



Course Outline (Higher Education)

Institute / School:	Institute of Health and Wellbeing
Course Title:	ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY
Course ID:	PSYCG4108
Credit Points:	15.00
Prerequisite(s):	(Any two PSYCB 2000 level courses and a PSYCB 3000 level course)
Co-requisite(s):	Nil
Exclusion(s):	Nil
ASCED:	090701

Description of the Course:

The course will introduce students to current understanding and concepts in relation to some common adult and child psychological disorders. Theories, relevant research findings, aetiology, and therapies will be considered critically. Ethics of research, practice, and assessment in abnormal psychology will be covered.

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

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	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Intermediate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advanced	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Learning Outcomes:

Knowledge:

- K1.** Describe, review and appraise psychological abnormality within biological, psychological, social, and cultural frameworks
- K2.** Identify and assess research methodology in abnormal and clinical psychology research
- K3.** Discuss, illustrate and analyse ethical issues in the practice of abnormal and clinical psychology

Skills:

- S1.** Describe and critically evaluate causes, competing theories and therapies, and current research of major psychological disorders
- S2.** Analyse critically and evaluate appropriate treatment for psychological disorders
- S3.** Critically evaluate and integrate major reviews and experimental studies in abnormal psychology

Application of knowledge and skills:

- A1.** Apply relevant knowledge and skills of the scientific method to evaluate problems related to behaviour and mental processes
- A2.** Apply relevant knowledge and skills to construct links between abnormal psychology (terms, concepts, theory and research) and real world scenarios
- A3.** Apply relevant knowledge and skills to prepare a written report using American Psychological Association (APA) structure and formatting conventions
- A4.** Utilise knowledge and skills to reflect on learning in the context of own experience and/or real world applications

Course Content:

Topics may include:

- Past and present models of psychological abnormality
- Diagnosis and clinical assessment
- Research methods in the study of abnormal behaviour
- Major psychological disorders in adults (e.g., anxiety disorders, mood disorders and suicide, substance related disorders, disorders of gender and sexuality, disorders of personality and impulsive control, schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders)
- Major psychological disorders in adolescents and children (e.g. eating disorders, attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder, learning disorder, conduct disorder)
- Developmental disorders (intellectual disability, autism)

Values:

- V1.** Appreciate the impact of biological, social, cultural and psychological factors on normal and abnormal behaviour
- V2.** Appreciate the impact of psychological disorders on the individual and society
- V3.** Appreciate the wide range of needs of individuals with psychological disorders
- V4.** Appreciate the importance of research and ethical issues in the practice of abnormal and clinical psychology

Graduate Attributes

The Federation University Federation 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, K3, S1, S2, A1, A2, A4	AT1, AT2, AT3
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.	N/A	N/A
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.	K1, K3	AT2, AT3
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, K3, A1, A2, A3	AT1, AT2, AT3
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.	K3, A2	AT1, AT2, AT3

Learning Task and Assessment:

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Learning Tasks	Assessment Type	Weighting
A1, A2, K1, K2, K3	Demonstration of understanding of fundamental concepts in abnormal psychology including theories, assessment, clinical symptoms, aetiology, and treatment.	Online Quizz(es)	10-30%
K1, K3, S1, S2, S3, A1, A2, A3, A4	Students will produce an independent report in accordance with professional and APA requirements. Through the report, students will apply relevant knowledge of major psychological disorders, aetiology, and treatment. Students will also consider elements of ethics and assessment. Students will reflect on how course related K&S have broadened their understanding of psychological disorders and their real-world impact	Case study report	40-60%
A1, A2, K1, K2, K3	Demonstration of understanding of fundamental concepts in abnormal psychology including theories, assessment, clinical symptoms, aetiology, and treatment.	Test	30-50%

Adopted Reference Style:

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

Fed Cite - [referencing tool](#)