

# **PSYC1111**

# MEASURING MIND AND BEHAVIOUR

SEMESTER 2, 2017

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1. Information about the Course				
FACULTY	Science			
SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENT	Psychology			
COURSE CODE	Measuring Mind and	Behaviour		
COURSE NAME				
SEMESTER	Semester 2	YEAR	2017	
UNITS OF CREDIT	6	LEVEL OF COURSE	2	
ASSUMED KNOWLEDGE, PREREQUISITES OR CO-REQUISITES	HSC maths, any level			
SUMMARY OF THE COURSE	This course provides students with knowledge of the characteristics of the scientific approach in general, and experimental methodology, design and data analysis in psychology in particular. It provides a comprehensive foundation in critical thinking, enabling students to design and plan research, conduct basic statistical analysis, scrutinise and critically evaluate published research, discriminate between evidence-based information and pseudoscience, and effectively communicate statistical and research data in variety of formats and contexts. A significant amount of the course content will be delivered online via Moodle (https://student.unsw.edu.au/moodle), allowing students to interact with course material and assess their knowledge at their own pace.			

	1						
2. Staff Involved in the Course							
COURSE COORDINA	TOR						
Name	Phone	En	Email		Contact Time & Availability		
Kathryn Hutton-Bedbrook	9385 2772	kate@unsw.edu	.au	Mathews, 915	By appointment		
LECTURERS							
Name	Phone	En	Email		Contact Time & Availability		
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Lidija Krebs-Lazendic	9385 2772	I.krebs-lazendic@unsw.edu.au		Mathews, 915	By appointment		
TUTORS & DEMONS	     TRATORS						
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Adrian Walker <u>adrian.walker@unsw.edu.au</u>				By Appointment			

Con	nponent	_			
o o mponena		Day	Time	Location	
Lectures	Research Methods Weeks 1-6	Wed	2-3 pm	Central Lecture Block 7	
		Thu	10-11am	Matthew Theatre A	
	Statistics Weeks 7-12	Wed	2-3 pm	Central Lecture Block 7	
		Thu	10-11am	Matthew Theatre A	
		Mon	9-10 am, 11-12pm 4-5 pm	Mat 302 Mat 302 Mat 231	
In-class tutorials	Weeks 2,4,6,8,11,12	Tue	9-10 am, 10-11am, 12-1 pm 4-5 pm	Mat 302 Mat 107 Mat 302 Mat 303	
		Wed	9-10 am 1-2 pm, 3-4 pm,	Mat 302 Mat 303 Mat 226	
		Thu	1-2 pm, 5-6 pm	Mat 227 Mat 302	
		Fri	9-10 am 10-11 am 11-12pm 1-2 pm 2-3 pm	Mat 306 Mat 306 Mat 306 Mat 108 Mat 108	
Online tutorials	Weeks 3,5,7,9,10	Available on the course website via Moodle: https://student.unsw.edu.au/moodle			
Compulsory and voluntary online activities	Weeks 1-12	Available on the course website via Moodle: <a href="https://student.unsw.edu.au/moodle">https://student.unsw.edu.au/moodle</a>			

NB. Course timetables are subject to change without notice. Students are advised to check regularly for updates on the Moodle course site.

#### 4. Aims of the Course

This course deals with the foundational knowledge about research methods and statistics in psychology. It aims to

- To develop confidence and skills in understanding, interpreting, evaluation and applying scientific concepts;
- To provide the tools necessary to systematic, critical and analytical scientific thinking;
- To provide foundational understanding of ethical issues in scientific research, communication and application of scientific findings.

Emphasis will be placed on critical thinking about published research on contemporary issues in behavioural sciences, including discussion about what distinguishes evidence-based research from pseudoscience.

By the end of this course students should be able to:

- Understand basic research methods in psychology at an advanced level;
- Frame research questions and formulate testable hypotheses; operationalize variables; choose appropriate method for your own research;
- Think creatively and critically about research and apply knowledge of the scientific method in all fields of behavioural sciences;
- Undertake literature searches; locate, evaluate and use information appropriately in the research process;
- Use reasoning and evidence to recognise, develop, defend and criticise arguments and persuasive appeals:
- Understand and being able to perform basic statistical analysis procedures, draw defensible conclusions and assess the validity of conclusions based on statistical analysis of experimental data;
- Identify intentional and unintentional errors in research methods, data analysis and presentation and interpretation of research results;
- Differentiate between evidence based argument and speculation; identify claims that arise from pseudoscience; recognise major fallacies in human thinking.

