

PSYC6516: Psychology Placement 4

Callaghan

Semester 1 - 2024



OVERVIEW

Course Description

Clinical placements provide students with opportunities to apply, under supervision, the knowledge and skills they have acquired in assessment, formulation, intervention, evaluation and reporting. Students will also receive feedback on their performance and gain experience in the planning and organisation of clinical services. Students must undertake at least 1000 hours of practical experience spread over four placements. This placement is typically of 43 days duration, at a rate of 2 days a week for approximately 22 weeks. At the conclusion of this placement, students will demonstrate achievement of core professional competencies in clinical psychology practice relevant to the context and their stage of training, with increased skill development as the student progresses through their practicum training program (across all four placement courses).

Review of Progress Requirements

This course is a compulsory program requirement for students in the following program(s):

- Master of Clinical Psychology

In addition to meeting the University's overall requirements for academic progression, students enrolled in these program(s) must satisfactorily complete this course in order to progress in their program.

Requisites

This course is only available to students enrolled in the Master of Clinical Psychology [40187]

Assumed Knowledge

It is assumed that students will have completed a four-year program in Psychology which included course(s) on abnormal psychology and which has been accredited by the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council. It is also assumed that students will have completed the courses PSYC6502 Counselling and Intervention and PSYC6501 Professional and Ethical Practice.

Contact Hours

Callaghan Practicum *

Face to Face Off Campus
320 hours per term

A total commitment of 43 days. Placement days are deemed to have commenced only after a learning agreement has been received and approved by the placement coordinator. Note that placements may cross academic semester boundaries.

* This contact type has a compulsory requirement.

Unit Weighting

10

Workload

Students are required to spend on average 120-140 hours of effort (contact and non-contact) including assessments per 10 unit course.

COURSE OUTLINE

CONTACTS

Course Coordinator	Callaghan Mrs Sonja Pohlman Sonja.Pohlman@newcastle.edu.au (02) 40553017 Consultation: email, phone and by appointment
Teaching Staff	Placement administration is supported by the CESE Professional Experience Unit Contact: Shanae Tuck CESE-PEU@newcastle.edu.au
School Office	School of Psychological Sciences W210 - Behavioural Sciences Building Callaghan psyc-admin@newcastle.edu.au +61 2 4921 5505

SYLLABUS

Course Content	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Introduction to the placement setting, including points of decision making, channels of communication, roles and functioning of key staff.2. Observation of the supervisor's professional work, where available including (where relevant) reports of clinical activity.3. Attendance at and participation in clinical staff meetings.4. In most instances, the provision of clinical care to one or more clients.5. Instruction and guidance in ethical and professional conduct, the choice of assessment instruments, the development and evaluation of psychological formulations and psychological intervention plans, and the construction of reports.6. Feedback on and supervision of the student's placement work, including assessment, formulation and intervention and report writing.
Course Learning Outcomes	<p>On successful completion of this course, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Establish therapeutic relationships with a range of socially and culturally diverse clients and communicate professionally and effectively with them in a culturally responsive manner. (Competencies 3.3)2. Conduct clinical interviews and select, administer and report appropriate psychological assessments for a wide range of psychological disorders, and analyse and evaluate the results within a clinical setting. (Competencies 3.4, 3.6, 4.2.2.ii)3. Integrate, interpret, and synthesise clinical information from a range of sources to develop a psychological formulation that will guide diagnosis and intervention. (Competencies 3.6, 4.2.2.iii, 4.2.3.i)4. Devise and implement psychological intervention plans which are evidence based and clearly derived from formulations. (Competencies 3.2, 3.9, 4.2.2.iii, 4.2.3.i)5. Monitor clients' progress, the therapeutic alliance, evaluate intervention outcomes and make modifications as required. (Competencies 3.2, 3.7, 3.9, 4.2.2.iv, 4.2.3.i, 4.2.3.ii)6. Provide culturally appropriate, clear, comprehensive, accurate, and relevant verbal and written reports of their activities. (Competencies 3.3, 3.8)7. Maintain behaviour consistent with ethical and professional standards with a focus on ensuring public safety. (Competencies 3.3, 3.10, 3.11, 3.13)8. Work effectively and co-operatively with a range of professionals and support staff in the workplace by following the procedures of the organisation and working within the bounds of ethical and legal requirements. (Competencies 3.10, 3.11, 3.13)9. Engage in self-reflective professional practice and supervision in a manner which will help develop their professional/practical, inter-personal and intra-personal skills development. (Competencies 3.12, 3.14, 3.15, 4.2.3.iii)

