

1. Staff

Position	Name	Email	Consultation times and locations	Contact Details
Course Convenor	Dr Natalie Rogers	n.rogers@unsw.edu.au		

2.3 Course learning outcomes (CLO)

At the successful completion of this course the student should be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of major concepts of abnormal psychology with regard to: risk factors, classification, aetiology and treatments of common mental disorders.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the scientific method in order to understand how these principles are applied in abnormal psychology research and clinical settings.
3. Apply critical thinking skills in order to intellectually engage with literature, differentiate quality empirical evidence from speculation, develop an argument and critique those of others.
4. Demonstrate an appreciation of the historic context, ethical principles and values in the area of abnormal psychology.
5. Demonstrate effective written communication skills in psychology for the purpose of informing and debating.

2.4 Relationship between course and program learning outcomes and assessments

CLO	Program Learning Outcomes						Assessment
	1. Knowledge	2. Research Methods	3. Critical Thinking Skills	4. Values and Ethics	5. Communication, Interpersonal and Teamwork	6. Application	
1.	Lectures, readings, revision quizzes, forums, online activities					Lectures, es, e	

3. Strategies and approaches to learning

3.1 Learning and teaching activities

This course is presented entirely online via the [Moodle](#) eLearning website including the final exam. The lectures will be delivered in video format (with captions). Transcripts will be made available. Students should watch the lectures and write separate notes to maximise their understanding and retention of the material.

There is an eTextbook for this course (see 7. *Readings and Resources*). The prescribed readings are examinable, unless otherwise indicated. Reading comprehension and the synthesis of written material are important skills for UNSW graduates. These skills will be explicitly assessed in the written assignment and so the weekly readings provide students with an ongoing opportunity to practice and hone these skills before the major assessment.

Although the lectures, textbook and online activities will cover the same broad topics, and there may be some overlap in content, students should expect to learn different information from each of these different, complementary resources.

The weekly resources will be made available each Monday and will be left online for the duration of the course. Formative revision quizzes are available on a weekly basis to provide an opportunity for students to self-evaluate their understanding of course material. This staggered release format has been specifically designed to promote “distributed practice” (i.e. not “cramming”). Timely completion of the lectures and weekly quizzes will assist the revision process by hi-lighting areas of weakness early, thus allowing students to ask for clarification early and schedule additional revision of those topics.

The Course Content Discussion Forum provides students with an opportunity to question and clarify the lecture and textbook material. Students are strongly encouraged to engage with this forum at least weekly by posting questions or comments, as well as reading, answering, and replying to other student’s posts. This will help build a sense of community, enhance understanding of the content, critical thinking, and written communication skills.

The mid-term and final examinations will provide students with an opportunity to demonstrate their understanding of examinable course material. The written assignment will give students an opportunity to consolidate their understanding and to demonstrate independent research and analytical skills.

The essay writing chapters in the custom textbook will provide students with an important introduction to the written assignment assessment and an opportunity for students to develop their research and writing skills.

4. Course schedule and structure

The expected engagement for all UNSW 6UOC courses is 150 hours per term. This course involves approximately 10 hours of lectures and approximately 20 hours of readings. The remaining 120 hours should be spent on group discussions, revision, written assessments and exam preparation.

Week	Lectures	Online modules	Readings
Week 1 12/09/2022	Introduction to Psychopathology Lecture 1: What is “abnormal”? Lecture 2: DSM classification and assessment Lecture 3:		

Week 8 31/10/2022	Anxiety disorders Lecture 1: What are anxiety disorders? Lecture 2: Models of specific phobias Lecture 3: Treating anxiety	Sunday: Written assignment Due Revision quiz	Chapter 3 (custom pg 123 – 124) Chapter 11 (custom pg 340 – 346; 357 - 362) 14 pages; approx. 1.5 hrs
Week 9 07/11/2022	Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder Lecture 1: What is OCD? Lecture 2: Models of OCD Lecture 3: Treating OCD	Revision quiz	Chapter 11 (custom pg 375 – 380; 384 - 385) 8 pages; approx. 1 hr
Week 10 14/11/2022	Substance use and abuse Lecture 1: Substances and substance abuse Lecture 2: What causes substance abuse? Lecture 3: Treating substance abuse	Revision quiz	Chapter 12 (custom pg 396 – 427; 430) 33 pages; approx. 3.5 hrs
Study period 19/11/2022 – 24/11/2022		Revision/Exam preparation	
Exam period 25/11/2022 – 08/12/2022		Revision/Exam preparation	

5. Assessment

5.1 Assessment tasks

All assessments in this course have been designed and implemented in accordance with UNSW Assessment Policy.

Assessment task	Length	Weight	Mark	Due date
Assessment 1: Revision quizzes	Varied	0% (formative)	N/A	N/A
Assessment 2: Mid Term exam	20 MCQ	20%	/20	9am – 11:59pm 15/10/2022
Assessment 3: Written assignment	1000 words	40%	/40	11:59pm 06/11/2022
Assessment 4: Final exam	80 MCQ	40%	/80	Exam period

Assessment 2: The mid-term exam is worth 20% of the total course mark and contains 20 multiple-choice questions (MCQs). It will be made available online via Moodle from 9am – 11:59pm Friday 15th October 2022. Students will be able to take the examination once. The quiz will last 15 mins, allowing for 45s per question. The exam is not be attempted “open book”. The restrictive time limit is designed to minimise any temptation to consult any reference material. The time limit will provide ample opportunity for students to read and answer all the questions. The exam will assess all material presented in Weeks 1-3 and Week 5 including textbook readings for those weeks.

Assessment 3: A written assignment will be required for submission via Turnitin 11:59pm Sunday 6th November 2022. The question and instructions for this assignment will be released in Week 4. The written assignment will be worth 40% of the total course mark. As well as the textbook sections on

5.2 Assessment criteria and standards

Further details and marking criteria for each assessment will be provided to students closer to the assessment release date (see 4.1: UNSW Assessment Design Procedure).

Written assignment: In accordance with UNSW Assessment Policy the written assignment must be submitted online via Turnitin. No paper or emailed

6. Academic integrity, referencing and plagiarism

The APA (7th edition) referencing style is to be adopted in this course. Students should consult the publication manual itself (rather than third party interpretations of it) in order to properly adhere to

7. Readings and resources

8. Administrative matters

The [School of Psychology Student Guide](#) contains School policies and procedures relevant for all students enrolled in undergraduate or Masters psychology courses, such as:

- Attendance requirements
- Assignment submissions and returns
- Assessments
- Special consideration
- Student code of conduct
- Student complaints and grievances
- Disability Support Services
- Health and safety

It is expected that students familiarise themselves with the information contained in this guide.

9. Additional support for students

The Current Students Gateway: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/>

Academic Skills and Support: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/academic-skills>

Student Wellbeing, Health and Safety: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/wellbeing>

Disability Support Services: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/disability-services>

UNSW IT Service Centre: <https://www.it.unsw.edu.au/students/index.html>