5.	5. Psychology Graduate Attributes and Associated Learning Outcomes					
Le	vel of Focus: 0 = No focus; 1 = Minimal; 2 = Minor; 3 = Major	Activities/Assessment				
1.	<ul> <li>Core knowledge and understanding of psychology with regard to:</li> <li>1.1. Understanding of the basic characteristics of psychology as a science = 2</li> <li>1.2. Understanding of the history and philosophy off science and psychology = 3</li> <li>1.3. Understanding of the major concepts and historical trends in statistics and research methods in behavioural sciences = 3</li> <li>1.4. Capacity to apply disciplinary knowledge to explaining, predicting and managing human behaviour = 2</li> </ul>	Lectures, tutorial exercises and online content will refer to major concepts, empirical findings, and methods from various fields of behavioural research. This knowledge will be assessed in exams and written assessments.				
2.	<ul> <li>Knowledge of research methods in psychology, enabling you to:</li> <li>2.1. Describe, evaluate and apply different research methods used in empirical research = 3</li> <li>2.2. Frame research questions and choose appropriate research methodology = 3</li> <li>2.3. Formulate testable hypotheses and operationalise variables = 3</li> <li>2.4. Undertake literature searches and critically analyse theoretical and empirical studies = 3</li> <li>2.5. Understand data analysis and interpretation of research results = 3</li> <li>2.6. Recognise and identify valid and reliable measurements = 3</li> </ul>	Lectures, tutorial exercises, online content, and assessments will be designed to directly address research methods in psychology. Two written assessments (Research Study Critique and Research Report) are specifically designed to assess understanding and application of research methods.				

#### 3. Critical thinking skills

- 3.1. Apply knowledge of the scientific method in thinking about problems related to research in all fields of behavioural sciences = 3
- 3.2. Scrutinise information based on research methods and statistical analysis of experimental results = 3
- 3.3. Differentiate between speculation and evidence based information = 3
- 3.4. Use reasoning and evidence to recognise, question and criticise claims that arise from pseudoscience = 3
- 3.5. Use knowledge of the scientific method and statistics in problem solving = 1
- 3.6. Express open-mindedness and intellectual engagement; recognise and defend against prejudice and discriminatory behaviours = 2
- 3.7. Understand the value of empirical evidence = 3
- 3.8. Acknowledge limitations and suggesting future research = 3

Lectures will raise theoretical issues regarding how to quantify and communicate research results. The online content, assessments and tutorial discussions will allow students to demonstrate their critical skills to interpretations of research results in published papers and problem solving.

#### 4. Values, research and professional ethics

- 4.1. Understand ethical issues surrounding research in psychology = 3
- 4.2. Understand the importance of experimental protocols in experimental research = 3
- 4.3. Acknowledge work of others and intellectual property; respect privacy and human rights in research = 3
- 4.4. Evaluate researchers' behaviour in accordance to Australian
- 4.5. Psychological Society Code of Ethics and the complementary Ethical Guidelines =3

Lectures, tutorial exercises, online component and assessments will be designed to teach students how to draw valid conclusions from evidence while respecting professional and research ethics.

# 5. Communication skills

- 5.1. Clearly describe and discuss the outcome of experimental research = 3
- 5.2. Articulate valid conclusions of statistical test = 3
- 5.3. Demonstrate effective communication skills in various formats. (e.g. group discussion, written report) = 3
- 5.4. Provide constructive feedback = 2
- 5.5. Develop your arguments and communicate them effectively = 3
- 5.6. Engage in productive discussion = 2
- 5.7. Promote evidence-based approach to research = 1

Online component, tutorial discussions and assessments will be designed to allow students to effectively communicate the outcome of research data analysis.

