

# BEHV 7037 PSYCHOLOGICAL PRACTICE IN CONTEMPORARY CONTEXTS

**Credit Points** 10

**Legacy Code** 102808

**Coordinator** Janet Conti ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Janet Conti/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Janet%20Conti/))

**Description** The ability to work with mental health issues and psychological distress that arises within a range of contexts is an essential skill for Clinical Psychologists. This subject equips students with skills in assessment, formulation and tailored psychological interventions for those who experience psychological distress within family systems and broader socio-cultural contexts; including abuse and violence; working within medico-legal systems, and broader socio-cultural contexts. The subject will explore theories, psychological techniques and prepare students to working within these settings that include inter-disciplinary collaboration and communication with multidisciplinary health services and legal practitioners. Please note: some of the activities in this subject may include experiential learning, for example where students may be asked to take on the client role using their own lived experience, to provide opportunity for training in therapeutic modalities that are more "real-world". Students may opt-out of these activities without consequence through speaking to the subject coordinator and alternative arrangements for student learning opportunities will be organised.

**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/](https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/currentstudents/current_students/fees/)) page.

**Level** Postgraduate Coursework Level 7 subject

**Pre-requisite(s)** BEHV 7027 AND BEHV 7006 AND BEHV 7029 AND BEHV 7038

**Restrictions**

Students must be enrolled in 1812 Master of Clinical Psychology.

## Learning Outcomes

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

1. Create a treatment plan that is tailored to the identified person within their family and socio-cultural context, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
2. Apply therapeutic skills in a psychological intervention that conceptualises the person within their psychosocial and cultural context; and reflect on the process of the psychological intervention.
3. Reflect on the roles and functions of clinical psychologists in common interprofessional contexts.

## Subject Content

- Family therapy and narrative therapy interventions: working with individuals within their family system and socio-cultural context, including couples therapy and interventions that address power imbalances within family systems; including abuse and violence.
- Working within inter-professional contexts, including medico-legal and forensic investigative psychology, legal issues frequently encountered in psychological practice, and communicating with relevant agencies including report writing.
- Tailoring psychological assessment and interventions to diverse cultural contexts, including when working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

## 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
Case Study	2,000 words	40	Y	Individual	Y
Practical Exam	40 minutes	S/U	Y	Individual	Y
Practical Exam	40 minutes	40	Y	Individual	Y
Reflection	1,000 words	20	Y	Individual	Y

Teaching Periods

## Autumn (2025)

### Bankstown City

#### On-site

**Subject Contact** Janet Conti ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Janet Conti/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Janet%20Conti/))

View timetable ([https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject\\_code=BEHV7037\\_25-AUT\\_BK\\_1#subjects](https://classregistration.westernsydney.edu.au/odd/timetable/?subject_code=BEHV7037_25-AUT_BK_1#subjects))

### Penrith (Kingswood)

#### On-site

**Subject Contact** Janet Conti ([https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Janet Conti/](https://directory.westernsydney.edu.au/search/name/Janet%20Conti/))

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