Course Materials

Other Resources:

- **SONIA online** - students enrolled in placement courses are required to access the SONIA online platform for placement logging requirements. Documents relating to the placement course are stored within SONIA. Further details are provided in the SONIA online manual and placement manual.

COMPULSORY REQUIREMENTS

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

Course Assessment Requirements:

- Assessment 1 - Portfolio: Pass Requirement - Students must pass this assessment item to pass the course.
- Assessment 2 - Professional Task: Pass Requirement - Students must pass this assessment item to pass the course.
- Assessment 3 - Professional Task: Pass Requirement - Students must pass this assessment item to pass the course.

Pre-Placement Requirements:

- Ahpra Requirement - Provisional or full registration with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (Ahpra) NB: Registration must be renewed each year.
- NSW Health Verification Requirements - Mandatory NSW Health Verification Requirements must be met. This includes, immunisations, national police certificate and code of conduct.
- WHS Requirement - Students must complete a Workplace Safety Induction or Risk Assessment.

ASSESSMENTS

This course has 4 assessments. Each assessment is described in more detail in the sections below.

	Assessment Name	Due Date	Involvement	Weighting	Learning Outcomes
1	Case study*	Practical demonstration – at mid-placement review Case study – final day of placement	Individual	Pass/Fail	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9
2	Placement supervisor's evaluation*	Within 2 weeks of the last day of placement	Individual	Pass/Fail	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9
3	Review of placement*	Within 2 weeks of the last day of placement	Individual	Pass/Fail	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9
4	Students must demonstrate competency in all listed assessment items		Individual	Pass/Fail	no Learning Outcomes

* 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 - Case study

Assessment Type	Portfolio
Purpose	The portfolio is designed for you to demonstrate a range of clinical skills in your final placement.
Description	There are two components in the portfolio <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Practical skill demonstration – you will be required to complete a simulated skill demonstration with your supervisor at the mid-placement review. In this assessment, you will be expected to demonstrate competence in a clinical skill or technique that is expected at your level of placement. You will also be asked to provide a written outline of the skill to be demonstrated. Following the assessment, you will be asked for a brief verbal reflection on your demonstration.2. Case study - This assessment requires you to demonstrate the application of psychological knowledge in the formulation of the problem and demonstrated ability to evaluate clinical or health promotion work critically and to learn from it. Case studies must be structured and will be marked in accordance with the guidance provided in the rubric on the Canvas course site.
Weighting	Pass/Fail
Compulsory Requirements	Pass Requirement - Students must pass this assessment item to pass the course.
Length	Practical - 20 mins Case study - up to 35 pages
Due Date	Practical demonstration – at mid-placement review Case study – final day of placement
Submission Method	Online Practical demonstration – Please submit your written rationale document via the course Canvas site. Case study - Please submit as a Word document (with a case study cover sheet signed by the placement supervisor) via the course Canvas site. Case Studies will be forwarded to relevant teaching staff for marking.
Assessment Criteria	Detailed information and guidance regarding the structure and content of these assessment items is available on the course Canvas site.
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	Online - Practical demonstration – feedback will be provided at the mid placement review. Case study - Within 3 weeks from when the marker receives the case study. The placement case study feedback will be returned to the student via Canvas.
Opportunity to Reattempt	Students WILL be given the opportunity to reattempt this assessment. Can be re-attempted

