



COURSE OUTLINE

PSY757 Practicum Placement 4

Course Coordinator: Tamara De Regt (tderegt@usc.edu.au) **School:** School of Health and Behavioural Sciences

2021 | Semester 2

Thompson Institute

ON CAMPUS

Most of your course is on campus but you may be able to do some components of this course online.

Please go to the USC website for up to date information on the teaching sessions and campuses where this course is usually offered.

1. What is this course about?

1.1. Description

The USC postgraduate psychology programs are committed to maintaining the primacy of public safety in the delivery of the program within the education and placement environments. This course involves you continuing your practicum placements, working under supervision in a suitable psychological work setting where you will gain experience in the conduct of the psychological services provided at that location, for at least 250 hours. You are encouraged to choose a diverse range of placements so as to gain broad experience. There will also be weekly case conference around practicum issues.

1.2. How will this course be delivered?

ACTIVITY	HOURS	BEGINNING WEEK	FREQUENCY
ON CAMPUS			
Tutorial/Workshop 1 – On campus tutorial/workshop - 2 hours	2hrs	Week 1	13 times
Placement – Minimum 250 placement hours	250hrs	Week 1	Not Yet Determined

1.3. Course Topics

Case discussions and conferencing

Group therapy intervention

Professional Practice Competencies

2. What level is this course?

700 Level (Specialised)

Demonstrating a specialised body of knowledge and set of skills for professional practice or further learning. Advanced application of knowledge and skills in unfamiliar contexts.

3. What is the unit value of this course?

12 units

4. How does this course contribute to my learning?

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES		GRADUATE QUALITIES
On successful completion of this course, you should be able to...		Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to you becoming...
1	Demonstrate advanced practice and application of clinical psychological procedures in the workplace;	Engaged
2	Demonstrate advanced knowledge, practice and application of clinical psychological principals in the design and delivery of a simulated group therapy program	Knowledgeable Creative and critical thinker
3	Demonstrate advanced awareness of potential ethical and legal issues involved in psychological practice and the use of the APS Code of Ethics and its accompanying Guidelines, and other relevant sources, to resolve ethical questions.	Ethical

5. Am I eligible to enrol in this course?

Refer to the [USC Glossary of terms](#) for definitions of “pre-requisites, co-requisites and anti-requisites”.

5.1. Pre-requisites

PSY703 and PSY706 and PSY752 and enrolled in Program AR703.

5.2. Co-requisites

Not applicable

5.3. Anti-requisites

Not applicable

5.4. Specific assumed prior knowledge and skills (where applicable)

Not applicable

6. How am I going to be assessed?

6.1. Grading Scale

Limited Grading (PNP)

Pass (PU), Fail (UF). All assessment tasks are required to be passed for successful completion of the course.

6.2. Details of early feedback on progress

Timely and detailed feedback is provided for each assessment. Feedback is provided both within text and general comments to build scholarly skills. Students are able to seek feedback through face-to-face discussion with the course coordinator and placement supervisor. Workshops will include detailed discussion and review of assessment task requirements, scope and progress.

6.3. Assessment tasks

DELIVERY MODE	TASK NO.	ASSESSMENT PRODUCT	INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP	WHAT IS THE DURATION / LENGTH?	WHEN SHOULD I SUBMIT?	WHERE SHOULD I SUBMIT IT?
All	1	Oral	Individual	1.5 hours	Refer to Format	In Class
All	2	Written Piece	Individual	2000-3000 word equivalent	Refer to Format	Online Assignment Submission
All	3	Placement performance	Individual	Minimum 250 hours	Throughout teaching period (refer to Format)	To Supervisor
All	4	Portfolio	Individual	N/A	Refer to Format	Online Assignment Submission
All	5	Code of Conduct	Individual	N/A	Throughout teaching period (refer to Format)	To Supervisor

All - Assessment Task 1: Development and facilitation of a group therapeutic intervention

GOAL:	The topic for group facilitation will be advised by the Course Coordinator in Week 1. The class will plan a group program comprising one weekly session per class member. Each class member will then research, prepare and present a 1.5 hour group session, as part of the overall group program, incorporating class members as group participants. Students will provide an appropriate mix of psycho-education and skills work within the group and incorporate weekly homework for group participants to assist in skill development and generalisation.	
PRODUCT:	Oral	
FORMAT:	1.5 hours oral presentation	
CRITERIA:	No.	Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Ability to foster and manage group member participation and interaction to provide equitable opportunity for all group members, create a constructive learning environment, adhere to time-frame, maintain structure and cover the planned material. 2
	2	Effectiveness in delivery of psycho-education and skill/s development material. 2
	3	Ability to respond to questions of group members. 2
	4	Knowledge of the evidence base related to the skill and ability to communicate this to a non-expert audience. 2
	5	Ability to provide an appropriate homework task that reflects the skill/s being taught. 2