# 6. Learning and application of psychology

- 6.1. Apply principles of empirical research in behavioural science to broader issues and problem solving in everyday life = 1
- 6.2. Apply psychological principles to promote personal development through self-regulation in setting and achieving carrier and personal goals; self- assess performance accurately; purposefully evaluate quality of one's thinking = 1
- 6.3. Demonstrate a capacity for independent learning, and time management = 2

Lectures, tutorial exercises, online components and assessments will include examples of applied research that will enable students to apply psychological principles to broader everyday issues and to their own personal development. Online components will allow students to learn and assess their knowledge independently and at their own time and pace.

#### 5. Rationale for the Inclusion of Content and Teaching Approach

This course provides students with an essential foundation for more advanced psychology courses by focusing on the benefits and limitations of various research designs and the importance of statistical data analysis. It also enables students to design their own experiments, carry out data analysis, draw appropriate conclusions and communicate the outcomes of their research. The online component and the assessments provide students with an opportunity to demonstrate independent learning and application of research skills and critical thinking in variety of problem-solving contexts. All these skills will be of a particular importance to students who are going to conduct their independent research project in the fourth (Honours) year.

#### 6. Teaching Strategies

The course web page is available through the e-learning Moodle site: https://student.unsw.edu.au/moodle.

Login with your student number and password, and follow the links to the PSYC1111 Measuring Mind and Behaviour page.

**Lectures** will be digitally recorded. Links to the lecture recordings will be available through the UNSW lecture recordings + portal on the course web page. Lecture slides will be also available on the course page.

**Tutorials** will be held every second week starting from Week 2. There are 6 face to face 1-hour tutorials. Tutorial discussions are based on the readings and online tutorial content available on the course page. In order to be able to participate in face-to-face tutorial activities, students are required to complete the online tutorials and read the material related to the face-to-face tutorial activities.

Online activities and online tutorial materials will be available on the course website.

Attendance at lectures and tutorials and participation in all online and tutorial activities is compulsory. Attendance at face-to-face tutorials will be recorded. Students must attend 80% of tutorials to be eligible to pass the course.

Please note that for every 6-credit-unit course, you are expected to spend an average of **10** hrs per week on that course—this includes class-time, pre- and post-tutorial preparation, online activities and requirements outside class-time, and the normal study time necessary to adequately complete assignments and examination study.

*Under no circumstances will employment be accepted as an excuse not to meet expectations for class participation, group work, or assessments.* Remember, the semester times are quite short (final examinations will be upon you before you know it), so it is your responsibility to ensure that you do not fall behind with the ongoing assessment demands of the course.

7. Co	urse Schedule - Lectures	
Week	Lecture Topic/Lecturer & Suggested Readings	Online Components
1	<ul> <li>Wed 2-3 (CLB 7): Research Methods: The scientific method (KHB)</li> <li>Kumar R. Chapter 1, Research: A way of thinking, p 2-31.</li> <li>Stanovich, K. How to think straight about psychology 10<sup>th</sup> edition. Chapter 1, Psychology is alive and well: What then is science, p 8-18.</li> </ul>	Pre-quiz
	<ul> <li>Thu 10-11 (MAT A): Research Methods: Pseudoscience (KHB)</li> <li>Stanovich K. How to think straight about psychology 10<sup>th</sup> edition.         Chapter 4, Testimonials and case study evidence: Placebo effects and the amazing Randi, p 65-72.     </li> </ul>	
2	Wed 2-3 (CLB 7): Research Methods: From anecdotes to true experiments: What do we need for scientific research? (KHB)  • Kumar, R.  • Chapter 7 The research design  • Chapter 5 Identifying Variables  Thu 10-11 (MAT A): Research Methods: Confidence in experimental results: Reliability and validity (KHB)  • Kumar, R. Chapter 11, Establishing the validity and reliability of a research instrument, p211-224.	Weekly quiz and online activities
	Wed 2-3 (CLB 7): Research Methods: Eliminating confounds (KHB)  • Kumar, R. Chapter 5 Identifying Variables p 86-90.	
3	Fri 10-11 (MAT A): Research Methods: Types of experiments: True experiments (KHB)  • Kumar. R. Chapter 8 Selecting a study design, p132-154.	Weekly quiz and online activities
4	<ul> <li>Wed 2-3 (CLB 7): Research Methods: (KHB) Types of experiments: Quasi-experimental studies.</li> <li>Kumar, R. Chapter 8 Selecting a study</li> <li>Thu 10-11 (MAT A): Research Methods: Types of experiments: Correlational studies. (KHB)</li> <li>Stanovich, K. How to think straight about Psychology 10<sup>th</sup> edition. Chapter 5, Correlation and Causation: Birth control by the toaster method.</li> </ul>	Weekly quiz and online activities
5	<ul> <li>Wed 2-3 (CLB 7): Research Methods: Types of experiments: Observational studies (KHB)</li> <li>Kumar, R. Chapter 10 Selecting a method ofdata collection, p173-176.</li> </ul>	Weekly quiz and

