

Course Descriptions

PSYC7001 Ethical Issues in Psychology

The course focuses on issues related to professional development and ethical practice, particularly as they apply to the practice of clinical psychology. The professional development component underscores the importance of self-care and post-qualification learning throughout one's career to maintain competence. Ethical issues with regard to case reports, legal procedures, and mental health care in a gambling and addiction dominated society, etc. will be discussed in seminar format in order to develop candidates' ethical acculturation in the field of psychology.

PSYC7006 Psychopharmacology

General principles of psychopharmacology, an overview of neurochemistry and understanding of the use of psychoactive drugs are discussed. The focus is on the use of psychopharmacological agents in psychotherapy and their phenomenology.

PSYC7007 Psychotherapy: Humanistic Therapy

In this course, the development, principles, conceptual models, applications and limitations of major humanistic counseling and therapy approaches are investigated for working with people in contexts of individual and group interventions. Current research and case conceptualization models from humanistic and person-centered therapy perspectives will be discussed. The lab segment of this course focuses on foundational principles, processes, and skills involved in working with clients from a humanistic, person-centered perspective. Candidates will participate in class format training that is skill-based, interactive and focused on experiential learning.

PSYC7008 Psychotherapy: Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy

In this course, the development, principles, conceptual models, applications and limitations of behavioral and cognitive behavior therapies are investigated for working with various age groups and specialized clinical populations. Current research and related case conceptualization models will be discussed. The lab segment of this course focuses on an orientation to the principles, processes and practice of cognitive behavioral therapy psychological intervention as related to particular client groups such as children, adolescents, adults and those with particular disorders. Candidates will participate in class format training that is skill-based, interactive and focused on experiential learning.

PSYC7009 Psychotherapy: Family Therapy

In this course, the development, principles, conceptual models, applications and limitations of major psychotherapy theories are investigated for working with families. Current research and related case conceptualization models will be discussed. The lab segment of this course focuses on an orientation to the principles, processes and practice of psychological intervention as related to working with families. Candidates will participate in class format training that is skill-based, interactive and focused on experiential learning.

PSYC7010 Psychotherapy: Psychoanalysis Therapy

In this course, the development, principles, conceptual models, applications and limitations of psychoanalysis and psychodynamic psychotherapy intervention will be covered in addition to their application in working with various client populations. Current research and related case conceptualization models will be discussed. The lab segment of this course focuses on an orientation to the principles, processes and practice of these treatments to varied groups. Candidates will participate in class format training that is skill-based, interactive and focused on experiential learning.

PSYC7701 Psychological Assessment: Neuropsychology

This course introduces students at the master level to the principles and practice of psychological and neuropsychological assessment, covering childhood and adulthood. Current trends in the theoretical understanding of personality, psychopathology and cognitive ability will provide the conceptual basis assessment practice. The assessments will be understood through all aspects of the clinical encounter which lead to diagnostic case formulation. In particular, this course will address the application of techniques derived from psychological science to enhance correct classification of psychological conditions.

PSYC7702 Psychological Assessment: Cognitive Abilities

The course explores the theory and techniques of assessment for intervention purposes including the administration, scoring and understanding of cognitive and intellectual psychological tests, interview-based assessments of mental status, and other achievement and special assessment tools. Research, ethics, and clinical implications of cognitive and achievement assessment will be covered, as well as writing appropriate reports. Practical experience administering instruments will be done under supervision.

PSYC7703 Psychological Assessment: Personality/Emotion

The course examines theory and techniques of assessment for intervention purposes as well as the administration, scoring, and understanding of major personality instruments in clinical practice. Related interview-based assessments (e.g., intake, clinical history, diagnostic interviews) will also be considered. Research, ethics and clinical implications of assessing symptomatic behaviours, personality patterns and clinical issues will be presented including objective and projective techniques. The practice of evaluation strategies will be conducted under supervision. Candidates will be guided in the selection of instruments appropriate for personality/diagnostic assessment and report writing based on the integration of varied assessment data.

