

Course Outline (Higher Education)

School:	School of Health and Life Sciences
Course Title:	ADULT CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY
Course ID:	PSYCM7001
Credit Points:	15.00
Prerequisite(s):	Nil
Co-requisite(s):	Nil
Exclusion(s):	Nil
ASCED Code:	090701

Description of the Course :

The aims of this course include to (1) increase students' understanding and knowledge of psychological disorders in adulthood, and (2) develop their skills in relation to the clinical assessment, case formulation, and development of effective psychological treatment for these disorders. The course will include both theoretical and practical learning components.

Grade Scheme: Graded (HD, D, C, etc.)

Work Experience:

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

Placement Component: No

Program Level:

AQF Level of Program						
	5	6	7	8	9	10
Level						
Introductory					✓	
Intermediate						
Advanced						

Learning Outcomes:

Knowledge:

- K1.** Describe adult psychological disorders and their diagnosis
- K2.** Explain the process of clinical assessment and diagnostic procedures
- K3.** Describe the function of psychotropic medications and their use in treating psychological disorders
- K4.** Evaluate the ethical issues within the assessment and diagnosis of psychological disorders

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- K5.** Synthesise and critically evaluate the role of evidence-based assessment and treatment for psychological disorders

Skills:

- S1.** Perform a detailed clinical assessment of adult psychological disorders in a peer-reviewed setting
- S2.** Create a detailed diagnosis of adult psychological disorders based on DSM-5 criteria in conjunction with a comprehensive bio-psychosocial assessment
- S3.** Critically evaluate relevant literature to create an informed best-practice/evidence-based approach to clinical assessment and diagnosis

Application of knowledge and skills:

- A1.** Apply relevant knowledge and skills in the development of academic and professional independence and responsibility for learning and professional practice
- A2.** Apply relevant knowledge and skills that demonstrate well-developed judgment and critical thinking as a scientist-practitioner within psychological practice

Course Content:

Topics may include:

- Introduction to the DSM-5 and its criterion-based assessment protocol and the diagnosis of psychological disorders in adults
- Psychopharmacology: psychotropic medication for psychiatric disorders
- Mood & Anxiety Disorders
- Psychotic Disorders
- Dissociative & Adjustment/Trauma-related Disorders
- Personality Disorders
- Eating Disorders
- Somatoform & Sleep Disorders
- Substance-use & Impulse control Disorders
- Health-related and Organic Disorders
- Age-related Disorders

Values:

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- V1.** A high level of professional, ethical, legal and family relationship values, particularly in dealing with children, adolescents, families, teachers and other professionals in the context of mental health.
- V2.** Students also bring with them values and student graduate attributes prior to entering this Masters level course.

Learning Task and Assessment:

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Learning Tasks	Assessment Type	Weighting
K1-K5 S1-S3 A1-A2	90% class attendance required with active participation to promote the ongoing development of practical clinical skills Logging and reporting of clinical discussions that occur during clinical seminars	Weekly Clinical Seminar Series Weekly Professional Development logbook entry	Non-graded / Hurdle task
K1, K2, K4, K5 S2-S3 A1-A2	A critical review of the role of the DSM-5 in the assessment and diagnosis of psychological disorders	Essay	30-50%
K1-K5 S1-S3 A1, A2	Oral Examination: verbal presentation of assessment, aetiology and diagnosis of an adult clinical case	Examination	50-70%

Adopted Reference Style:

APA