Thu 10-11 (MAT A): Research Methods: Ethics in research (KHB)

p 281-289.

Kumar, R. Chapter 14 Considering ethical issues in data collection,

online activities

		I
6	<ul> <li>Wed 2-3 (CLB 7): Research Methods: How to critically evaluate research:         Trust no one! (KHB)         <ul> <li>Stanovich, K. Chapter 10, The Achilles' heel of human cognition:</li></ul></li></ul>	Weekly quiz and online activities
	end, p7-36.	
7	<ul> <li>Wed 2-3 (CLB 7): Statistics: Descriptive statistics (LKL)</li> <li>Field, A. Chapter. 2 Reporting research, variables and measurement: Breaking the law, p. 55-70.</li> <li>Field, A. Chapter 3 Summarising data: She loves me not? p.75-107.</li> <li>Thu 10-11 (MAT A): Statistics Measures of variability (LKL)</li> <li>Field, A. Chapter 4 Fitting models (central tendency): Somewhere in the middle, p.111-155.</li> <li>Field, A. Chapter 5 Presenting data: Aggressive perfector, p.157-182.</li> </ul>	In Session Exam 1 and online activities
8	<ul> <li>Wed 2-3 (CLB 7): Statistics: z-scores (LKL)</li> <li>Field, A. Chapter 6 z-scores: The wolf is loose, p189-212.</li> <li>Thu 10-11 (MAT A): Statistics: Introduction to probability (LKL)</li> <li>Field, A. Chapter 7 Probability: The bridge of death, p. 215-255.</li> </ul>	Weekly quiz and online activities
9	<ul> <li>Wed 2-3 (CLB 7): Statistics: Probability and the samples: The distribution of the sample means (LKL)</li> <li>Field, A. Chapter 8 Inferential statistics: Going beyond the data: Humiliative, p.257-296.</li> <li>Field, A. Chapter 9 Robust estimation: Man without faith or trust, p. 297-329.</li> <li>Thu 10-11 (MAT A): Statistics: Inferential statistics (Hypothesis testing) (LKL)</li> <li>Field, A. Chapter 10 Hypothesis testing: In reality all is void, p. 331-358.</li> </ul>	Weekly quiz and online activities
	UNSW Break	
10	<ul> <li>Wed 2-3 (CLB 7): Statistics: Inferential statistics (Hypothesis testing) (LKL)</li> <li>Field, A. Chapter 11 Modern approaches to theory testing: A careworn heart, p. 361-393.</li> <li>Field, A. Chapter 12 Assumptions: Starblind, p.399-426.</li> <li>Thu 10-11 (MAT A): Statistics: Relationships in data</li> <li>Field, A. Chapter 13 Relationships: A stranger's grave, p. 434-451.</li> </ul>	Weekly quiz and online activities

11	<ul> <li>Wed 2-3 (CLB 7): Statistics: Relationships in data</li> <li>Field, A. Chapter 13 Relationships: A stranger's grave p. 453-474.</li> <li>Thu 10-11 (MAT A): Statistics: Using t-statistics for inferences about population means and mean differences (LKL)</li> <li>Field, A. Chapter 15 comparing two means: Rock or burst, p.527-546.</li> </ul>	Weekly quiz and online activities
12	<ul> <li>Wed 2-3 (CLB 7): Statistics: t-test for two related samples (LKL)</li> <li>Field, A. Chapter 15 Comparing Two Means: Rock or Burst, p.547-562.</li> <li>Thu 10-11 (MAT A): Statistics: Revisions (LKL)</li> <li>No readings</li> </ul>	Weekly quiz and online activities

