



## 1. Staff

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Position	Name	Email	Consultation times and locations	Contact Details
Course Convenor	Dr Natalie Rogers	<a href="mailto:n.rogers@unsw.edu.au">n.rogers@unsw.edu.au</a>	Email to arrange a consult time	Email

## 2. Course information

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<b>Units of credit:</b>	6
<b>Pre-requisite(s):</b>	None
<b>Teaching times and locations:</b>	<a href="#">PSYC1023 Timetable</a>

### 2.1 Course summary

This course provides a contemporary overview of human mental disorders. It will address questions such as What is “abnormal”? What causes mental illness and how do we treat them? Each week, students will explore a different mental disorder (e.g. depression, anxiety, bipolar disorders, OCD) and discuss the symptoms, causes and treatment of these illnesses. Students will also learn about the scientific theories that link these factors (i.e. symptoms, causes, maintenance, treatment) as well as recent breakthroughs in our understanding and treatment of mental disorders.

This course is appropriate for students with and without a background in science and is taught entirely online through Moodle. The final exam will be held on Moodle during the official exam period.

### 2.2 Course aims

## 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 prW\*nBT/F1 10 Tf1 t0 Tf1 t0 Tf1 t0 Tf1 t4Qq0.0000



## **3. Strategies and approaches to learning**

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### **3.1 Learning and teaching activities**

This course is presented entirely online via the [Moodle](#) eLearning website. 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 understandi

## **3.2 Expectations of students**

It is expected that students are aware of UNSW Assessment and Plagiarism Policies, have read through and understand the contents of the School of Psychology Student Guide and understand how to apply for special consideration if they are unable to complete an assignment or exam due to illness or misadventure.

All students must read these documents. Following this, students are required to complete the Course Information Quiz to demonstrate their understanding of course administration information. Unlike the assessed exams, this quiz may be attempted open book. The quiz is untimed and may be attempted as many times as needed to score 100%. Successful completion will allow access to the course materials.

Updates and announcements will be made on the 'Announcements' forum on the Moodle page and/or by email. It is the student's responsibility to check Moodle and their student emails regularly to keep up to date.

The Moodle forums should be the first line of contact with the Course Coordinator (personal matters or matters related to equity provisions can, of course, be sent by email in the first instance). Due to the online nature of the course, under no circumstances are specific exam questions/answers to be

## **4. Course schedule and structure**

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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 4**

08/03/202

<b>Week 8</b> 05/04/2021	<b>Anxiety disorders</b> 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
<b>Week 9</b> 12/04/2021	<b>Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder</b> 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
<b>Week 10</b> 19/04/2021	<b>Substance use and abuse</b> 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



## 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).

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## 6. Academic integrity, referencing and plagiarism

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The APA (7<sup>th</sup> 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 APA style conventions. Students do not need to purchase a copy of the manual, it is available in the library or online.

**Referencing** is a way of acknowledging the sources of information that you use to research your assignments. You need to provide a reference whenever you draw on someone else's words, ideas or research. Not referencing other people's work can constitute plagiarism.

Further information about referencing styles can be located at <https://student.unsw.edu.au/referencing>

**Academic integrity** is fundamental to success at university. Academic integrity can be defined as a commitment to six fundamental values in academic pursuits: honesty, trust, fairness, respect, responsibility and courage.<sup>1</sup> At UNSW, this means that your work must be your own, and others' ideas should be appropriately acknowledged. If you don't follow these rules, plagiarism may be detected in your work.

Further information about academic integrity and **plagiarism** can be located at:

- < The *Current Students* site <https://student.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism>, and
- < The *ELISE* training site <http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise>

The *Conduct and Integrity Unit* provides further resources to assist you to understand your conduct obligations as a student: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/conduct>.

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<sup>1</sup> International Center for Academic Integrity, 'The Fundamental Values of Academic Integrity', T. Fishman (ed), Clemson University, 2013.

## 7. Readings and resources

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### Textbook

Custom eTextbook (preferred option):  
Gouldthorp, Bernstein, Roy, Cranney, Pooley. (2020).  
*PSYC1023: Abnormal Psychology. 1<sup>st</sup> edition*. Cengage  
Learning AUS.

To purchase from the UNSW Bookshop click here:  
<https://unswbookshop.vitalsource.com/products/-v9780170289535>

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