



Master of forensic mental health postgraduate student handbook 2015

Never Stand Still

Medicine

School of Psychiatry





Health Justice Health & Forensic Mental Health Network



Welcome to the masters of forensic mental health



This pioneering program navigates you through the intersecting disciplines of Law and Psychiatry using state of the technology and the expertise of leaders within the field of Forensic Mental Health.

Since its inception in 2006, the program has had over 80 graduates from over 20 different nationalities.

This handbook is to provide you with an overview of the course if you are considering study and to provide basic information if you have already enrolled in the program.

Forensic Mental Health is a sub-specialty of mental health in which scientific and clinical expertise is applied to legal issues in legal contexts, combining civil, criminal, correctional and legislative matters. It embraces the therapeutic objectives of mental health services to a specific forensic target group, as well as providing mental health evaluation and consultation, which is also concerned with an outcome in the legal justice system.

With the emergence of this sub-speciality internationally over the past 50 years, there is a strong need for a highly trained skilled workforce to implement these services. Both locally and abroad, demand for these services has exceeded available personnel. The program aims to provide higher specialised levels of expertise in the clinical and legal aspects of Law and Forensic Mental Health to an emerging skilled multidisciplinary workforce.

In addition to providing you with access to leading experts in Forensic Mental Health, as a student you are included in one of the pre-eminent psychiatric schools in Australia and one of the leading university groups internationally.

UNSW Australia takes pride in the broad range and high quality of our teaching programs along with the state of the art online facilities to provide the best support to students studying their programs by distance.

The Forensic Mental Health Program is a world leading, dynamic programs which gives its students access to leading experts in their fields and provides exceptional support to all of its students.

I hope you enjoy your study and time at UNSW Australia.

Scientia Professor Philip Mitchell

Head of School Psychiatry

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How to use this handbook

This Handbook introduces the Master of Forensic Mental Health Program (MFMHP) and serves as a guide for prospective and enrolled students. The material is supplemented by further information available on the MFMHP

website: www.forensicmentalhealth.unsw.edu.au

Disclaimer

Information provided about subjects, units, courses and any arrangements for courses including staffing, is an expression of intent only and are not to be taken as a firm offer or undertaking. Such subjects, units, courses, arrangements or staffing can be varied at any time without notice.

The Master of Forensic Mental Health Program (MFMHP) reserves the right to impose limitations on enrolment in any course.

All costs and fees are provided in Australian Dollars (AUD\$). Any agreement with the University does not remove the right to take action under Australia's consumer protection laws.

Published by

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About the school

The School of Psychiatry is widely reputed to be the preeminent psychiatric research department in the country, and one of the leading university groups internationally. Since its establishment, more than a 100 doctorates (MD or PhD) have been completed under the supervision of School academics, with many of the successful candidates going on to leading university positions around Australia in both psychiatry and psychology.

ABOUT THE MASTER OF FORENSIC MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM

The Master of Forensic Mental Health Program (MFMHP) provides an opportunity for a comprehensive training in forensic mental health by coursework. It covers the theoretical and practical aspects of criminal, civil, child and family forensic mental health sub-specialities. It is designed to provide training, skills and expertise required in the forensic mental health workplace both in the private and non-private arena.

The MFMHP can be undertaken on a part-time (two year) basis by flexible online delivery in 2015.

The degree is designed for mental health professionals including medical practitioners, nurses, psychologists, social workers and occupational therapists. The course is also open to members of the legal profession, Police and Correctional staff.

Career opportunities

There is a rapidly growing need for a skilled workforce in Forensic Mental Health both in Australia and internationally. In New South Wales, Forensic Mental Health Services are largely provided by NSW Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network who will require additional suitably qualified staff for the foreseeable future.

The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists provides advanced two-year training in Forensic Psychiatry for Psychiatric registrars.

There are also career opportunities in private practice in Forensic Mental Health in the areas of health, law and criminology. Other stakeholders, include government bodies such as Corrections, Community Services, Fire Brigade and the Police Force. Further opportunities can be found in the judiciary, legal agencies and the Attorney-General's department. Juvenile Justice and District Mental Health Services provide additional employment.

The Master of Forensic Mental Health program is a knowledgebased degree which builds onto the disciplines of psychiatry, medicine, nursing, law, criminology, psychology, occupational therapy and social work.

