

# PSY100 Introduction to Psychology A

**School:** School of Health - Psychology

2024 | Semester 1

UniSC Sunshine Coast  
UniSC Moreton Bay

**BLENDED  
LEARNING**

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

Online

**ONLINE**

You can do this course without coming onto campus.

*Please go to [usc.edu.au](http://usc.edu.au) 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

This course provides an introduction to the social and cultural dimensions of human behaviour and mental processes, and their development. These are examined in relation to cognitive development, social development, social behaviour, personality, motivation, emotion, health and wellness, and intercultural and Indigenous cultural influences. The course also presents an introduction to methods of psychological research outside of the laboratory.

### 1.2. How will this course be delivered?

ACTIVITY	HOURS	BEGINNING WEEK	FREQUENCY
<b>BLENDED LEARNING</b>			
<b>Learning materials</b> – 1 hour learning materials to review on Canvas in student own time	1hr	Week 1	13 times
<b>Tutorial/Workshop 1</b> – On campus workshop - 2 hours workshops	2hrs	Week 1	13 times
<b>Seminar</b> – Refer to CANVAS for details	1hr	Week 1	2 times
<b>ONLINE</b>			
<b>Learning materials</b> – 1 hour learning material to review on Canvas in student own time	1hr	Week 1	13 times
<b>Tutorial/Workshop 1</b> – A weekly synchronous 2-hour online workshop	2hrs	Week 1	13 times
<b>Seminar</b> – Refer to CANVAS for details	1hr	Week 1	2 times

1.3. Course Topics

- Science and pseudoscience in psychology
- Research methods
- Personality
- Emotion and Motivation
- Human Development
- Social Psychology
- Health Psychology
- Cross-cultural Psychology

2. What level is this course?

100 Level (Introductory)

Engaging with discipline knowledge and skills at foundational level, broad application of knowledge and skills in familiar contexts and with support. Limited or no prerequisites. Normally, associated with the first full-time study year of an undergraduate program.

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 MAPPING	PROFESSIONAL STANDARD MAPPING *
On successful completion of this course, you should be able to...	Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to you becoming...	Australian Psychology Accreditation Council
1 Remember, comprehend, apply, review, and explain the terminology, topics, issues, and theories of psychology.	Knowledgeable Creative and critical thinker Empowered Engaged	1, 1.1.1, 1.1.10, 1.1.12, 1.1.2, 1.1.3, 1.1.7, 1.1.9, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6
2 Critically review empirical literature on a psychology topic and prepare a critical essay, that includes clear and concise academic writing and the appropriate use of APA formatting requirements.	Knowledgeable Creative and critical thinker Engaged	1.2, 1.3, 1.6
3 Use the scientific method to critically analyse information and develop knowledge about research designs.	Knowledgeable Creative and critical thinker Empowered	1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6
4 Participate in and identify different types of psychological research designs and methodologies used in psychological research.	Empowered Ethical Engaged	1.6

\* Competencies by Professional Body

CODE	COMPETENCY
AUSTRALIAN PSYCHOLOGY ACCREDITATION COUNCIL	
1	FOUNDATIONAL COMPETENCIES: Graduates at this level have broad and coherent knowledge and skills in the scientific discipline of psychology. Programs for foundational competencies typically comprise an APAC-accredited sequence in psychology either as part of a 3-year program leading to a Bachelor Degree or as an equivalent stand-alone sequence of psychology units combined with a Bachelor Degree in a different discipline.
1.1.1	Graduates will be able to comprehend and apply a broad and coherent body of knowledge of psychology, with depth of understanding of underlying principles, theories and concepts in the discipline, using a scientific approach, including the history and philosophy underpinning the science of psychology and the social, cultural, historical and professional influences on the practice of psychology

