

Course Title: **Psychological Assessment and Diagnosis**

Course Code: **PSYC809**

Descriptor Start Date: **01/03/2021**

Descriptor End Date: **31/12/2025**

POINTS: **15.00**

LEVEL: **8**

PREREQUISITE/S:

COREQUISITE/S:

RESTRICTION/S:

LEARNING HOURS

Hours may include lectures, tutorials, online forums, laboratories. Refer to your timetable and course information in Canvas for detailed information.

Total learning hours: 150

PRESCRIPTOR

Describes and critiques approaches to assessment (tools and strategies) used by psychologists. Locates identification and understanding of psychopathology within the context of a client's development and their culture. Considers specific assessment strategies appropriate for use with Māori and multi-cultural contexts. Emphasises the identification of risk and resilience factors in the assessment process.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Demonstrate knowledge of diagnostic criteria, epidemiology, aetiology and treatment of mental health difficulties.
2. Critically evaluate the impact of social-cultural factors in assessment, diagnosis and treatment, particularly with respect to Māori populations.
3. Critically evaluate assessment strategies for different psychological issues and contexts.
4. Critically evaluate risk and resilience factors in the assessment process.
5. Present work at the appropriate academic standard.

Disclaimer: Course descriptors may be amended between teaching periods/semesters

CONTENT

- DSM and other relevant mental health issues
- Differential diagnosis and purpose of diagnosis
- A developmental approach to psychopathology
- Purpose of psychological assessment
- Structured and unstructured clinical interviews
- Psychological testing including personality testing, intellectual assessment, tests for specific mental health issues, and diagnostic indicators and manifestations of major psychiatric diagnoses on a range of tests
- Validity and reliability of psychological tests
- Risk and resilience assessment
- Integration of information from various assessment sources into comprehensive report/ case formulation
- Influence of socio-cultural factors on assessment and diagnosis
- Assessment and diagnosis in the context of Maori culture and other New Zealand cultural groups

LEARNING & TEACHING STRATEGIES

The emphasis will be on the development of grounded knowledge of mental health issues/psychological distress and strategies to diagnose and assess these through use of interviewing strategies and psychological tests. Key concepts and principles will be presented through lectures, facilitated class discussion, the review of case studies, and role-play situations.

ASSESSMENT PLAN

Assessment Event	Learning Outcomes
Written assessment (2500 words)	LO1, LO2, LO4, LO5
Written assessment (2500 words)	LO1, LO2, LO3, LO4, LO5

Grade Map	MAP1A
	A+ A A- Pass with Distinction
	B+ B B- Pass with Merit
	C+ C C- Pass
	D Fail

Overall requirement/s to pass the course:

Students must achieve all learning outcomes in order to pass this course.

LEARNING RESOURCES

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For further information, contact: Te Ara Hauora A Putaiao - Faculty of Health & Environmental Science

Principal Programme:	AK3485, Master of Health Science
Related Programme/s:	AK3485 Master of Health Science AK3485 Master of Health Science in Psychology

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