Program of study

CORE COURSES:				
PSCY9901	Law and Mental Health	6		
PSCY9902	Psychiatry and the Criminal Law	6		
PSCY9903	Violence	6		
PSCY9904	Administration, Institutions and Services	6		
Note: candidates without a clinical background are required to undertake course PSCY9911				

ELECTIVES:

PSCY9911	PSCY9911 Mental Disorders, Personality Disorders and Crime	
PSCY9912	PSCY9912 Substance Abuse, Unusual Behaviours and Special Groups	
PSCY9913	Criminal and Disordered Sexual Behaviour	6
PSCY9914	Families, Children and Adolescent Forensic Psychiatry	6
PSCY9915	Civil Law in Relation to Psychiatry	6
PHCM9498 Epidemiology and Statistics for Public Health		6
PHCM9632	Well Being in Indigenous Health across the Life Span	6
PHCM9781	Evidence-informed Decision-making	6
PHCM9132	Applied Research Methods for Public Health	6

9012 Master of Forensic Mental Health

The Master of Forensic Mental Health (MFMH 9012) articulates with the Graduate Diploma in Forensic Mental Health (5512) and the Graduate Certificate in Forensic Mental Health (7312). Students must complete 24 UOC (4 courses) in core courses, and 24 UOC (4 courses) of electives offered by the School of Psychiatry. Credit for courses completed as part of the GradDip and the GradCert may be transferred to the Master's program, in accordance with the UNSW policy on credit transfer. Courses may be undertaken in any order, subject to availability.

5512 Graduate Diploma in Forensic Mental Health (GradDip)*

The Graduate Diploma in Forensic Mental Health will be awarded after the satisfactory completion of 36 units of credit (6 courses). Students must complete 18 UOC (3 courses) in core courses, and 18 UOC (3 courses) of electives offered by the School of Psychiatry. In place of one elective, candidates without a clinical background are required to undertake *PSCY9911 Mental Disorders, Personality Disorders and Crime.*

7312 Graduate Certificate in Forensic Mental Health (GradCert)*

The Graduate Certificate in Forensic Mental Health will be awarded after the satisfactory completion of 24 units of credit (4 courses). Students must complete 12 UOC (2 courses) in core courses, and 12 UOC (2 courses) of electives offered by the School of Psychiatry.

*Note: Approval must be obtained from the Academic Program Coordinator regarding course selection for the GradDip and GradCert.



Units of Credit

8
6
4
8
4

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS & APPLICATIONS

Applicants are required to have completed an appropriate undergraduate degree in health, law or criminology and have honours or post-graduate qualifications or have 2 years professional experiences in health, law or criminology.

Articulation Rules

The program articulates with the **Graduate Diploma in Forensic Mental Health 5512** and the **Graduate Certificate in Forensic Mental Health 7312**. Credit for courses completed as part of the GradDip and the GradCert may be transferred to the Master's program, in accordance with the UNSW policy on credit transfer.

Program Attendance Mode

Internal	No
External	Yes
Male Made Dallaren	

Multi-Mode Delivery

No

Course details - core courses

COURSE ID PSCY9901

Course name - Law and Mental Health

Lecturers: Dr Sascha Callaghan Units of Credit: 6

Dr Sarah-Jane Spencer Sessions offered: Session 2, 2016 Dr Tobias MacKinnon Flexible Delivery

Flexible Delivery

Ms Vindya Nanayakkara

Flexible Delivery

Course Description

The course provides an introduction to the interface between law, legislation, crime, ethics and psychiatry. An overview is provided of the associations between forensic psychiatry and the law within the context of the Australian legal system, concentrating on the relevant legislation and case law in New South Wales. The course will cover institutional and legal structures in Australia, the classification of Australian law, the courts, precedent, capacity, mental health legislation, the expert witness, criminology and the area of ethics and forensic mental health.

COURSE ID PSCY9902

Course name - Psychiatry and the Criminal Law Lecturers: A/Professor Dan Howard Units of Credit: 6 Sessions offered: Session 1, 2015

Course Description

This course will provide an understanding of mens rea and the defences to a criminal charge; intent; insanity, diminished responsibility and infanticide: legal aspects; criminal responsibility; automatism; some medico-legal consequences of hypoglycaemia; and amnesia. Relevant Australian and 'western' case law will be covered in this course. There will be an introduction into various relevant aspects of criminal responsibility in the U.K., Canada, the United States and Europe. Topics include: the psychiatrist, psychologist and mental health practitioner as expert witness; the written mental health/psychiatric court report; mitigation, sentences and prognosis; fitness to stand trial and plead; and mutism and deafness.