CODE	COMPETENCY
1.1.10	Graduates will be able to comprehend and apply a broad and coherent body of knowledge of psychology, with depth of understanding of underlying principles, theories and concepts in the discipline, using a scientific approach, including social psychology
1.1.12	Graduates will be able to comprehend and apply a broad and coherent body of knowledge of psychology, with depth of understanding of underlying principles, theories and concepts in the discipline, using a scientific approach, including research methods and statistics
1.1.2	Graduates will be able to comprehend and apply a broad and coherent body of knowledge of psychology, with depth of understanding of underlying principles, theories and concepts in the discipline, using a scientific approach, including individual differences in capacity, behaviour and personality
1.1.3	Graduates will be able to comprehend and apply a broad and coherent body of knowledge of psychology, with depth of understanding of underlying principles, theories and concepts in the discipline, using a scientific approach, including psychological health and well-being
1.1.7	Graduates will be able to comprehend and apply a broad and coherent body of knowledge of psychology, with depth of understanding of underlying principles, theories and concepts in the discipline, using a scientific approach, including motivation and emotion
1.1.9	Graduates will be able to comprehend and apply a broad and coherent body of knowledge of psychology, with depth of understanding of underlying principles, theories and concepts in the discipline, using a scientific approach, including lifespan developmental psychology
1.1	Graduates will be able to comprehend and apply a broad and coherent body of knowledge of psychology, with depth of understanding of underlying principles, theories and concepts in the discipline, using a scientific approach, including the following topics:
1.2	Graduates will be able to apply knowledge and skills of psychology in a manner that is reflexive, culturally appropriate and sensitive to the diversity of individuals.
1.3	Graduates will be able to analyse and critique theory and research in the discipline of psychology and communicate these in written and oral formats.
1.4	Graduates will be able to demonstrate an understanding of appropriate values and ethics in psychology.
1.5	Graduates will be able to demonstrate interpersonal skills and teamwork.
1.6	Graduates will be able to demonstrate self-directed pursuit of scholarly inquiry in psychology.

## 5. Am I eligible to enrol in this course?

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

### 5.1. Pre-requisites

Not applicable

### 5.2. Co-requisites

Not applicable

### 5.3. Anti-requisites

SCS101

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

Not applicable

## 6. How am I going to be assessed?

### 6.1. Grading Scale

Standard Grading (GRD)

High Distinction (HD), Distinction (DN), Credit (CR), Pass (PS), Fail (FL).

6.2. Details of early feedback on progress

Students will undertake early formative quizzes before week 4 and a peer reviewed article summary in Week. These formative assessments will not be included in the final mark, but will help students prepare for the weighted assessment tasks that will contribute to their final grade.

6.3. Assessment tasks

DELIVERY MODE	TASK NO.	ASSESSMENT PRODUCT	INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP	WEIGHTING %	WHAT IS THE DURATION / LENGTH?	WHEN SHOULD I SUBMIT?	WHERE SHOULD I SUBMIT IT?
All	1	Quiz/zes	Individual	30%	Refer to Canvas.	Throughout teaching period (refer to Format)	Online Test (Quiz)
All	2	Oral	Group	25%	Refer to Canvas.	Week 6	Online Submission
All	3	Essay	Individual	40%	1500 words  A more detailed outline of the requirements of this assessment item will be provided on Canvas.	Week 12	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check
All	4	Activity Participation	Individual	5%	Approximately 2.5 hours  More information will be available on Canvas.	Week 13	To be Negotiated

All - Assessment Task 1: Task 1 Multiple Choice Quizzes

GOAL:	The aim of the Multiple Choice Quizzes is for students to develop an understanding of the course content, to apply the knowledge of the course content, and to demonstrate their understanding of this knowledge.		
PRODUCT:	Quiz/zes		
FORMAT:	<p>SUBMIT:</p> <p>This assessment task requires you to complete a series of multiple-choice questions (via Canvas) on the content covered in this course.</p> <p>A more detailed outline of the requirements of this assessment item (as well as the start and closing times for each online assessment) will be provided on Canvas.</p>		
CRITERIA:	<b>No.</b>		<b>Learning Outcome assessed</b>
	1	Accuracy and correctness of response.	1
GENERIC SKILLS:	Problem solving, Applying technologies, Information literacy		

#### All - Assessment Task 2: Task 2 Group Presentation

<b>GOAL:</b>	To create a group presentation on a given psychological topic.		
<b>PRODUCT:</b>	Oral		
<b>FORMAT:</b>	Refer to Canvas.		
<b>CRITERIA:</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Learning Outcome assessed</b>	
	1	Ability to summarise and synthesis research article in an oral group presentation.	1 3
<b>GENERIC SKILLS:</b>	Communication, Collaboration, Problem solving, Organisation, Applying technologies, Information literacy		