# 8. Course Schedule - Tutorials Week **Tutorial Content** No tutorials 1 Face To Face Tutorial 1: Introduction (come to the class you are enrolled in) 2 Online Tutorial 1 (refer to the course Moodle site for content and instructions) 3 4 Face To Face Tutorial 2: Research questions, hypotheses variables and sample 5 Online Tutorial 2 (refer to the course Moodle site for content and instructions) Face To Face Tutorial 3: Confounding variables, research designs and threats to 6 internal validity 7 Online Tutorial 3 (refer to the course Moodle site for content and instructions) Face To Face Tutorial 4: Data analysis 1 8 Online Tutorial 4 (refer to the course Moodle site for content and instructions) 9

10	Online Tutorial 5 (refer to the course Moodle site for content and instructions)
11	Face To Face Tutorial 5: Data analysis 2
12	Face To Face Tutorial 6: Revision exercises and discussions

9. Assessment						
		Graduate	Learning	Date of		Feedback
Assessment Task	Weight	Attribute Assessed	Outcomes Assessed	Release	Submission	When
In-session exam 1 (online, Week 7)  This will be a multiple choice quiz. The questions can be answered on the basis of material covered in weeks 1-6 (inclusive) in lectures, online lecture activities and weekly quizzes, as well as suggested readings. The quiz will be available for 24 hours. Once you have access the quiz, you have to complete it in one sitting. You will have 45 seconds per question.	5%	1, 3	1.1; 1.2; 3.1; 3.3; 3.4; 3.8	Mon 04/09 09:00	Tue 05/09 09:00	Week 8
In-session exam 2 (online, Week 13)  This will be a multiple choice quiz. The questions can be answered on the basis of material covered in weeks 7-12 (inclusive) in lectures, online lecture activities and weekly quizzes, as well as suggested readings. The quiz will be available for 24 hours. Once you have access the quiz, you have to complete it in one sitting. You will have 45 seconds per question.	5%	1, 2	1.3; 1.4; 2.5; 2.6	Mon 23/10 09:00	Tue 24/10 09:00	Study breal
Final exam  This will be a combination of multiple choice and short answer questions. The questions will cover the material covered in weeks 1-12 (inclusive) in lectures, online lecture activities and weekly quizzes, as well as suggested readings.	35%	1, 2, 3	1.1; 1.4; 2.5; 2.6 3.1; 3.5	UNSW Exam period	UNSW Exam period	
Research study critique (submission via Turnitin)  You will be given a study that you will have to critically evaluate for its methodological soundness. Through open ended questions you will be asked to identify the research question, independent and dependent variables; confounding variables etc.	15%	2, 3, 5	2.1; 2.5; 2.6; 3.1; 3.2; 3.9; 5.1; 5.5	Week 2	Week 5 Sun 27/08 09:00	Week 8
Research report (submission via Turnitin)  You will be required to write a full research report based on data provided to you. You will receive more information about the report in the assessment sheet and tutorials (1500 words)	20%	2, 3, 4, 5	2.2; 2.3; 2.4 3.1; 3.5; 4.1; 4.2; 4.4 5.3; 5.5	Week 5	Week 10 Sun 08/10	Week 13
Weekly online quizzes  Online weekly quizzes will provide you with an opportunity to revise and deepen your knowledge of key concepts in the course. 10 weekly-revision quizzes will be available in weeks 2-6 and 8-12. You will be awarded 1% for completing each quiz with a score of 65% or greater by Sunday 11:59pm the week it is released. You may take the quiz as many times as you like, your highest attempt will count towards your grade. The quizzes will remain open for revision until the final exam.	10%	1, 2, 3, 4, 6.	1.4; 2.5; 3.2; 3.8; 4.1; 6.3	Mon 09:00 weeks 2-6, 8-12	Sunday 11.59pm of the week they are released	Immediate
Online tutorial activities (5 weeks)  These activities are designed to prepare you for face-to-face tutorials, in order to get the marks for completing these activities (2% per each set of online tutorial activities) you will have to complete these activities by Monday 9am the following week. Late completions will be possible but will not earn marks.	10%	1, 2, 3, 4,	1.4; 2.4; 2.5; 2.6; 3.1; 3.2; 4.1; 6.3	Mon 09:00 Weeks 3,5,7,9,10	Mon 09:00 Following week	Immediate

#### Assessment Submission and Late Policy:

Students must submit an electronic copy of their written assignments to the School of Psychology via the course Moodle site. The copy must be submitted through the Turnitin link on the Moodle page and will be checked for plagiarism. The date and time of the Moodle submission will be used to determine the time of submission.