COURSE ID PSCY9903 Course name - Violence Lecturer: Dr Stephen Allnutt Units of credit: 6

A/Professor Kimberlie Dean Sessions offered: Session 2, 2015

Course Description

The course will provide a broad overview of: theories of aggression; crimes of violence; the relationship between mental illness and violence; risk assessment of mentally disordered offenders; stalking; arson; homicide; infanticide and filicide; sexual violence; suicide; trends in violent crime; epidemiology of violence; and consequences of violence.

COURSE ID PSCY9904

Course name - Administration, Institutions and Services Lecturers: A/Professor John Basson Units of Credit: 6

Professor Duncan Chappell Sessions offered: Session 1, 2016

Flexible Delivery

Course Description

The course will cover the functioning and roles of the Probation and Parole Board; the SORC Advisory Board; the Mental Health Review Tribunal; the NSW Health Care Complaints Commission; the Australian and New Zealand Royal College of Psychiatrists; the Medical Board and professional conduct; fitness to practice; and Human Rights. Also covered are the code of conduct of Corrections and the Prison Medical Service; the Forensic Mental Health Hospital; Area Health Special Forensic Units and Hospitals; regional secure units and forensic services in the UK, Canada, NZ and the USA; the forensic aspects of psychiatry in the armed forces; the Probation and Parole service; and special programs such as Sex Offenders, Violence, and Drug and Alcohol prograMs

Core for non-clinical candidates

COURSE ID PSCY9911

Course name - Mental Disorders, Personality Disorders and Crime

Lecturers:

Dr Andrew Ellis

A/Professor Julian Trollor Sessions offered: Session 1, 2015 Ms Michelle Eason Flexible Delivery

Units of Credit: 6 Course Description

Topics include: schizophrenia, mood and other psychoses; the psychopathology of offending; the phenomenology of mood; anxiety; dissociative disorders; senile dementia and crime; organically determined mental illness; mental retardation and crime; mental retardation – clinical aspects and management; impairments, disabilities and handicaps; assessments for court; borderline personality; psychopathic (sociopathic) personality; the psychology of personality disorders; other types of personality; homelessness and vagrancy; and psychotherapy, psycho-pharmacology and management for conduct disorders.

Professional Recognition

It should be emphasised that the Masters of Forensic Mental Health is not designed to lead to registration as a psychologist in NSW (unlike the Masters of Forensic Psychology offered through the UNSW School of Psychology).



ADRIANA MUGICA

I work with Corrective Services NSW in a custodial role as an Assistant Superintendent at Silverwater Women's Correctional Centre. I currently work in all areas of the centre managing offenders of all classifications, including offenders who are mentally disordered.

When I commenced the MFMH I was working at Long Bay Hospital Correctional Centre, managing Forensic and Correctional Patients. The course provided me with a greater understanding of mental

health legislation; mental health disorders, and a good understanding of the various disciplines within the Criminal Justice System that manage the care of offenders who are diagnosed with a mental disorder. The course material has allowed me to not only better manage offenders who are mentally disordered but to have a greater understanding of what presentations are common with each different diagnoses. I envisage the program will assist me throughout my career with CSNSW given there is a high percentage of offenders entering the criminal justice system who are mentally ill or may develop a mental illness whilst incarcerated.

I found the program material very interesting and really enjoyed the learning atmosphere provided by UNSW Australia. Although I am not in a clinical role within corrections I found the program provided me with the knowledge to greater understand how the forensic mental health system works. The course allowed me to build a stronger working relationship with mental health clinicians who were also very supportive during my 2.5 years of studies. The program also allowed me to build a strong network, including some excellent friendships.

Not coming from a clinical background and having to learn a "whole different language" was one of my major challenges. However, these challenges were overcome with excellent support from lecturers and fellow students. I found balancing fulltime work and part-time studies a little challenging at times, however, as time passed this challenge became a little easier.