All - Assessment Task 2: Group therapy intervention written module

GOAL:	Each student will provide a written session module of the group program, which could be used by any group facilitator to run that session. It will include: - Session plan (including time allocated per section); - Session content material for facilitator (e.g. psycho-educational material for the group; description of, and materials for, group activities during the session); - Handout/s for the group participants; - Homework activity (and hand-out/s if appropriate); - Summary of background material from which the group session content material is derived, including a reference and recommended reading list for the facilitator - the summary will give the novice facilitator sufficient information of the module's subject area that he/she can knowledgeably run the session; - Recommended reading for group participants (can be a separate handout or incorporated in other material provided to participants).	
PRODUCT:	Written Piece	
FORMAT:	Written group module due on the same day as presentation.	
CRITERIA:	No.	Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Inclusion of materials listed above, presented in a way that could be used by any group facilitator to run that session. 2
	2	Session materials are clear and detailed, appropriate to the purpose of the session, evidence-based, written to professional standards. 2
	3	On completion of all group program sessions, each student's written session material will be shared so all students have the complete group program to take with them from the course. 2

All - Assessment Task 3: Field Supervisor's Report on supervised casework

GOAL:	To demonstrate competency with supervised casework in the external placement	
PRODUCT:	Placement performance	
FORMAT:	<p>Submit: Throughout semester and end of semester as required. Refer to Externship Manual.</p> <p>You are expected to engage in a variety of casework-related tasks including observing your supervisor or other psychologists working with clients, undertaking your own caseload under supervision, participating in case conferences and other relevant clinical meetings.</p> <p>Competency with supervised casework is formally reviewed by the field placement supervisor at mid-placement and at the end of the placement and a Practicum Review Form is completed by the field placement supervisor on both occasions.</p> <p>A Field Placement Supervisor's report will be provided to the University on completion of your externship. It is a report to the University regarding your performance in the agency.</p> <p>To achieve a pass in this assessment task your competency with supervised casework is formally reviewed by the Field Placement Supervisor at the mid-placement point and at the end of the placement. A Practicum Review Form is completed by the Field Placement Supervisor on both occasions (see Externship Manual for details). The Field Placement Supervisor provides a recommendation to the Course Coordinator and Placement Coordinator regarding your supervised casework, and your performance is assessed on a pass or fail basis.</p>	
CRITERIA:	No.	Learning Outcome assessed
	1 Knowledge of the Discipline.	1 3
	2 Ethical, legal and professional matters.	1 3
	3 Psychological Assessment and Measurement.	2 3
	4 Intervention Strategies.	1 2 3
	5 Research and Evaluation.	1
	6 Communication and Interpersonal Relationships.	1 2 3
	7 Working within a cross-cultural context (desirable).	1 2 3
	8 Practice across the lifespan (desirable).	1 3

All - Assessment Task 4: Professional practice portfolio

GOAL:	To catalogue the professional practice experience in the form of an experiential portfolio
PRODUCT:	Portfolio
FORMAT:	<p>Submit: End of placement.</p> <p>Electronic submission of a professional practice portfolio containing all the required practicum documentation, including materials collated and used whilst on placement, and the group therapy intervention presentation materials and the group therapy intervention written module. Refer to the Externship Manual for details of the portfolio requirements.</p>

CRITERIA:	No.	Learning Outcome assessed	
	1	Log Books (summary of hours, supervision log, client contact log, clinical activities log.	1
	2	Comprehensive Case Report.	1 3
	3	Signed copies of mid-, and end-placement review forms.	1 3
	4	Students evaluation of supervision.	1
	5	Reflective narrative.	1 3
	6	Signed copy of placement contract.	1

All - Assessment Task 5: Externship Code of Conduct

GOAL:	This task enables you to be familiar with the code of conduct for your discipline and work within its guidelines during a work integrated learning (WIL) experience.		
PRODUCT:	Code of Conduct		
FORMAT:	<p>Submit: Throughout the pre- and post-placement process, on campus and throughout the placement.</p> <p>During your WIL experience you are required to complete a minimum 250 hours of placement activity (minimum 120 client contact; minimum 20 supervision; minimum 110 client related activities) -undertaken for 2 to 2.5 days per week over 16 to 20 weeks. To be eligible to pass, you are required to complete the externship satisfactorily according to the criteria below. See Blackboard for discipline specific Code of Conduct.</p>		
CRITERIA:	No.		Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Adherence to the policies and procedures in the externship manual.	3
	2	Adherence to the policies and procedures of the placement organisation.	1 3
	3	Knowledge and behaviour as outlined in the APS Code of Ethics (2007) and Ethical Guidelines (Thirteenth Edition, 2016).	3
	4	Adherence to the USC's Student Conduct and Discipline – Governing Policy.	3
	5	Adherence to the USC Placement Contract.	3
	6	Completion of the 250 hours.	1 3

7. Directed study hours

A 12-unit course will have total of 150 learning hours which will include directed study hours (including online if required), self-directed learning and completion of assessable tasks. Directed study hours may vary by location. Student workload is calculated at 12.5 learning hours per one unit.

