

## PSYC6511: Clinical Research Project 1

Callaghan

Semester 2 - 2023



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
NEWCASTLE  
AUSTRALIA

## OVERVIEW

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| <b>Course Description</b>      | Evidence-based and scientific methods are the cornerstone of professional practice. In this course, with the guidance of one or more research supervisors, you will be given the opportunity to undertake a research project as designed in PSYC6505, which has the potential to make an original contribution to knowledge in clinical psychology. Teaching is by individual supervision. Students are advised to read the Clinical Program Research Manual for a description of the course requirements. |
| <b>Requisites</b>              | This course is only available to students enrolled in the Master of Clinical Psychology [40187]  |
| <b>Assumed Knowledge</b>       | It is assumed that students will have passed courses in statistics and research methodology, and will have completed a research project, as part of a four-year program in Psychology which has been accredited by the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council.  |
| <b>Contact Hours</b>           | <b>Callaghan</b><br><b>Individual Supervision</b><br>Face to Face on Campus<br>2 hour(s) per Week for Full Term<br>Approximately 2 hours per week but contact over the semester will be by mutual agreement with the Supervisor/s.   |
| <b>Unit Weighting Workload</b> | 10<br>Students are required to spend on average 120-140 hours of effort (contact and non-contact) including assessments per 10-unit course.  |

# COURSE OUTLINE

[www.newcastle.edu.au](http://www.newcastle.edu.au)

CRICOS Provider 00109J

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# CONTACTS

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| <b>Course Coordinator</b> | <b>Callaghan</b><br>A/Pr Ross Wilkinson<br><a href="mailto:Ross.Wilkinson@newcastle.edu.au">Ross.Wilkinson@newcastle.edu.au</a><br>49216947<br>Consultation: Wednesdays 9-10am                   |
| <b>Teaching Staff</b>     | Other teaching staff will be advised on the course Canvas site.  |
| <b>School Office</b>      | <b>School of Psychological Sciences</b><br>W210<br>Behavioural Sciences Building<br>Callaghan<br><a href="mailto:psyc-admin@newcastle.edu.au">psyc-admin@newcastle.edu.au</a><br>+61 2 4921 5505 |

# SYLLABUS

|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| <b>Course Content</b>           | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Refining specific research questions and/or hypotheses.</li><li>2. Designing research methods, including methods of statistical analysis.</li><li>3. Negotiating access to potential research participants.</li><li>4. Writing a research progress report.</li><li>5. Oral presentation on research progress.</li></ol>   |
| <b>Course Learning Outcomes</b> | <p><b>On successful completion of this course, students will be able to:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Develop specific aims and (where relevant) hypotheses capable of being addressed through research. (Competencies 3.16, 3.17)</li><li>2. Design methods capable of addressing the research aims and hypotheses, including methods of statistical analysis. (Competencies 3.16, 3.17)</li><li>3. Negotiate access to potential research participants. (Competencies 3.16, 3.17)</li><li>4. Write a clear and succinct research progress report. (Competencies 3.16, 3.17)</li><li>5. Present a research progress report to an audience in a manner suited to the audience's understanding. (Competencies 3.16, 3.17)</li></ol> |
| <b>Course Materials</b>         | <p><b>Required Reading:</b></p> <p>MCP Research Manual</p>   |

# COMPULSORY REQUIREMENTS

In order to pass this course, each student must complete ALL of the following compulsory requirements:

## Course Assessment Requirements:

- Assessment 1 - Project: Pass Requirement - Students must pass this assessment item to pass the course.
- Assessment 2 - Presentation: Pass Requirement - Students must pass this assessment item to pass the course.

# ASSESSMENTS

This course has 2 assessments. Each assessment is described in more detail in the sections below.

|   | Assessment Name                                   | Due Date   | Involvement | Weighting | Learning Outcomes |
|---|---|--|-------------|-----------|-------------------|
| 1 | Supervisor Agreement Form*                        | 14th August 2023                                       | Individual  | Pass/Fail | 1, 2, 3           |
| 2 | Research Progress Report, including presentation* | By negotiation but must be prior to 20th October 2023. | Individual  | Pass/Fail | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5     |

\* This assessment has a compulsory requirement.

**Late Submissions** The mark for an assessment item submitted after the designated time on the due date, without an approved extension of time, will be reduced by 10% of the possible maximum mark for that assessment item for each day or part day that the assessment item is late. Note: this applies equally to week and weekend days.