Elective courses

COURSE ID PSCY9912

Course name - Substance Abuse, Unusual Behaviours and Special Groups

Lecturers: Dr Barbara Sinclair Units of Credit: 6

Dr Andrew Ellis Sessions offered: Session 1, 2016

Flexible Delivery

Course Description

This course will cover the following material: alcohol and drugs; legislation in Australia; alcohol and crime; gambling and the association with crime and violence, unsocial and criminal activities and alcohol; drugs and criminal behaviours; the psychiatry of substance abuse; treatment and control of drugs and alcohol; alcohol as a causal criminogenic factor; alcohol and crime, the problem in Australia; the treatment of alcohol abuse/dependence in Australia; arson; shoplifting; kidnapping, abduction and child stealing; hysteria, malingering, pseudologia fantastica, Ganser syndrome, prison psychosis and Munchausen's syndrome; stalkers; morbid jealousy, the delusion of infidelity and *de Clerambault's* syndrome; mental disorder and dangerous driving; pathological gambling; and psychiatry, ethnicity and crime.

COURSE ID PSCY9913

Course name – Criminal and Disordered Sexual Behaviour

Professor David Greenberg Units of credit: 6

Dr Andrew Ellis Sessions offered: Session 2, 2015

Mr Lee Knight Flexible Delivery

Course Description

This course covers the clinical assessment of the paraphilic disorders; a comprehensive understanding of the paraphilic disorders including exhibitionism, sexual sadism, paedo-hebophilia, zoophilia, necrophilia, voyeurism, frotteurism; those paraphilic disorders or criminal sexual behaviours which may involve activities which could bring them to the attention of authorities such as transvestism or cybersex; incest; rape; biological and psychological sex offender treatments; risk assessment and risk management of these offending behaviours or paraphilic disorders.

COURSE ID PSCY9914

Course name - Families, Children and Adolescents Forensic Psychiatry

Lecturers:

Dr Jackie Canessa Sessions offered: Session 2, 2016 Dr John Kasinathan Flexible Delivery

Units of Credit: 6 Course Description

Dr Claire Gaskin

This course covers: the law relating to children and adolescents; children in care – civil aspects; adoption and fostering; nondelinquent conduct disorders; young offenders; child custody in relation to offending; Juvenile Justice in NSW; approaches to treatment and facilities available; children and adolescents – reports to court; law and treatment; and Australian Family Law.

COURSE ID PSCY9915 Course name – Civil Law in Relation to Psychiatry Lecturers:

A/Professor Jonathan Phillips Units of Credit: 6

Mr Dominic Villa Sessions offered: TBA

Flexible Delivery

Course Description

This course addresses the changing world of civil litigation. Major topics will include assessing clients, writing reports, going to court, assessing issues of dangerousness, trauma-induced/psychiatric injury, mental capacity, liability of health practitioners, duty-to-protect, loss of chance, and other current and relevant topics. This course is interactive and is based on case-law.

COURSE ID PHCM9498

 Course name – Epidemiology and Statistics for Public Health

 Lecturer:

 A/Professor Glenda Lawrence

 Units of Credit: 6
 Sessions offered: Session 1, 2015

Flexible Delivery

Course Description

This core course introduces students to quantitative methods that are the cornerstone of public health research and evidence-based public health policy and practice. Statistical and epidemiological concepts are taught in parallel to promote integration of knowledge across both disciplines. Students will be introduced to epidemiological principles through case studies, which will be examined for study design, associated weaknesses and strengths and statistical techniques. The statistical component develops skills and understanding of basic statistical analysis methods, with hands-on experience analysing epidemiological data using SPSS software. The course is available to internal and external students and assistance will be available through tutorial activities and online help. If possible, students who are concerned about numeracy or computing skills should consider enrolling in the course as an internal student.

Further Information

A compulsory Foundations Workshop for both internal and external students will be held in residential week, which includes an introductory tutorial on SPSS software. In addition, an optional drop-in SPSS clinic will be held each week for students who require additional assistance.

COURSE ID PHCM9632

Course name – Well Being in Indigenous Health across the Life Span Lecturer:

A/Professor Melissa Haswell-Elkins

Sessions offered: Session 1, 2015

Flexible Delivery

Units of credit: 6 Course Description

This course aims to broaden your knowledge of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and will focus on four broad themes: investigating successive governments' policy and its instrumental role in exacerbating and maintaining the ongoing and inequitable burden of suffering experienced by Indigenous Australians; health promotion and primary health care, exploring Indigenous perceptions of wellbeing as well as health approaches that are informed by more comprehensive and holistic views of health care; investigative research into indigenous health issues in a range of contexts; and examining advocacy and activism and their critical contribution to the development of more appropriate health services for Indigenous families and communities.

