



PSYX1100

Psychology: Finding Your Foundation and Future

Session 1, Online-flexible 2025

School of Psychological Sciences

Contents

<u>General Information</u>	2
<u>Learning Outcomes</u>	2
<u>General Assessment Information</u>	3
<u>Assessment Tasks</u>	4
<u>Delivery and Resources</u>	6
<u>Unit Schedule</u>	7
<u>Policies and Procedures</u>	8
<u>INCLUSION AND DIVERSITY</u>	9
<u>PROFESSIONALISM</u>	10
<u>Changes since First Published</u>	10

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Thaatsha Sivananthan

thaatsha.sivananthan@mq.edu.au

Trisha Nowland

trisha.nowland@mq.edu.au

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

The field of Psychology is broad and varied; this unit is designed to provide you with the foundations of the discipline as well as professional practice in psychology, developing your psychological literacy. In this unit, you will learn about the fascinating field of psychological science, including what it means to be a professional psychologist, a psychological scientist, or someone who applies psychological knowledge to other areas. You will also learn what a psychology degree will teach you, including content and skills that you will develop throughout the degree, and how what you learn will make genuine improvements to your life. Post-degree careers and pathways will be discussed, and you will reflect on your own personal strengths, values, interests as they relate to psychology, including how you can use psychological science to make the world a better place.

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: Explain the importance of theory and research in psychological science and psychological practice, including the use of empirically-derived scientific evidence and scientific practice (Capability 1: Scientist).

ULO2: Apply the foundations of psychological science for positive impact on individuals

and society, including within higher education, employment, and everyday life (Capability 2: Practitioner).

ULO3: Recognise the importance of applying psychology knowledge and skills in a manner that is reflexive, culturally appropriate, and sensitive to the diversity of individuals (Capability 3: Citizen).

ULO4: Demonstrate effective interpersonal skills and collaboration in teams by communicating effectively in a range of settings, including written and spoken methods, with individuals, groups, policy makers and/or the wider community (Capability 2: Practitioner).

ULO5: Describe and apply ethical knowledge and skills in the discipline and practice of psychology, including professional and research ethics (Capability 4: Professional).

General Assessment Information

Grade descriptors and other information concerning grading are contained in the [Macquarie University Assessment Policy](#).

All final grades are determined by a grading committee, in accordance with the Macquarie University Assessment Policy, and are not the sole responsibility of the Unit Convenor.

Students will be awarded a final grade and a mark which must correspond to the grade descriptors specified in the [Assessment Procedure](#) (clause 128).

To pass this unit, you must demonstrate sufficient evidence of achievement of the learning outcomes, meet any ungraded requirements, and achieve a final mark of 50 or better.

All extensions need to be formally requested via [Service Connect portal](#) in line with the special consideration policy.

Further details for each assessment task will be available on iLearn.

Late Submissions

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, a 5% penalty (OF THE TOTAL POSSIBLE MARK) will be applied each day a written assessment is not submitted, up until the 7th day (including weekends). After the 7th day, a grade of '0' will be awarded even if the assessment is submitted. Submission time for all written assessments is set at 11.55pm. A 1-hour grace period is provided to students who experience a technical concern.

For example:

Number of days (hours) late	Total Possible Marks	Deduction	Raw mark	Final mark
1 day (1-24 hours)	100	5	75	70
2 days (24-48 hours)	100	10	75	65

3 days (48-72 hours)	100	15	75	60
7 days (144-168 hours)	100	35	75	40
>7 days (>168 hours)	100	-	75	0

For any late submissions of time-sensitive tasks, such as scheduled tests/exams, performance assessments/presentations, and/or scheduled practical assessments/labs, students need to submit an application for Special Consideration.

No further submissions will be accepted after the marked assignments are returned and feedback is released to students.

