

BEHV 7005 CHILD CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

Credit Points 10

Legacy Code 101210

Coordinator Catie Lai ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Catie Lai/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Catie%20Lai/))

Description This subject introduces the nature, assessment and treatment of psychological disorders in children and adolescents. Students will examine the diagnostic classification, epidemiology and aetiology of a range of psychological problems in childhood and adolescence, including anxiety disorders, mood disorders, behavioural disorders, trauma and stressor-related disorders, eating disorders, learning disabilities, and attention-deficit disorder. The theoretical and empirical foundations of a range of cognitive and behavioural techniques will be discussed along with a number of major conceptual and practical issues in the treatment of psychological disorders in childhood and adolescence, including cultural, inter-professional contexts and family therapy.

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 Postgraduate Coursework Level 7 subject

Equivalent Subjects LGYA 0486 - Clinical Problems in Children and Adolescents BEHV 7004 - Assessment Psychological Practice

Restrictions

Students must be enrolled in programs 1812 Master of Clinical Psychology or 1814 Master of Professional Psychology

Learning Outcomes

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

1. Evaluate the characteristics of the common emotional and behavioural disorders in childhood and adolescence (APAC GA: 3.5, 4.2.1i, 4.2.1ii, 4.2.1iii & 4.2.2i).
2. Apply reliable and valid and culturally responsive methods of assessing and writing reports for children and adolescents with psychological disorders (APAC GA: 3.2, 3.6, 3.8, 4.2.1iii, 4.2.2ii, 4.2.2iii).
3. Implement psychological interventions, such as family therapy, cognitive and behavioural therapies including working with the unique attributes of the person within their cultural context (including with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians) (APAC GA: 3.2, 3.7, 4.2.2iii, 4.2.2iv, 4.2.3i & 4.2.3ii).
4. Critically evaluate research concerning the efficacy of psychological therapies with children and adolescents (APAC GA: 3.16 & 4.2.3iv).
5. Analyse the psychologist's role in inter-professional contexts in the assessment and treatment of child and adolescent clinical presentations (APAC GA: 3.10, 3.12 & 4.2.3iii).

Subject Content

1. Theoretical and empirical foundations of child psychopathology
2. Assessment of psychopathology in childhood
3. Nature and epidemiology of common childhood disorders

4. The development, implementation and evaluation of psychological interventions, including cognitive behavioural therapies and family therapy, for a range of psychological disorders in childhood and adolescence.
5. Cultural responsiveness in psychological assessment and interventions with children and families, including with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians.
6. The role and contribution of a psychologist within an inter-professional treatment context.

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
Critical Review	2,500 words	50	Y	Individual	Y
Case Study	1,500 words	50	Y	Individual	Y

Prescribed Texts

- American Psychiatric Association (2013). Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition. Arlington, VA, American Psychiatric Association.
- Beauchaine, T. P., & Hinshaw, S. P. (Eds.) (2017). Child and Adolescent Psychopathology, Third Edition. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons

Teaching Periods

Spring (2025)

Bankstown City

On-site

Subject Contact Catie Lai ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Catie Lai/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Catie%20Lai/))

View timetable (https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=BEHV7005_25-SPR_BK_1#subjects)

Penrith (Kingswood)

On-site

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View timetable (https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=BEHV7005_25-SPR_KW_1#subjects)