COURSE ID PHCM9781

Course name – Evidence-informed Decision-making Lecturer:

A/Professor Mary Louise McLaws Units of Credit: 6

Sessions offered: Session 2, 2015

Flexible Delivery

Course Description

The objectives of this course include: the collection and bio-statistical analysis of data to create information about disease and injury patterns in populations and communities (the epidemiological approach); and the use of information about disease and injury in populations and communities in order to manage, plan and provide hospitals, health services and prevention strategies. The course includes an introduction to health informatics.

COURSE ID PHCM9132 Course name – Applied Research Methods for Public Health Lecturer: A/Professor Heather Worth Units of Credit: 6 Sessions offered: Session 2, 2015 Prerequisite: PHCM9498 Course Description

Hours per week: 1.5

This course introduces the student to methods used in applied public health research. It is designed to help students to carry out applied public health research (either in their paid work settings or postgraduate projects or theses) through an examination of principles of research. There are two concentrations in the course: first, we spend time critically thinking about how to prepare a research statement and second, using what we learnt through that, writing a research proposal that can be used in a real world setting. In the course we cover such topics as literature reviews, research problems or questions, principles of quantitative and qualitative research, ethics and planning a research project. The course is designed to be used by students in further research work.

2712 MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY IN MENTAL HEALTH

The School offers the Master of Philosophy in Mental Health (MPhil). This has been established in response to requests from MFMH students who wish to undertake supervised research in forensic mental health who have not had prior research experience (and thereby not being eligible to enroll for the MSc by research or a PhD).

The Master of Philosophy in Mental Health is a research degree designed to provide research training for candidates wishing to progress to a PhD, or who wish to develop competence in researching Forensic Mental Health. The MPhil comprises 24 units of credit (UOC) of coursework, and a thesis of no more than 40,000 words on an approved topic. The normal full-time duration is three semesters (one semester of coursework and two of thesis) full-time or six semesters part-time. Articulation from an MPhil to a PhD is possible, and advanced standing may be given for courses completed as part of the Master of Forensic Mental Health or equivalent.

If you are first undertaking the Master of Forensic Mental Health 9012 and wish to proceed to MPhil FMH, please take prerequisite research electives listed under Program of Study, core courses and electives:

PHCM9498 Epidemiology and Statistics for Public Health OR PHCM9781 Evidence-informed Decision Making AND PHCM9132 Applied Research Methods for Public Health

Co-ordinator: A/Professor Kimberlie Dean Email: k.dean@unsw.edu.au

Staff contact details

GENERAL ENQUIRIES

Dr Elizabeth Kaziro Master of Forensic Mental Health Program School of Psychiatry Faculty of Medicine UNSW Australia Tel: +61 2 8372 3071 Fax +61 2 8372 3088 Email: elizabeth.kaziro@justicehealth.nsw.gov.au

Mailing Address:

NSW Justice Health Suite 402, Level 3 152 Bunnerong Road Eastgardens NSW 2036 www.forensicmentalhealth.unsw.edu.au

ACADEMIC COORDINATORS

A/Professor Kimberlie Dean A/Professor of Mental Health at UNSW and Justice Health Email: k.dean@unsw.edu.au

Dr Andrew Ellis Director of Advanced Training Forensic Psychiatry RANZCP Email: andrew.ellis@justicehealth.nsw.gov.au

HEAD OF PSYCHIATRY

Professor Philip Mitchell Professor and Head School of Psychiatry Black Dog Institute Building Prince of Wales Hospital Hospital Road Randwick NSW 2031 Tel: +61 2 9382 3711 Fax: +61 2 9382 8151 Email: phil.mitchell@unsw.edu.au



EANNE GULLIVER

I am currently appointed by the NSW Minister for Health as an Official Visitor under the *NSW Mental Health Act 2007*. The function of Official Visitor is to independently advocate, aiming to ensure the safe custody of those controlled under mental health legislation, and that their interests are protected while thus controlled. Detention under the *NSW Mental Health (Forensic Provisions) Act 1990 No 10* is particularly complex. I therefore determined to undertake the best education available in the field of forensic mental health.

The MFMH exceeded my high expectations by building a bridge between curiosity and understanding. It enhanced my ability negotiate a patient's journey through the forensic network, consolidated my skill in psychiatric research, and provided a bed-rock for the understanding of mental health legislation and its interaction with the criminal justice system.