Word Count Penalty

Word count penalties vary in this unit according to the assessment. To understand more about how word count penalties apply for each of the assessments, please see iLearn.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
<u>Individual written task</u>	25%	No	28/03/2025
<u>Group Presentation</u>	25%	No	Week 10
<u>Portfolio</u>	50%	No	02/06/2025

Individual written task

Assessment Type ¹: Summary

Indicative Time on Task ²: 15 hours

Due: **28/03/2025**

Weighting: **25%**

You will work in a group to identify a 'big issue' that psychological science can inform. You will then individually review scientific evidence to be able to comment on the current state of understanding on the issue and propose ideas for how future investigations can work towards addressing the issue. You will then use this summary as part of your group presentation.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain the importance of theory and research in psychological science and psychological practice, including the use of empirically-derived scientific evidence and

scientific practice (Capability 1: Scientist).

- Apply the foundations of psychological science for positive impact on individuals and society, including within higher education, employment, and everyday life (Capability 2: Practitioner).
- Recognise the importance of applying psychology knowledge and skills in a manner that is reflexive, culturally appropriate, and sensitive to the diversity of individuals (Capability 3: Citizen).

Group Presentation

Assessment Type ¹: Presentation

Indicative Time on Task ²: 15 hours

Due: **Week 10**

Weighting: **25%**

You will work as a team to integrate the research you conducted in your individual assessment on a "big issue" in psychological science. You will collaborate in your group to review the scientific evidence, comment on the current understanding of the issue, prepare a group presentation, and deliver a collective perspective on how future investigations can address the issue.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain the importance of theory and research in psychological science and psychological practice, including the use of empirically-derived scientific evidence and scientific practice (Capability 1: Scientist).
- Demonstrate effective interpersonal skills and collaboration in teams by communicating effectively in a range of settings, including written and spoken methods, with individuals, groups, policy makers and/or the wider community (Capability 2: Practitioner).
- Describe and apply ethical knowledge and skills in the discipline and practice of psychology, including professional and research ethics (Capability 4: Professional).

Portfolio

Assessment Type ¹: Portfolio

Indicative Time on Task ²: 45 hours

Due: **02/06/2025**

Weighting: **50%**

You will engage in regular reflection and application of unit content to your personal life and

professional goals, culminating in a personal and professional portfolio submission.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain the importance of theory and research in psychological science and psychological practice, including the use of empirically-derived scientific evidence and scientific practice (Capability 1: Scientist).
- Apply the foundations of psychological science for positive impact on individuals and society, including within higher education, employment, and everyday life (Capability 2: Practitioner).
- Recognise the importance of applying psychology knowledge and skills in a manner that is reflexive, culturally appropriate, and sensitive to the diversity of individuals (Capability 3: Citizen).
- Demonstrate effective interpersonal skills and collaboration in teams by communicating effectively in a range of settings, including written and spoken methods, with individuals, groups, policy makers and/or the wider community (Capability 2: Practitioner).
- Describe and apply ethical knowledge and skills in the discipline and practice of psychology, including professional and research ethics (Capability 4: Professional).

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

As a student enrolled in this unit, you will engage in a range of asynchronous online learning activities, including online lecture modules, tutorial workbooks and associated activities, readings, and online consultation times.

Lectures for this unit will be delivered as online lecture modules, via the iLearn site. For the tutorial component, you will have online tutorial workbooks, activities, and discussion forums to be completed in your own time during the week.

For general information on unit versions, see this website <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/enrolling/choosing-units>

Further details about online lectures and tutorials can be found on the iLearn site for this unit.

Required and Recommended Readings

The required textbook for this unit is available free online, via the MQ Library website

Machin, T., Machin, T., Jeffries, C., & Hoare, N. (2022). *The Australian Handbook for Careers in Psychological Science*. University of Southern Queensland.

Additional recommended resources will be listed in the Leganto readings list, within the unit's iLearn site.

Technology Used

Active participation in the learning activities and completion of the assessment tasks in this unit will require students to have access to a tablet, laptop, desktop computer, or similar device. Students can download the Office 365 suite for free <https://students.mq.edu.au/support/technology/software/microsoft>

All students should be able to use Zoom software <https://students.mq.edu.au/support/technology/software/zoom>

Unit Schedule

Unit Schedule

The following weekly schedule is subject to change; see the iLearn site for the most up-to-date information. Lectures and tutorials both commence from Week 1.

