

# Course Outline (Higher Education)

<b>School:</b>	School of Health and Life Sciences
<b>Course Title:</b>	DISSERTATION A
<b>Course ID:</b>	PSYCM7115
<b>Credit Points:</b>	30.00
<b>Prerequisite(s):</b>	Nil
<b>Co-requisite(s):</b>	Nil
<b>Exclusion(s):</b>	Nil
<b>ASCED:</b>	090701
<b>Grade Scheme:</b>	S
<b>Supplementary Assessment:</b>	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..

**Level:** Advanced

## Objectives:

This course introduces students to research within a selected area of clinical psychology. Under supervision, students will absorb and integrate psychological knowledge, which will be elaborated in an oral presentation, and culminate in a written research proposal to include a series of testable hypotheses, and a written application suitable for submission to the University Research Ethics Committee.

After successfully completing this course, students should be able to:

## Knowledge:

- K1.** Detailed knowledge of the chosen area
- K2.** Understanding of design and analytical techniques
- K3.** Thorough grasp of reporting styles and formats

## Skills:

- S1.** Search catalogue and data bases and select relevant material
- S2.** Grasp, critically evaluate and integrate information
- S3.** use existing research to develop aims and hypotheses
- S4.** consider practical and ethical issues when doing research
- S5.** analyse raw data either qualitatively or quantitatively
- S6.** report research findings in a conventional manner
- S1.** Search catalogue and data bases and select relevant material
- S2.** Grasp, critically evaluate and integrate information

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PSYCM7115 DISSERTATION A

- S3.** use existing research to develop aims and hypotheses
- S4.** consider practical and ethical issues when doing research
- S5.** analyse raw data either qualitatively or quantitatively
- S6.** report research findings in a conventional manner

## Course Content:

□ Over two courses (PSYCM 7115 and PSYCM 7116) the student will develop, carry out, and report on a piece of original research. The substantive content associated with the research is common to both courses but the learning tasks and assessment varies in line with the steps necessary to do successful research and will culminate in the report itself.

□ The student will read seminal texts in the area as well as an exhaustive range of journal articles on the chosen topic. Attendance at conferences, seminars and research colloquia as well as subscription to relevant internet discussion groups may be used to supplement standard publication material.

□ Under supervision, students will absorb and integrate this psychological knowledge, which will be elaborated in an oral presentation and written research proposal, and result in the development of a series of testable hypotheses.

□ The hypotheses will be examined in experimental, quasi-experimental or qualitative research and, based on this, students will produce a final report, in journal style format.

## Values:

- V1.** Appreciate the importance of independence and initiative
- V2.** Welcome new ideas and innovation
- V3.** Understand the need for application and diligence
- V4.** Value effective relationships with supervisors and colleagues, and advice and criticism
- V5.** Respect robust, systematic argument, backed by scientific evidence
- V6.** Value due consideration for participants and ethical research practice
- V7.** Recognise the importance of disseminating understanding throughout the wider community

## Learning Task and Assessment:

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Learning Tasks	Assessment Type	Weighting
Preliminary development of research proposal	Oral presentation		U/S

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PSYCM7115 DISSERTATION A

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Learning Tasks	Assessment Type	Weighting
Consideration of ethical implications of research	Approval by the University's Human Research Ethics Committee (and any other HRECs, as needed) *Students who subsequently enrol in the DPsych program will draft an ethics application, to the satisfaction of their supervisor.		U/S
Consideration of the costs of conducting research	Submission of budget to the Course Coordinator		U/S
Detailed consideration of existing research and development of practical project comprising hypotheses, design and procedures	Presentation of oral and written drafts of literature review and method culminating in a written review of relevant literature and research proposal.		U/S

## Adopted Reference Style:

APA