



Course Outline (Higher Education)

School:	School of Science, Psychology and Sport
Course Title:	FORENSIC BEHAVIOURAL SCIENCE
Course ID:	BEHAV2004
Credit Points:	15.00
Prerequisite(s):	Nil
Co-requisite(s):	Nil
Exclusion(s):	(ATSGC3844 and BEHAV3002)
ASCED:	090701

Description of the Course:

This course provides students with an introduction to the fascinating field of forensic behavioural science and explores the intersection between psychology and the law. In this course, we apply psychological theories and research to problems of law and the legal system and examine how psychology can provide insight into topics such as criminal profiling, psychological disorders and criminal offending, the accuracy of eyewitness testimonies, and screening and training of police.

Grade Scheme: Graded (HD, D, C, P, MF, F, XF)

Work Experience:

No work experience: Student is not undertaking work experience in industry.

Placement Component: No

Supplementary Assessment: Yes

Where supplementary assessment is available a student must have failed overall in the course but gained a final mark of 45 per cent or above and submitted all major assessment tasks.

Program Level:

Level of course in Program	AQF Level of Program					
	5	6	7	8	9	10
Introductory	■	■	■	■	■	■
Intermediate	■	■	✓	■	■	■

Level of course in Program	AQF Level of Program					
	5	6	7	8	9	10
Advanced	■	■	■	■	■	■

Learning Outcomes:

Knowledge:

- K1.** Describe, discuss and appraise psychological theories, principles and knowledge across a broad range of forensic contexts.
- K2.** Describe and evaluate how psychological theories and research can be applied to inform legal decisions and procedures.

Skills:

- S1.** Review and critique the psychological evidence used to support current approaches to forensic psychology.
- S2.** Interpret and critically evaluate psychological research across forensic contexts.

Application of knowledge and skills:

- A1.** Effectively communicate the role of psychology in forensic contexts using various formats (e.g., written and verbal).
- A2.** Apply psychological theories and research to a diverse range of forensic contexts.
- A3.** Capacity to independently research, evaluate and identify evidence appropriate to inform ones position.

Course Content:

This may include:

Topics may include:

- psychology and the law
- psychology and crime
- psychology of police
- evaluating witnesses and suspects
- psychology of victims
- jury selection
- forensic assessment
- psychology of punishment

Values:

- V1.** Identify and assess the needs of offenders affected by mental health issues;
- V2.** Apply principles of self-directed learning in a co-operative education environment;
- V3.** Appreciate theoretical approaches that aid in understanding differing types of offenders;
- V4.** Demonstrate respect for other students, their opinions and backgrounds; and,
- V5.** Possess a sense of responsibility for correct standards in writing, research and citation

Graduate Attributes

The Federation University FedUni graduate attributes (GA) are entrenched in the [Higher Education Graduate Attributes Policy](#) (LT1228). FedUni graduates develop these graduate attributes through their engagement in explicit learning and teaching and assessment tasks that are embedded in all FedUni programs. Graduate

attribute attainment typically follows an incremental development process mapped through program progression. **One or more graduate attributes must be evident in the specified learning outcomes and assessment for each FedUni course, and all attributes must be directly assessed in each program**

Graduate attribute and descriptor		Development and acquisition of GAs in the course	
		Learning Outcomes (KSA)	Assessment task (AT#)
GA 1 Thinkers	Our graduates are curious, reflective and critical. Able to analyse the world in a way that generates valued insights, they are change makers seeking and creating new solutions.	K1, K2, S1, A3	AT1-3
GA 2 Innovators	Our graduates have ideas and are able to realise their dreams. They think and act creatively to achieve and inspire positive change.	A2, A3	AT1-3
GA 3 Citizens	Our graduates engage in socially and culturally appropriate ways to advance individual, community and global well-being. They are socially and environmentally aware, acting ethically, equitably and compassionately.	K2,S2	AT1-2
GA 4 Communicators	Our graduates create, exchange, impart and convey information, ideas, and concepts effectively. They are respectful, inclusive and empathetic towards their audience, and express thoughts, feelings and information in ways that help others to understand.	K1, K2, S1, A1, A3	AT1-3
GA 5 Leaders	Our graduates display and promote positive behaviours, and aspire to make a difference. They act with integrity, are receptive to alternatives and foster sustainable and resilient practices.	-	-

Learning Task and Assessment:

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Learning Tasks	Assessment Type	Weighting
K1, K2 S1, S2 A1-A3	Independently research and apply appropriate knowledge of psychological science to a forensic context.	Written Task	25-50%
K1, K2 S1-S2 A1-A3	Present a verbal argument applying knowledge of psychological science to a forensic context.	Oral presentation	15-35%
K1, K2 S1, S2 A2	Mastery of course content: Demonstrate and apply knowledge from the course in response to multiple-choice and/or short-answer questions.	Test/tests	25-45%

Adopted Reference Style:

APA

Refer to the [library website](#) for more information

Fed Cite - [referencing tool](#)