Week	Lecture	Tutorial Workbook
1	Unit introduction	Unit introduction
2	Psychology of learning	Study skills
3	Mental health and wellbeing	Emotional intelligence
4	Ethics	Ethics
5	Critical thinking	Critical thinking
6	Interpersonal skills	Interpersonal skills
7	Personal attributes	Personal attributes
<i>Mid-session Break</i>		
8	Graduate learning outcomes	Mindsets
9	Applied psychology	Group presentation skills
10	Other careers	Group presentations
11	Career development	Career development
12	Your psychology degree	Your future work self

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](#)
- [Assessment Procedure](#)
- [Complaints Resolution 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 connect.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Academic Integrity

At Macquarie, we believe [academic integrity](#) – honesty, respect, trust, responsibility, fairness and courage – is at the core of learning, teaching and research. We recognise that meeting the expectations required to complete your assessments can be challenging. So, we offer you a range of resources and services to help you reach your potential, including free [online writing and maths support](#), [academic skills development](#) and [wellbeing consultations](#).

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au>

dents.mq.edu.au/support/

The Writing Centre

The [Writing Centre](#) provides resources to develop your English language proficiency, academic writing, and communication skills.

- [Workshops](#)
- [Chat with a WriteWISE peer writing leader](#)
- [Access StudyWISE](#)
- [Upload an assignment to Studiosity](#)
- [Complete the 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

Macquarie University offers a range of [Student Support Services](#) including:

- [IT Support](#)
- [Accessibility and disability support](#) with study
- Mental health [support](#)
- [Safety support](#) to respond to bullying, harassment, sexual harassment and sexual assault
- [Social support including information about finances, tenancy and legal issues](#)
- [Student Advocacy](#) provides independent advice on MQ policies, procedures, and processes

Student Enquiries

Got a question? Ask us via the [Service Connect Portal](#), or contact [Service Connect](#).

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.

INCLUSION AND DIVERSITY

Social inclusion at Macquarie University is about giving everyone who has the potential to benefit from higher education the opportunity to study at university, participate in campus life and

flourish in their chosen field. The University has made significant moves to promote an equitable, diverse and exciting campus community for the benefit of staff and students. It is your responsibility to contribute towards the development of an inclusive culture and practice in the areas of learning and teaching, research, and service orientation and delivery. As a member of the Macquarie University community, you must not discriminate against or harass others based on their sex, gender, race, marital status, carers' responsibilities, disability, sexual orientation, age, political conviction or religious belief. All staff and students are expected to display appropriate behaviour that is conducive to a healthy learning environment for everyone.

PROFESSIONALISM

In the Faculty of Medicine, Health and Human Sciences, professionalism is a key capability embedded in all our courses.

As part of developing professionalism, students are expected to attend all small group interactive sessions including clinical, practical, laboratory, work-integrated learning (e.g., PACE placements), and team-based learning activities. Some learning activities are recorded (e.g., face-to-face lectures), however you are encouraged to avoid relying upon such material as they do not recreate the whole learning experience and technical issues can and do occur. As an adult learner, we respect your decision to choose how you engage with your learning, but we would remind you that the learning opportunities we create for you have been done so to enable your success, and that by not engaging you may impact your ability to successfully complete this unit. We equally expect that you show respect for the academic staff who have worked hard to develop meaningful activities and prioritise your learning by communicating with them in advance if you are unable to attend a small group interactive session.

Another dimension of professionalism is having respect for your peers. It is the right of every student to learn in an environment that is free of disruption and distraction. Please arrive to all learning activities on time, and if you are unavoidably detained, please join activity as quietly as possible to minimise disruption. Phones and other electronic devices that produce noise and other distractions must be turned off prior to entering class. Where your own device (e.g., laptop) is being used for class-related activities, you are asked to close down all other applications to avoid distraction to you and others. Please treat your fellow students with the utmost respect. If you are uncomfortable participating in any specific activity, please let the relevant academic know.

Changes since First Published

Date	Description
10/02/2025	- Updated MPP reference - Updated reference to in-class tutorials - Updated lecture and tutorial timetable - Updated word count penalty information.

Unit information based on version 2025.02 of the [Handbook](#)