I enjoyed everything about the MFMH program because the content was so relevant to my aim. The course material is intellectually challenging and the electives are fascinating. The lecturers are approachable, and there is the opportunity to build an excellent reference library. The best part of the course however, was my fellow students. They were a limitless source of support, information and entertainment. Over the 2 year program I built not only professional links, but friendships.

Although I am confident and experienced in research, my main challenge throughout the MFMH was entering the program without clinical expertise. This made some assignments very difficult. The smaller assessment tasks could be time-consuming, however they were very worthwhile. The MFMH taught me the nature of excellence in forensic mental health is ongoing commitment to education.

COURSE CO-ORDINATORS

PSCY9901	Law and Mental Health	PSCY9912	Substance Abuse, Unusual Behaviours
	Dr Sascha Callaghan		& Special Groups
	Email: sascha.callaghan@sydney.edu.au		Dr Andrew Ellis
	Dr Sarah-Jane Spencer		Email: andrew.ellis@justicehealth.nsw.gov.au
	Email: sarah.spencer@		Dr Barbara Sinclair
	justicehealth.nsw.gov.au		Email: barbara.sinclair@
			justicehealth.nsw.gov.au
PSCY9902	Psychiatry and the Criminal Law		
	A/Professor Dan Howard SC	PSCY9913	Criminal & Disordered Sexual Behaviour
	Email: dan-howard@optusnet.com.au		Professor David Greenberg
	Dr Jeremy O'dea		Email: david.greenberg@
	Email: jeremy.o'dea@justicehealth.nsw.gov.au		justicehealth.nsw.gov.au
	Dr Jonathan Adams		
	Email: jonathan.adams@	PSCY9914	Families, Children & Adolescent
	justicehealth.nsw.gov.au		Forensic Psychiatry
	Dr Adam Martin		Dr Claire Gaskin
	Email: adam.martin@justicehealth.nsw.gov.au		Email: claire.gaskin@
			justicehealth.nsw.gov.au
PSCY9903	Violence		
	Dr Stephen Allnut	PSCY9915	Civil Law in Relation to Psychiatry
	Email: stephenallnutt@mac.com		A/Professor Jonathan Phillips
	A/Professor Kimberlie Dean		Email: jonathanphillips@
	Email: k.dean@unsw.edu.au		jonathanphillips.com.au
	Ms Vindya Nanayakkara		Mr Dominic Villa
	Email: vindya.nanayakkara@		Email: villa@sevenwentworth.com.au
	justicehealth.nsw.gov.au		
		PHCM9498	Epidemiology and Statistics for Public
PSCY9904	Administration, Institutions & Services		Health
	A/Professor John Basson		A/Professor Glenda Lawrence
	Email: john.basson@		Email: g.lawrence@unsw.edu.au
	swahs.health.nsw.gov.au		
		PHCM9632	Well Being in Indigenous Health
PSCY9911	Mental Disorders, Personality		across the Life Span
	Disorders & Crime		A/Professor Melissa Haswell-Elkins
	Dr Andrew Ellis		Email: m.haswell@unsw.edu.au
	Email: andrew.ellis@justicehealth.nsw.gov.au		
	A/Professor Julian Trollor	PHCM9781	Evidence-informed Decision-making
	Email: j.trollor@unsw.edu.au		A/Professor Mary Louise McLaws
	Ms Michelle Eason		Email: m.mclaws@unsw.edu.au
	Email: michelle.eason@		
	justicehealth.nsw.gov.au	PHCM9132	Applied Research Methods for Public
			Health
			A/Professor Heather Worth
			Email: h.worth@unsw.edu.au

Course selection

The following table lists proposed courses for 2015. Course availability is subject to change. Please check with the Project Manager or the School website regularly for updates:

elizabeth.kaziro@justicehealth.nsw.gov.au

Courses on offer for the Master of Forensic Mental Health Program.

SESSION 1 2015			
Course code and name	Course type	Mode of delivery	
		Internal	External
PSCY9902 Psychiatry and the Criminal Law	Core	No	Yes
PSCY9911 Mental Disorders, Personality Disorders & Crime	Elective	No	Yes
PHCM9498 Epidemiology & Statistics for Public Health	Elective	Yes	Workshop
PHCM9632 Indigenous Health and Well Being across the Lifespan	Elective	No	Workshop and tutorials

SESSION 2 2015

Course code and name	Course type	Mode of delivery	
		Internal	External
PSCY9903 Violence	Core	No	Yes
PSCY9913 Criminal & Disordered Sexual Behaviour	Elective	No	Yes
PHCM9781 Evidence-informed Decision-making	Elective	Yes	Yes
PHCM9132 Applied Research Methods for Public Health	Elective	Yes	Yes

How to apply

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

Application for admission to our postgraduate program can be made by:

1. **Online application** - Instructions and details about how to apply online are found at apply.unsw.edu.au

2. Posting the application form -

Complete the appropriate UNSW application form and attach requested documents. Forms are available from the Postgraduate Section of UNSW Australia's website.