Late Penalty: Failure to meet the official deadline will attract a penalty. For an assignment submitted late without an acceptable reason but within 10 working days (A Working day is defined as Monday to Friday) of the initial deadline, 2% of the maximum possible mark for that assignment will be deducted for each day including weekends. Under no circumstances will an extension be given for longer than 10 working days after the initial deadline. Failure to submit an assignment within 10 working days will result in a mark of 0 for the assignment, unless a special consideration request has been approved to undertake supplementary assessment. Late submissions may not receive the same level of feedback from markers.

Special Consideration: If you find that unexpected short-term illness, misadventure or other circumstances beyond your control prevent you from completing an assessment task you can apply for special consideration. NOTE: applications of special consideration will not be considered unless there is evidence of these circumstances for more than three consecutive days or a total of five days or more within the teaching period. You must apply for special consideration within three working days of the assessment or the period covered in the supporting documentation. All applications must be made via online services in myUNSW. You will need to submit original documents to UNSW Student Central, in person, to support your online application. The extension granted is normally equivalent to the period covered by the supporting documentation Under no circumstances will an extension be given for longer than 10 working days after the initial deadline. If you are unable to submit within this timeframe and have been approved for special consideration you may be considered for a supplementary assessment. NB: The supplementary assessment will cover the same learning outcomes, but will be on a different topic. You are not able to apply for special consideration to extend the date of the supplementary assessment. A supplementary assessment or exam is only offered once. If you are unable to submit or sit this supplementary assessment/exam you will not be eligible to apply for further consideration.

NB: Special consideration is designed for students that are undergoing short terms issues that may impact their capacity to complete work to the best of their ability within the designated time frame. If students are experiencing ongoing issues they should consider registering with Disability Services.

Disability Services: If you are a student registered with UNSW Disability Services, and your Disability Services letter of Support authorizes extension for an assignment submission, you do not need to apply for Special Consideration through UNSW Student Central. You must email the course coordinator or head tutor at least one week prior to the assessment deadline to request an extension- unless the Letter of Support specifically stipulates that you are not required to do so. The period of extension cannot be longer than 10 working days after the initial deadline. If you do not comply with the responsibilities indicated in your Letter of Support, you will not be granted any adjustments.

10. Expected Resources for Students			
RECOMMENDED TEXTBOOKS	Kumar, R. (2014). Research Methodology: A step-by-step guide for beginners. Sage Publications. (4 <sup>th</sup> Ed)  Field, A. (2016). An Adventure in Statistics: The Reality Enigma. Sage Publications. (1 <sup>st</sup> Ed)		
COURSE MANUAL	Available via course website <a href="https://student.unsw.edu.au/moodle">https://student.unsw.edu.au/moodle</a>		
REQUIRED READINGS	Textbook chapters and material available via course website and the Leganto "Reading List" link on the Moodle page, located under Course information.		

#### 11. Course Evaluation & Development

Courses are periodically reviewed and students' feedback is used to improve them. Feedback is gathered using various means including UNSW's myExperience digital survey.

# 12. Plagiarism & Academic Integrity

# What is plagiarism?

Plagiarism is presenting someone else's thoughts or work as your own. It can take many forms, from not having appropriate academic referencing to deliberate cheating.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

- **Copying:** using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This also applies to images, art and design projects, as well as presentations where someone presents another's ideas or words without credit.
- Inappropriate paraphrasing: changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original structure and information without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit. It also applies to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without referencing and a student's own analysis to bring the material together.
- Collusion: working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion
  also includes providing your work to another student before the due date, or for the purpose of them
  plagiarising at any time, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring
  another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or
  seeking payment for completing academic work.
- **Duplication:** submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

# Where can I find out more information?

In many cases plagiarism is the result of inexperience about academic conventions. The University has resources and information to assist you to avoid plagiarism. The first place you can look is the section about referencing and plagiarism in each Course Guide, as this will also include information specific to the discipline the course is from. There are also other sources of assistance at UNSW:

# How can the Learning Centre help me?

The Learning Centre assists students with understanding academic integrity and how to not plagiarise. Information is available on their website: <a href="http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/academic-integrity-plagiarism">http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/academic-integrity-plagiarism</a>. They also hold workshops and can help students one-on-one.