8. What resources do I need to undertake this course?

Please note: Course information, including specific information of recommended readings, learning activities, resources, weekly readings, etc. are available on the course Blackboard site– Please log in as soon as possible.

8.1. Prescribed text(s) or course reader

There are no required/recommended resources for this course.

8.2. Specific requirements

You are expected to attend all lectures. For any lectures that are missed you will need to demonstrate to your course coordinator that you have covered the required material. This will usually take the form of a detailed summary and reflection of the Directed Study Activities for the missed lecture.

9. How are risks managed in this course?

Health and safety risks for this course have been assessed as low. It is your responsibility to review course material, search online, discuss with lecturers and peers and understand the health and safety risks associated with your specific course of study and to familiarise yourself with the University's general health and safety principles by reviewing the [online induction training for students](#), and following the instructions of the University staff.

10. What administrative information is relevant to this course?

10.1. Assessment: Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the ethical standard of university participation. It ensures that students graduate as a result of proving they are competent in their discipline. This is integral in maintaining the value of academic qualifications. Each industry has expectations and standards of the skills and knowledge within that discipline and these are reflected in assessment.

Academic integrity means that you do not engage in any activity that is considered to be academic fraud; including plagiarism, collusion or outsourcing any part of any assessment item to any other person. You are expected to be honest and ethical by completing all work yourself and indicating in your work which ideas and information were developed by you and which were taken from others. You cannot provide your assessment work to others. You are also expected to provide evidence of wide and critical reading, usually by using appropriate academic references.

In order to minimise incidents of academic fraud, this course may require that some of its assessment tasks, when submitted to Blackboard, are electronically checked through SafeAssign. This software allows for text comparisons to be made between your submitted assessment item and all other work that SafeAssign has access to.

10.2. Assessment: Additional Requirements

This course will be graded as Pass in a Limited Grade Course (PU) or Fail in a Limited Grade Course (UF) as per clause 4.1.3 and 4.1.4 of the Grades and Grade Point Average (GPA) - Institutional Operating Policy of the USC.

In a course eligible to use Limited Grades, all assessment items in that course are marked on a Pass/Fail basis and all assessment tasks are required to be passed for a student to successfully complete the course. Supplementary assessment is not available in courses using Limited Grades.

10.3. Assessment: Submission penalties

You must contact your Course Coordinator and provide the required documentation if you require an extension or alternate assessment.

10.4. Study help

For help with course-specific advice, for example what information to include in your assessment, you should first contact your tutor, then your course coordinator, if needed.

If you require additional assistance, the Learning Advisers are trained professionals who are ready to help you develop a wide range of academic skills. Visit the [Learning Advisers](#) web page for more information, or contact Student Central for further assistance: +61 7 5430 2890 or studentcentral@usc.edu.au.

10.5. Wellbeing Services

Student Wellbeing provide free and confidential counselling on a wide range of personal, academic, social and psychological matters, to foster positive mental health and wellbeing for your academic success.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 1226.

10.6. AccessAbility Services

Ability Advisers ensure equal access to all aspects of university life. If your studies are affected by a disability, learning disorder mental health issue, injury or illness, or you are a primary carer for someone with a disability or who is considered frail and aged, [AccessAbility Services](#) can provide access to appropriate reasonable adjustments and practical advice about the support and facilities available to you throughout the University.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email AccessAbility@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 2890.

10.7. Links to relevant University policy and procedures

For more information on Academic Learning & Teaching categories including:

- Assessment: Courses and Coursework Programs
- Review of Assessment and Final Grades
- Supplementary Assessment
- Administration of Central Examinations
- Deferred Examinations
- Student Academic Misconduct
- Students with a Disability

Visit the USC website: <http://www.usc.edu.au/explore/policies-and-procedures#academic-learning-and-teaching>

10.8. General Enquiries

In person:

- **USC Sunshine Coast** - Student Central, Ground Floor, Building C, 90 Sippy Downs Drive, Sippy Downs
- **USC Moreton Bay** - Service Centre, Ground Floor, Foundation Building, Gympie Road, Petrie
- **USC SouthBank** - Student Central, Building A4 (SW1), 52 Merivale Street, South Brisbane
- **USC Gympie** - Student Central, 71 Cartwright Road, Gympie
- **USC Fraser Coast** - Student Central, Student Central, Building A, 161 Old Maryborough Rd, Hervey Bay
- **USC Caboolture** - Student Central, Level 1 Building J, Cnr Manley and Tallon Street, Caboolture

Tel: +61 7 5430 2890

Email: studentcentral@usc.edu.au