Assessment 2 - Placement supervisor's evaluation

Assessment Type	Professional Task
Purpose	This assessment allows the student to receive feedback from their supervisor regarding their performance on each of the competencies outlined in their placement learning agreement.
Description	Supervisors evaluation of clinical competence
Weighting	Pass/Fail
Compulsory Requirements	Pass Requirement - Students must pass this assessment item to pass the course.
Due Date	Within 2 weeks of the last day of placement
Submission Method	Online <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Both the supervisor and student must be registered at https://placementreview.net2. The student is responsible for creating the placement on the Placement Review website at the start of the placement.3. Supervisor completes the evaluations online at https://placementreview.net, timed to coincide with the mid and end placement reviews.4. A copy of the report is automatically sent to the Placement Coordinator once completed.
Assessment Criteria	This assessment is an essential criterion for the course. The learning outcomes and placement learning agreement inform the student and supervisor of clinical competencies to be assessed.
Return Method	In Person
Feedback Provided	In Person - Feedback provided to the student at the midpoint and end of placement.
Opportunity to Reattempt	Students WILL NOT be given the opportunity to reattempt this assessment. Students cannot repeat the placement

Assessment 3 - Review of placement

Assessment Type	Professional Task
Purpose	This assessment allows the student to demonstrate that the course objectives are satisfied and the requirements for accreditation and registration with the NSW Psychologists Registration Board are met.
Description	<p>This assessment is an essential criterion for the course. A pass grade is required in order to pass the overall course. Assessment of this course requires:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Completion of an agreed number of hours undertaken in a professional clinical setting under the direction of an approved placement supervisor.• Submission of a learning agreement• Submission of an adequately maintained placement log book under the direction of an approved placement supervisor.• Copies of completed mid and end placement reviews• Submission of a completed placement checklist <p>All placement documentation needs to be completed within the SONIA online placement system. Note: Students are strongly advised to keep copies of their placement documents for their own records</p>
Weighting	Pass/Fail
Compulsory Requirements	Pass Requirement - Students must pass this assessment item to pass the course.
Due Date	Within 2 weeks of the last day of placement
Submission Method	Online - All placement documentation is to be stored or completed within the SONIA online placement system.
Assessment Criteria	<p>Each of the components must be met in order to ensure that the course objectives are satisfied and the requirements for accreditation and registration with the NSW Psychologists Registration Board are met. Clinical competence "at or above the level expected for the stage of training", and the submission of an adequately maintained logbook, are a Compulsory Course Component in the assessment of placements. That is, it is not possible to pass a placement course unless these criteria have been met.</p> <p>Any ongoing concerns re student progress that cannot be dealt with as part of usual supervisory processes are referred to the Placement Coordinator and the Program Convenor.</p>
Return Method	In Person
Feedback Provided	In Person - Feedback provided to the student at the midpoint and end of placement.
Opportunity to Reattempt	Students WILL NOT be given the opportunity to reattempt this assessment. Students cannot repeat the placement

Assessment 4 - Students must demonstrate competency in all listed assessment items

Assessment Type	Demonstrated competency
Weighting	Pass/Fail

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Grading Scheme	<p>This course is graded as follows:</p> <table border="1"><thead><tr><th>Grade</th><th>Description</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Ungraded Pass (UP)</td><td>There are no marks associated with this result and you have met the level requirements to pass the course.</td></tr><tr><td>Fail (FF)</td><td>Failure to satisfactorily achieve assessment objectives or compulsory course requirements. A fail grade may also be awarded following disciplinary action.</td></tr></tbody></table>	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.
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.						
Attendance	<p>Attendance/participation will be recorded in the following components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Practicum (Method of recording: Adequately maintained log book and supervisors evaluation of clinical competence.)						
Placement Requirements	<p>This is a placement course covered by the Student Placement Policy. Refer to http://newcastle.edu.au/policy/000768.html for further information.</p>						

Communication Methods	Communication methods used in this course include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 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 of 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	<p>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:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. the assessment item is a major assessment item; or2. 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; or4. the course has a compulsory attendance requirement. <p>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</p>
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.

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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