#### All - Assessment Task 3: Task 3 Essay

<b>GOAL:</b>	The goals of this task are for you to communicate your understanding of psychological research and theory to correctly write and format a psychology essay on a given topic within psychology.  More information will be available on Canvas.		
<b>PRODUCT:</b>	Essay		
<b>FORMAT:</b>	You will be given a topic within psychology and need to find relevant research and critically review the research in a manner that is appropriate for the psychology discipline.  A more detailed outline of the requirements of this assessment item will be provided on Canvas.		
<b>CRITERIA:</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Learning Outcome assessed</b>	
	1	Ability to summarise and synthesise research literature in an argumentative (persuasive) essay.	2 3
<b>GENERIC SKILLS:</b>	Communication, Problem solving, Organisation, Information literacy		

#### All - Assessment Task 4: Task 4 Research Participation

<b>GOAL:</b>	The goal of this task is for you to gain experience in psychological research by participating in real and/or mock research projects.  More information will be available on Canvas.		
<b>PRODUCT:</b>	Activity Participation		
<b>FORMAT:</b>	You are invited to participate in selected research projects on offer by the psychology team (including research conducted by Honours, Masters, and PhD students). This task gives you the opportunity to familiarise yourself, and receive 'hands on' experience, with the conduct of psychological research.  More information will be provided on Canvas.		
<b>CRITERIA:</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Learning Outcome assessed</b>	
	1	Participation in research.	4
<b>GENERIC SKILLS:</b>	Information literacy		

## 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. 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 Canvas 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

Nil

## 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 Canvas, are electronically checked through Turnitin. This software allows for text comparisons to be made between your submitted assessment item and all other work to which Turnitin has access.

### 10.2. Assessment: Additional Requirements

Your eligibility for supplementary assessment in a course is dependent of the following conditions applying:

The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4%

The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale

You have not failed an assessment task in the course due to academic misconduct.

### 10.3. Assessment: Submission penalties

Late submission of assessment tasks may be penalised at the following maximum rate:

- 5% (of the assessment task's identified value) per day for the first two days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.

- 10% (of the assessment task's identified value) for the third day - 20% (of the assessment task's identified value) for the fourth day and subsequent days up to and including seven days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.

- A result of zero is awarded for an assessment task submitted after seven days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task. Weekdays and weekends are included in the calculation of days late. To request an extension you must contact your course coordinator to negotiate an outcome.

### 10.4. SafeUniSC

UniSC is committed to a culture of respect and providing a safe and supportive environment for all members of our community. For immediate assistance on campus contact SafeUniSC by phone: [07 5430 1168](tel:0754301168) or using the [SafeZone](#) app. For general enquires contact the SafeUniSC team by phone [07 5456 3864](tel:0754563864) or email [safe@usc.edu.au](mailto:safe@usc.edu.au).

The SafeUniSC Specialist Service is a Student Wellbeing service that provides free and confidential support to students who may have experienced or observed behaviour that could cause fear, offence or trauma. To contact the service call [07 5430 1226](tel:0754301226) or email [studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au](mailto:studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au).

## 10.5. 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](mailto:studentcentral@usc.edu.au).

## 10.6. 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](mailto:studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au) or call 07 5430 1226.

## 10.7. 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](mailto:AccessAbility@usc.edu.au) or call 07 5430 2890.

## 10.8. 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
- Central Examinations
- Deferred Examinations
- Student Conduct
- Students with a Disability

For more information, visit <https://www.usc.edu.au/explore/policies-and-procedures#academic-learning-and-teaching>

## 10.9. Student Charter

UniSC is committed to excellence in teaching, research and engagement in an environment that is inclusive, inspiring, safe and respectful. The [Student Charter](#) sets out what students can expect from the University, and what in turn is expected of students, to achieve these outcomes.

## 10.10. General Enquiries

### In person:

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

**Tel:** +61 7 5430 2890

**Email:** [studentcentral@usc.edu.au](mailto:studentcentral@usc.edu.au)