



## COURSE OUTLINE

# PSY100 Introduction to Psychology A

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2021 | Semester 1

USC Sunshine Coast  
USC Moreton Bay

**ON CAMPUS**

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

Online

**ONLINE 1**

You can do this course without coming onto campus.

*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

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>ON CAMPUS</b>   |       |                |           |
| <b>Tutorial/Workshop</b> – On campus workshop - 2 hours                            | 2hrs  | Week 1         | 13 times  |
| <b>Online</b> – 1 hour online material to review on blackboard in student own time | 1hr   | Week 1         | 13 times  |
| <b>ONLINE 1</b>  |       |                |           |
| <b>Tutorial/Workshop</b> – A weekly 2-hour online workshop                         | 2hrs  | Week 1         | 13 times  |
| <b>Online</b> – 1 hour online material to review on blackboard in student own time | 1hr   | Week 1         | 13 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   |
|--|--|
| On successful completion of this course, you should be able to...                  | Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to you becoming... |
| 1 Understand concepts, theories, and research relating to the study of psychology. | Knowledgeable  |
| 2 Comprehend and evaluate the scientific method and methodological issues.         | Knowledgeable<br>Creative and critical thinker                         |
| 3 Critically evaluate concepts, theories, and research conducted in psychology.    | Creative and critical thinker  |

## 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

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

A quiz in week 1 and peer reviewed article summary in Week 4 will be used to provide early formative feedback on the understanding of course content. These formative assessments will not be included in the final mark, but will help you prepare for the weighted assessment tasks that will contribute to your 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          | 20%         | 4 x online quizzes             | Refer to Format       | Online Test (Quiz)           |
| All           | 2        | Essay                             | Individual          | 35%         | 1500 words                     | Week 10               | Online Assignment Submission |
| All           | 3        | Activity Participation            | Individual          | 5%          | Approximately 2.5 hours        | Week 13               | In Class                     |
| All           | 4        | Examination - Centrally Scheduled | Individual          | 40%         | 2 hours                        | Exam Period           | Exam Venue                   |

### All - Assessment Task 1: Quiz/zes

|                  |  |   |                                  |
|------------------|--|---|----------------------------------|
| <b>GOAL:</b>     | The goal of this assessment task is to familiarise you with the types of multiple choice questions that you will be asked in the final exam, to apply the knowledge of the course content, and to demonstrate your understanding of this knowledge.  |   |                                  |
| <b>PRODUCT:</b>  | Quiz/zes   |   |                                  |
| <b>FORMAT:</b>   | <p>SUBMIT: Weeks 4, 7, 10 and 13</p> <p>This assessment task requires you to complete a series of multiple-choice questions (via Blackboard) 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 Blackboard.</p> |   |                                  |
| <b>CRITERIA:</b> | <b>No.</b>   |   | <b>Learning Outcome assessed</b> |
|                  | 1  | Accuracy and correctness of response                            |                                  |
|                  | 2  | Assessment criteria are mapped to the course learning outcomes. | 1 2 3                            |

### All - Assessment Task 2: Essay

|                  |   |  |                                  |
|------------------|---|--|----------------------------------|
| <b>GOAL:</b>     | In this assessment task, you will be asked to write an essay on a given topic within psychology.  |  |                                  |
| <b>PRODUCT:</b>  | Essay   |  |                                  |
| <b>FORMAT:</b>   | <p>You will be given a set topic within psychology and need to find relevant research and critically review the research in a manner that is appropriate for the psychology discipline.</p> <p>A more detailed outline of the requirements of this assessment will be provided on Blackboard.</p> |  |                                  |
| <b>CRITERIA:</b> | <b>No.</b>  |  | <b>Learning Outcome assessed</b> |
|                  | 1   | Details of the criteria and rubric will be provided on Blackboard in Week 1. |                                  |

### All - Assessment Task 3: 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, as advertised on Take Part.   |                                  |
| <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. In particular, it will provide insight into how research is conducted in order to prepare you for further study or a career as a researcher. A total of 5% credit can be gained. Most projects will be worth 1% but some projects which involve a greater time commitment may be worth more. The % associated with each project will be clearly indicated. Research projects are advertised through the online research participation platform, TakePart ( <a href="http://www.usc.edu.au/takepart">http://www.usc.edu.au/takepart</a> ) and more information will be provided on Blackboard to show how to register and select appropriate projects. Please note that only selected projects as shown are eligible for credit. A variety of 'mock' projects will also be available for completion, in case you have any objections to the use of your data in the research projects. |                                  |
| <b>CRITERIA:</b> | <b>No.</b>  | <b>Learning Outcome assessed</b> |
|                  | 1   | Participation in research.       |

### All - Assessment Task 4: Examination

|                  |  |  |
|------------------|--|--|
| <b>GOAL:</b>     |  |  |
| <b>PRODUCT:</b>  | Examination - Centrally Scheduled  |  |
| <b>FORMAT:</b>   | The end of semester examination will consist of 100 multiple-choice questions. |  |
| <b>CRITERIA:</b> | <b>No.</b>   | <b>Learning Outcome assessed</b>       |
|                  | 1  | Accuracy and correctness of responses. |

## 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

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 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

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. 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).

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