## Assessment 1 - Supervisor Agreement Form

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| Assessment Type          | Project   |
| Purpose                  | To update records and track progress of the research project.   |
| Description              | Online Supervisor Agreement Form  |
| Weighting                | Pass/Fail   |
| Compulsory Requirements  | Pass Requirement - Students must pass this assessment item to pass the course.  |
| Length                   | N/A   |
| Due Date                 | 14th August 2023  |
| Submission Method        | Online  |
| Return Method            | Not Returned  |
| Feedback Provided        | Online  |
| Opportunity to Reattempt | Students WILL be given the opportunity to reattempt this assessment.<br>Students may be permitted to re-attempt one failed compulsory course requirement. |

## Assessment 2 - Research Progress Report, including presentation

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Assessment Type          | Presentation   |
| Purpose                  | To track progress and review any planned or unplanned changes in the research project and to provide feedback on the progress of the project.  |
| Description              | There are two parts to the Progress Report: a written report and a presentation. Consult the MCP Research Manual for details.  |
| Weighting                | Pass/Fail  |
| Compulsory Requirements  | Pass Requirement - Students must pass this assessment item to pass the course.   |
| Length                   | 3000 words. Word limits include headings, sub-heading, in-text citations, quotes and referencing but does not include the list of references, appendices, and footnotes. The word limit will allow a tolerance of 10% and any work after the maximum word limit will not be included within the allocation of marks. In other words, the marker will STOP reading at 3300 words. |
| Due Date                 | By negotiation but must be prior to 20th October 2023.   |
| Submission Method        | Online<br>The written report must be submitted online at least 7 days prior to the scheduled presentation.   |
| Return Method            | In Person  |
| Feedback Provided        | In Person  |
| Opportunity to Reattempt | Students WILL be given the opportunity to reattempt this assessment.<br>Students may be permitted to re-attempt one failed compulsory course requirement.  |

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

## Grading Scheme

This course is graded as follows:

| Grade              | Description  |
|--------------------|--|
| Ungraded Pass (UP) | There are no marks associated with this result and you have met the level requirements to pass the course.   |
| Fail (FF)          | Failure to satisfactorily achieve assessment objectives or compulsory course requirements. A fail grade may also be awarded following disciplinary action. |

## Communication Methods

Communication methods used in this course include:

- Canvas Course Site: Students will receive communications via the posting of content or announcements on the Canvas course site.
- Email: Students will receive communications via their student email account.
- Face to Face: Communication will be provided via face-to-face meetings or supervision.

## Course Evaluation

Each year feedback is sought from students and other stakeholders about the courses offered in the University for the purposes of identifying areas of excellence and potential improvement.

## Oral Interviews (Vivas)

As part of the evaluation process of any assessment item in this course an oral examination (viva) may be conducted. The purpose of the oral examination is to verify the authorship of the material submitted in response to the assessment task. The oral examination will be conducted in accordance with the principles set out in the [Oral Examination \(viva\) Procedure](#). In cases where the oral examination reveals the assessment item may not be the student's own work the case will be dealt with under the [Student Conduct Rule](#).

## Academic Misconduct

All students are required to meet the academic integrity standards of the University. These standards reinforce the importance of integrity and honesty in an academic environment. Academic Integrity policies apply to all students at the University in all modes of study and in all locations. For the Student Academic Integrity Policy, refer to <https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=35>.

## Adverse Circumstances

The University acknowledges the right of students to seek consideration for the impact of allowable adverse circumstances that may affect their performance in assessment item(s). Applications for special consideration due to adverse circumstances will be made using the online Adverse Circumstances system where:

1. the assessment item is a major assessment item; or
2. the assessment item is a minor assessment item, and the Course Co-ordinator has specified in the Course Outline that students may apply the online Adverse Circumstances system.
3. you are requesting a change of placement; or
4. the course has a compulsory attendance requirement.

Before applying you must refer to the Adverse Circumstance Affecting Assessment Items Procedure available at:

<https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=236>

## Reasonable Adjustment Plan (RAP)

If you are registered with Accessibility and have been provided with a Reasonable Adjustment Plan (RAP), please ensure that you provide your Course Coordinator with a copy as soon you can or let your Course Coordinator know that you are still waiting for your RAP.

## Important Policy Information

The Help button in the Canvas Navigation menu contains helpful information for using the Learning Management System. Students should familiarise themselves with the policies and procedures at

<https://www.newcastle.edu.au/current-students/no-room-for/policies-and-procedures> that support a safe and respectful environment at the University.

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*This course outline was approved by the Head of School. No alteration of this course outline is permitted without Head of School approval. If a change is approved, students will be notified, and an amended course outline will be provided in the same manner as the original.*

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