

Course Title: **Introduction to Psychological Assessment**

Course Code: **PSYC820**

Descriptor Start Date: **02/01/2026**

Descriptor End Date: **12/07/2026**

POINTS: **15.00**

LEVEL: **8**

PREREQUISITE/S:

COREQUISITE/S:

RESTRICTION/S:

## LEARNING HOURS

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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

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Develop knowledge and skills required to undertake a psychological assessment.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

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1. Critically evaluate different theoretical approaches to psychological assessment.
2. Critically analyse the functions and limitations of psychological assessment across theoretical approaches.
3. Critically discuss the role of bicultural practice, diversity and culture in the process of psychological assessment.
4. Critically analyse ethical issues related to psychological assessment.

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

## CONTENT

- Common approaches to psychological assessment for example:
  - Structured clinical interviewing
  - Psychometric testing
  - Gathering of collateral information
  - Functional behavioural analysis
- The impact of culture on the psychological assessment process
- Ethical considerations in the psychological assessment process
- Integration and triangulation of information, collaborative formulation, communication of psychological findings

## LEARNING & TEACHING STRATEGIES

The emphasis will be on developing critical analytic skills and to use these to determine good psychological practice. Key concepts and principles will be presented and students will be expected to analyse and critique these within an understanding of broader social context of Aotearoa/New Zealand. Students will be expected to read extensively in preparation for seminars, to present their own work to the class and to participate in class discussions. Hours may include lectures, tutorials, online forums, laboratories focusing on psychological assessment including small group work and role plays. All in-class learning activities must be undertaken to be successful in this course.

## ASSESSMENT PLAN

Assessment Event	Weighting %	Learning Outcomes
Test (2 hours)	50.00	LO1, LO2, LO3, LO4
Written Assessment (2,500 words)	50.00	LO1, LO2, LO3, LO4

<b>Grade Map</b>	<b>MAP1</b>
	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 an overall average grade of at least C- across all summative assessments to pass this course.

## LEARNING RESOURCES

Please refer to the additional information for a list of the recommended readings or resources.

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

Principal Programme:	<b>AK3662, Bachelor of Health Science (Honours)</b>
Related Programme/s:	<b>AK3485 Master of Health Science</b> <b>AK3662 Bachelor of Health Science (Honours)</b>

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