

UNIT OUTLINE FOR HSC216.9 RESEARCH PROJECT

Name of Unit 1 (Unit Code 1)

Research Project (HSC216.9)

SECTION 1 – GENERAL INFORMATION

Administrative details

Associated higher education awards <i>(for example, Bachelor, Diploma)</i>	Duration <i>(for example, one semester, full year)</i>	Level <i>(for example, introductory, intermediate, advanced level, 1st year, 2nd year, 3rd year)</i>	Unit Coordinator <i>(incl. academic title)</i>
Master of Counselling Practice	Two semesters	Advanced	Prof Denis O'Hara

Core or elective unit

Indicate if the unit is a

- core unit
 elective unit
 other

Unit weighting

Using the table below, indicate the credit point weighting of this unit and the credit point total for the course of study (for example, 10 credit points for the unit and 320 credit points for the course of study).

Unit credit points <i>Example: 10 credit points</i>	Total course credit points <i>Example: 320 credit points</i>
12	96

Student workload

Using the table below, indicate the expected student workload per week for this unit.

No. timetabled hours per week*	No. personal study hours per week**	Total workload hours per week***
3	6	9

For those students requiring additional English language support, how many additional hours per week is it expected that they will undertake?

Additional English language support: 0 hours per week

Pre-requisites and co-requisites

Are students required to have undertaken a prerequisite or co-requisite unit for this unit?

- Yes No

If **YES**, provide details of the prerequisite or co-requisite requirements below.

Students must have completed all core units:

HSC201.7/8	Introduction to Counselling Theories
HSC200.5/8	Counselling Skills
HSC102.7/8	Working with Mental Health
EDU211.8	Ethical Understandings
HSC202.7/8	Counselling Theories and Practice
HSC101.7/8	Human Lifespan Development
HSC103.7/8	Working with Grief and Loss
HSS106.7/8	Trauma Informed Care

SECTION 2 – ACADEMIC DETAILS

Unit Descriptor

Provide below a brief unit description, which includes a summary of the key content of the unit.

This unit introduces students to research in the social sciences with a focus on research in counselling and psychotherapy. In the first semester, the notion of evidence-based practice as well as key principles and methodologies of qualitative research will be explored and current research priorities within counselling and psychotherapy will be identified and discussed. In semester two, students will research and develop either a literature review or ethnographic study which does not require Human Research Ethics Committee approval. The outcomes of the research project will be presented in a research report and orally at a research colloquium.

Learning Outcomes for Unit

Learning outcomes for unit:

1. Critically examine the outcome evidence for the effectiveness of counselling and psychotherapy
2. Assess the relative strengths and limitations among a range of qualitative methodologies
3. Evaluate the quality of research reports based on design, analysis, and reporting of results
4. Undertake a literature review or research project that demonstrates both ethical awareness and critical analysis of the literature and research findings

Assessment tasks

Type * <i>(see examples noted below this table)</i>	Learning Outcome/s assessed	When assessed – year, session and week <i>(for example, year 1, semester 1, week 1)</i>	Weighting <i>(% of total marks for unit)</i>
Analysis of a Qualitative Study Equivalent word count: 2500 words	1, 2, 3	Semester 1 – Week 8	25%
Research Proposal Design and write a research proposal. Equivalent word count: 2500 words	2, 4	Semester 1 – Week 11	25%
Research Report Equivalent word count: 3500 words	1, 4	Semester 2 - Week 12	35%
Colloquium Presentation Equivalent word count: 1500 words	1, 2	Semester 2 - Week 12	15%

2.1 Prescribed and recommended readings

Provide below, in formal reference format, a list of the prescribed and recommended readings for the unit.

Required Textbook

McLeod, J. (2011). *Qualitative research in counselling and psychotherapy* (2nd ed.). Sage Publications.

Recommended Readings

Boeije, H. (2010). *Analysis in qualitative research*. Sage Publications.

Byrne, D. Research design. SAGE Publications, Inc. 2012

Hughes, Jason., and John Goodwin. *SAGE Internet Research Methods*. London: SAGE, 2012. Print.

Kumar, R. (2011). *Research methods: A step-by-step guide for beginners*. Sage Publications.

Merriam, S. B., Tisdell, E. (2016). *Qualitative research: A guide to design and implantation*. Jossey-Bass.

McLeod, J. (2010). *Case study research in counselling and psychotherapy*. Sage.

McLeod, J. (2011). *Qualitative research in counselling and psychotherapy*. Sage.

McLeod, J. (2016). *Using research in counselling and psychotherapy*. Sage Publications.

Paoletti, Isabella., Maria Isabel. Tomás, and Fernanda. Menéndez. *Practices of Ethics an Empirical Approach to Ethics in Social Sciences Research*. Newcastle upon Tyne, England: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2013. Print.

Tracy, Sarah J. *Qualitative Research Methods: Collecting Evidence, Crafting Analysis, Communicating Impact*. N.p., 2019. Print.

Recommended Journals

Counselling and Psychotherapy Research

Psychotherapy Research

Journal of Psychology and Christianity

Journal of Psychology and Theology