

BEHV 4009 ADVANCED TOPICS IN CONTEMPORARY PSYCHOLOGY

Credit Points 10

Legacy Code 102907

Coordinator Renu Narchal ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Renu Narchal/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Renu+Narchal/))

Description Psychological research and practice exist in a cultural, historical and social context. This subject provides students with knowledge and skills for working in Psychology in the complex, unpredictable and diverse contemporary Australian society. In this subject students develop an advanced level of theoretical and empirical knowledge in selected topics of psychology, an awareness of how this knowledge underpins evidence-based approaches to psychological intervention, and an enhanced capacity for conducting research in selected topic areas. The subject fosters an appreciation of psychology as a scientific discipline and the interplay between psychological research and real-world psychology practice.

School Psychology

Discipline Psychology

Student Contribution Band HECS Band 1 10cp

Check your fees via the Fees (https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/fees/) page.

Level Undergraduate Level 4 subject

Equivalent Subjects BEHV 4001 - Advanced Topics in Psychology

Restrictions

Students must be enrolled in programs 1796 Graduate Diploma of Psychology, 1865 Bachelor of Psychology (Honours), 1860 Bachelor of Psychological Studies (Honours), 1504 Bachelor of Arts (Psychology) Honours, 1500/1834 Bachelor of Psychology, or 1905 Bachelor of Psychological Science (Honours). Students enrolled in 1500/1834 Bachelor of Psychology must have successfully completed 240 credit points.

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this subject, students should be able to:

1. Apply theoretical and empirical psychological knowledge in core areas of the discipline (APAC GA 2.1).
2. Reflect on the core areas of contemporary psychology (APAC GA 2.2).
3. Employ advanced psychological principles, ideas, and research findings in varied contexts, including interprofessional. (APAC GA 2.1, 2.3).
4. Critically evaluate published psychological research, demonstrating sound judgement in applying research findings (APAC GA 2.1, 2.3).

Subject Content

The subject consists of modules on advanced areas of psychology that reflect the need for psychologists to adapt to the changing social and professional environment in which they work.

The subject will cover

- Multidisciplinary health care teamwork

- Sexualities and gender identity
- Indigenous psychology
- Multicultural and multilingual settings
- Therapy modes- such as bibliotherapy, telehealth, blended modes
- The psychology of ageing
- Environmental and political psychology

Assessment

The following table summarises the standard assessment tasks for this subject. Please note this is a guide only. Assessment tasks are regularly updated, where there is a difference your Learning Guide takes precedence.

Type	Length	Percent	Threshold	Individual/ Group Task	Mandatory
Reflection	1,200 words	30	N	Individual	N
Presentation	10 minutes, with 5 minutes for questions and/or leading discussion	40	N	Individual	Y
Literature Review	1,200 words	30	N	Individual	N

Teaching Periods

Autumn (2025)

Bankstown City

On-site

Subject Contact Renu Narchal ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Renu Narchal/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Renu+Narchal/))

View timetable (https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=BEHV4009_25-AUT_BK_1#subjects)

Penrith (Kingswood)

On-site

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View timetable (https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=BEHV4009_25-AUT_KW_1#subjects)

Parramatta - Victoria Rd

On-site

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