#### How can Elise help me?

ELISE (Enabling Library & Information Skills for Everyone) is an online tutorial to help you understand how to find and use information for your assignments or research. It will help you to search databases, identify good quality information and write assignments. It will also help you understand plagiarism and how to avoid it. All undergraduate students have to review the ELISE tutorial in their first semester and complete the quiz, but any student can review it to improve their knowledge: <a href="http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise">http://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise</a>.

#### What is Turnitin?

Turnitin is a checking database which reviews your work and compares it to an international collection of books, journals, Internet pages and other student's assignments. The database checks referencing and whether you have copied something from another student, resource, or off the Internet. Sometimes students submit their work into Turnitin when they hand it in, but academics can also use it to check a student's work when they are marking it. You can find out more about Turnitin here: https://teaching.unsw.edu.au/elearning.

#### What if plagiarism is found in my work?

If plagiarism is found in your work when you are in first year, your lecturer will offer you assistance to improve your academic skills. They may ask you to look at some online resources, attend the Learning Centre, or sometimes resubmit your work with the problem fixed. However more serious instances in first year, such as stealing another student's work or paying someone to do your work, may be investigated under the Student Misconduct Procedures.

Repeated plagiarism (even in first year), plagiarism after first year, or serious instances, may also be investigated under the Student Misconduct Procedures. The penalties under the procedures can include a reduction in marks, failing a course or for the most serious matters (like plagiarism in a honours thesis) even suspension from the university. The Student Misconduct Procedures are available here

https://www.gs.unsw.edu.au/policy/documents/studentmisconductprocedures.pdf

#### **Examples of plagiarism**

#### Using the internet appropriately

A first year student handed in an assignment where she had copied from a website. Her lecturer realised she didn't understand you have to reference websites in the same way you reference books and journal articles. The lecturer explained how to reference and sent her to a workshop at the Learning Centre to help her improve her skills.

# Working together on a math assignment

A group of Mathematics students worked together on an assignment when they had been told this was not allowed. All questions where the students had worked together were given zero, and this lead to some student failing the assessment.

# No referencing in an assessment

A third year student submitted a major assessment that included material from a journal article published in Canada. When his essay was submitted into Turnitin, it let the academic know that the student didn't reference the material. The student was given zero for the essay, and because it was worth 50 per cent he failed the course.

#### Copying design work

A final year design student used images of someone else's designs in her work and he said the designs were his own. The matter was formally investigated by his Faculty and he was found to have committed academic misconduct and failed the course.

#### Further information and assistance

If you would like further information or assistance with avoiding plagiarism, you can contact the Learning Centre. The Learning Centre at The University of New South Wales has two locations:

# **UNSW Learning Centre**

Lower Ground Floor, North Wing, Chancellery Building (C22 Kensington Campus – near Student Central)

http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/

**Phone:** 9385 2060

Email: learningcentre@unsw.edu.au

**Opening Hours:** 

Monday to Thursday: 9am - 5pm and

Friday: 9am - 2.30pm

**UNSW Art & Design Learning Centre** 

G Block, Room G112 **Phone:** 9385 0739

https://www.artdesign.unsw.edu.au/current-students/student-services/learning-centre

#### 13. Administrative Matters

The School of Psychology Student Guide, available on <a href="http://www.psy.unsw.edu.au/current-students/student-guide">http://www.psy.unsw.edu.au/current-students/student-guide</a>, contains School policies and procedures relevant for all students enrolled in undergraduate or Masters psychology courses, such as:

- Attendance requirements;
- Assignment submissions and returns;
- Assessments:
- Special consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- Student Code of Conduct;
- Student complaints and grievances;
- Student Equity and Disability Unit; and
- Health & Safety.

Students should familiarise themselves with the information contained in this *Guide*.