

# Unit Outline (Higher Education)

<b>Institute / School:</b>	Institute of Health and Wellbeing
<b>Unit Title:</b>	ADVANCED ADULT PSYCHOPATHOLOGY
<b>Unit ID:</b>	PSYCM7123
<b>Credit Points:</b>	15.00
<b>Prerequisite(s):</b>	(PSYCM7015)
<b>Co-requisite(s):</b>	Nil
<b>Exclusion(s):</b>	Nil
<b>ASCED:</b>	090701

## Description of the Unit:

This unit will build on students existing skills and knowledge of psychological disorders occurring in adulthood. This unit covers knowledge and skills for the assessment, diagnosis and treatment of complex clinical presentations in adulthood. This unit will examine diagnostic taxonomies and theoretical models for formulation and treatment of severe, chronic and complex mental health conditions. Students will also examine the role of clinical psychologists in supporting multi-disciplinary and pharmacological management of complex mental disorders.

**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:** No

Supplementary assessment is not available to students who gain a fail in this Unit.

## Learning Outcomes:

### Knowledge:

- K1.** Develop detailed knowledge of the aetiology, maintenance and treatment of complex and chronic adult psychological disorders.

- K2.** Describe, explain and evaluate diagnostic taxonomies and treatment models in complex clinical presentations.
- K3.** Synthesise and critically evaluate the role of evidence-based assessment and treatment for psychological disorders.

**Skills:**

- S1.** Perform a detailed clinical assessment of complex adult psychological disorders in a peer-reviewed setting
- S2.** Create a detailed diagnosis of complex adult psychological disorders based on DSM-5 criteria in conjunction with a comprehensive biopsychosocial assessment.
- S3.** Critically evaluate the relevant literature to create an informed best-practice/evidenced based approach to clinical assessment and diagnosis in complex cases.
- S4.** Create an evidenced-based formulation and treatment plan for complex adult psychological disorders.

**Application of knowledge and skills:**

- A1.** Apply advanced knowledge of psychological theories of aetiology and maintenance of disorders, recovery processes, precursors and sequelae of psychological disorders, including incidence, prevalence, risk, protective and maintenance factors to inform case formulation and treatment planning.
- A2.** Apply advanced knowledge of psychopathology and relevant international diagnostic taxonomies to case formulation and treatment planning, including severe, complex and chronic mental illness.

**Unit Content:**

Topics may include:

- Diagnosis of complex psychological disorders using diagnostic classification systems such as the DSM-5
- Personality disorders
- Complex trauma/PTSD
- Psychotic Disorders
- Eating Disorders
- Complex Comorbidities

**Learning Task and Assessment:**

Learning Outcomes Assessed	Assessment Tasks	Assessment Type	Weighting
K1-K5 S1-S3 A1, A2	Oral Examination: verbal presentation of assessment, aetiology and diagnosis of complex adult clinical case(s)	Oral Examination	40-60%
K1, K2, K4, K5 S2-S3 A1-A2	Case Study Written Report	Written Report	40-60%

**Adopted Reference Style:**

APA

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