

PSYC90018 Child Dev.Issues & Treatment Approaches

Credit Points:	6.25
Level:	9 (Graduate/Postgraduate)
Dates & Locations:	2010, Parkville This subject commences in the following study period/s: Semester 1, Parkville - Taught on campus.
Time Commitment:	Contact Hours: 1.5 hours of lectures/seminars per week for 12 weeks. Estimated Total Time Commitment: 54 hours Total Time Commitment: Not available
Prerequisites:	PSYC00008 Ethics and Professional Issues PSYC00021 Child Assessment and Therapy
Corequisites:	None
Recommended Background Knowledge:	Completion of psychology studies to fourth-year (Honours) level.
Non Allowed Subjects:	None
Core Participation Requirements:	For the purposes of considering requests for Reasonable Adjustments under the Disability Standards for Education (Cwth 2005), and Students Experiencing Academic Disadvantage Policy, academic requirements for this subject are articulated in the Subject Description, Subject Objectives, Generic Skills and Assessment Requirements of this entry. The University is dedicated to provide support to those with special requirements, Further details on the disability support scheme can be found at the Disability Liaison Unit website: http://www.services.unimelb.edu.au/disability/
Coordinator:	Dr Rowena Conroy
Contact:	Dr Rowena Conroy
Subject Overview:	This subject builds on the Child Assessment and Therapy unit. It will include a series of lectures examining the major schools of family therapy and the key issues that are common to all. Life cycle issues in the therapy system will be addressed. Major issues faced by clinicians working with adolescents will also be given particular attention including: family relationships; risk taking; independence issues; depression; personality disorders; self harm and suicidal tendencies; substance abuse; anti-social behaviours. The emphasis is on recognising risks, assessing the origins of and the influences on adolescent problems, and developing age and stage sensitive methods of working in the area. Students will be provided with an overview on the changing patterns, over the past decade, in the use of psychotropic medication with young people and the reasons for concerns about overuse/misuse. Infant mental health and treatment using group therapies will also be discussed.
Objectives:	To introduce students to systemic approaches to working with a young person and the family system in an ages and stage sensitive way addressing the major developmental, marital and family issues that impact upon children and adolescents. The programme will also assist in developing an advanced understanding of the major diagnoses/clinical problems faced by clinicians working with children, adolescents and their families. As such, the range of clinical and professional issues addressed will include the use of psychotropic medication and risk-taking behaviours in young clients.
Assessment:	One seminar paper presented in class from the adolescent lecture series. Each student is required to give an oral critique of a journal article from the Adolescent Development reading list and to lead a discussion of issues relating to the article (10% of assessment). Articles will be circulated during the first two weeks of semester. One child/adolescent family case study of 2000 words - (90% of assessment). Students are asked to submit a case study based on one of their placement cases (de-identified) which outlines briefly the assessment of the case, and more fully, the formulation and intervention. The purpose of the case study is to focus on integrating material in two particular ways: By giving due weight to all aspects of the child/

	adolescent's context relevant to the presenting problems and process issues, including family/marital/parental/school/peer factors and life cycle factors (although you may not be responsible for all of these); By making explicit and expanding on the theoretical underpinnings of your formulation and therapeutic intervention.
Prescribed Texts:	None
Recommended Texts:	Reading pack available at the start of the seminar series. <i>Treatment of Childhood Disorders</i> 3rd edition, edited by Eric J. Marsh and Russel A. Barkley 2006. The Guildford Press: New York
Breadth Options:	This subject is not available as a breadth subject.
Fees Information:	Subject EFTSL, Level, Discipline & Census Date, http://enrolment.unimelb.edu.au/fees
Generic Skills:	To introduce students to systemic approaches to working with a young person and the family system in an age and stage sensitive way addressing the major marital and family issues that impact upon children and adolescents. The program will also assist in developing an understanding of the major problems faced by clinicians working with children, adolescents and their families. As such, the range of clinical and professional issues addressed will include the use of psychotropic medication, risk-taking behaviours.
Related Course(s):	Master of Psychology (Clinical Child Psychology)/Doctor of Philosophy Master of Psychology (Clinical Child)