PSYC7704 Research Methods in Psychology

This course trains students to conduct and consume research in psychology. The training includes basic methodology and statistics involved in experimental and correlational research. Analysis of variance (ANOVA) as the analytical tool and experimental design as the methodological architecture for conducting experiment and quasi-experiment will be introduced. Correlation and regression will be introduced as the main analytical framework for non-experimental or correlational research together with discussions on methodological and research validity issues involved in correlational studies.

PSYC7705 Psychopathology

The course involves an investigation of dysfunctional behaviour in children and adults including a discussion of contexts. Candidates are trained towards an understanding of human actions that exceed the boundaries of culturally and socially accepted behaviour. Behaviours usually defined as normal/abnormal are critically discussed and studied from various paradigms, as well as the genetic and neurological processes will be examined. The focus of the course will be on the DSM and ICD

PSYC7706 Neuropsychology

This course aims to provide a general introduction to the theory and practice of clinical neuropsychology. The course focuses on neurological disorders (e.g., dementia, epilepsy, and traumatic brain injury), neuropsychological disorders (e.g., aphasia, amnesia), psychiatric disorders (e.g., depression) and behavioural syndromes (e.g., autism). The content will be taught through the following parts: (1) advanced issues in neuropsychological testing in professional settings; (2) principles of clinical interaction, including interviewing and history-taking; (3) diagnostic formulation; and (4) report writing.

PSYC7707 Health Psychology

The course provides an overview of major content areas in health psychology including stress and coping, principles of positive psychology, health and wellness of the person in context, and psychological influences on chronic illnesses. Consideration of cross-cultural psychology and critical perspectives such as systems theory and issues related to minorities in the community are also considered. Candidates will learn to develop, implement, and evaluate individual, group and societal intervention programs (e.g., life skills programs), and program evaluation for primary preventive interventions within a variety of contexts.

PSYC7709 Selected Topics in Human Development and Mental Health

This advanced course will provide in-depth coverage on a specialized content area related to clinical psychology and mental health. Students will gain knowledge about associated theory, research, current assessment and intervention approaches as well as information on relevance to practice within the context of Macao. Topics will vary depending on staff expertise and availability

PSYC7710 Advances and Trends in Clinical Psychology

The aim of this course is to inform students of the state of the art of a particular area of psychological knowledge, research, and development that is related to the clinical and counseling profession. Some of the areas include neuro-cognitive approach and techniques (e.g., brain imaging and neuro network analysis) of mental health and treatment, evolutionary psychology and psychopathology and adaptation and fitness views about human health and development, cultural and cross-cultural perspectives on the theories and practice related to the counseling and clinical profession, and other areas of scientific development in psychology. The course will focus on in-depth analysis and evaluation of the issues, advances, and trends of the development at the time of an area of psychology.

PSYC7711 Clinical Practicum & Supervision I

Clinical Practicum I is a supervised field placement in an approved training site for clinical practice and learning. Performances and professional development will be monitored and evaluated. The minimum number of hours to document for this field placement is 334 hours. Candidates will participate in weekly individual and group supervision as scheduled for case consultation and professional development.

PSYC7712 Clinical Practicum & Supervision II

Clinical Practicum II is a supervised field placement in an approved training site for clinical practice and learning. Performances and professional development will be monitored and evaluated. The minimum number of hours to document for this field placement is 334 hours. Candidates will participate in weekly individual and group supervision as scheduled for case consultation and professional development.

PSYC7713 Clinical Practicum & Supervision III

Clinical Practicum III is a supervised field placement in an approved training site for clinical practice and learning. Performances and professional development will be monitored and evaluated. The minimum number of hours to document for this field placement is 334 hours. Candidates will participate in weekly individual and group supervision as scheduled for case consultation and professional development.

PSYC7999 Thesis

Students will propose and develop a psychology research project, conduct the planned study, perform the necessary analysis, and write up the thesis of the research project. Completion of the thesis also includes a public defense. The thesis will be supervised by a professor in the department of psychology. The student will be evaluated for demonstrated ability to conduct independent research in psychology.