5pm Thursday via turnitin)
MID-SESSION BREAK		
7	21 April	Psychosis
8	28 April	Epilepsy
9	5 May	Paediatric Disorders
10	12 May	Parkinson's Disease
11	19 May	Traumatic Brain Injury
12	26 May	Alzheimer's
13	2 June	Huntingtons

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.