All applications will be acknowledged and assessed for eligibility. Successful applicants will be sent an offer of admission with details of acceptance and enrolment procedures.

Once the acceptance is received, a confirmation of offer will be mailed to the applicant. In certain cases, specific security, health and financial documents must also be completed.

SELECTION FOR ADMISSION

Selection for admission to all graduate programs is based on the information supplied in your application. Successful applicants will be notified by letter of the appropriate enrolment procedures.

CLOSING DATES FOR APPLICATIONS

- October 31 for the start of Session 1 at the beginning of March
- April 30 for the start of Session 2 in mid July
- Late applications will be considered.

ATTACHMENTS TO APPLICATIONS

The following information should be attached to the application form:

- Your curriculum vitae
- A covering letter specifying why you
 wish to undertake the program
- Originals or certified copies of your academic record and proof of completion of previous degrees.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional information will be posted on the MFMH website: http://www.forensicmentalhealth.unsw. edu.au

APPLYING FOR THE MPHIL FMH

Mailing the Application Return completed application forms to:

Direct Admissions Office UNSW Australia UNSW Sydney NSW 2052



Program fees

FEES FOR POSTGRADUATE COURSEWORK DEGREES 2015

Program Title		Total Units of Credit (UOC)	Cost per Unit of Credit \$AUD	Total Cost of Program 2013 \$AUD
Master of Forensic Mental Health	Local	48	\$600	\$28,800.00
(9012)	International		\$815	\$39,120.00
Grad Diploma of Forensic Mental Health	Local	36	\$600	\$21,600.00
(5512)	International		\$815	\$29,340.00
Grad Cert of Forensic Mental Health	Local	24	\$600	\$14,400.00
(7312)	International		\$815	\$19,560.00



LUKE BUTCHER

I am employed as an Area Manager with Mission Australia covering Upper Hunter and Western NSW. I manage a diverse portfolio including a residential drug and alcohol rehabilitation service for young offenders, a crisis accommodation service and case management service for young offenders who are considered to be a medium or high risk of recidivism, gambling help counselling services and mental health rehabilitation services.

I have always had an interest in offender rehabilitation – starting from my undergraduate training. It was at a time in my life and career where I wanted to develop a speciality in this area, and utilise innovative, evidence based practice models in the programs I managed. I spent a significant amount of time searching for a university that would provide high quality training in this specialist area – but also in a flexible environment as I live in Western NSW and attending campus regularly was not possible.

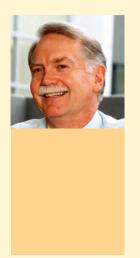
I found the Masters of Forensic Mental Health program was delivered by one of the most highly regarded universities in Australia, and course content was facilitated by world experts in the field. The flexible delivery of the program meant I had the same opportunities at learning as metro-based students, which is important for rural practitioners.

What I enjoyed about the program was there are a wide variety of courses on offer so you can build your own degree to make it relevant for your professional experience. The content is delivered in an applied and relevant way, allowing students to reflect on their own work to date, but also use the training in their work. The online discussion forums ensure that the learning environment is participatory, and students can also learn from each other's experiences as well as the formal course content.

The program provides students with a wide variety of contexts in the field in which we work, including training in mental health law and legislation, mental health systems, and also patient focussed work. Oddly enough, assessment tasks are enjoyable, as they require you to apply your understanding of course concepts to your working experience – as opposed to regurgitating lecture content.

The lecturers are experts in their field and the deliver the content in an interesting, and well thought out way. I would encourage any prospective student with an interest in the area to apply for the program. The learning opportunities this program presents in both law and mental health allows for well rounded, quality postgraduate training.

Staff profiles



Scientia Professor Philip Bowden Mitchell AM MB BS, MD, FRANZCP, FRCPsych

Philip Mitchell is Professor and Head of the School of Psychiatry at the University of New South Wales; Convenor of Brain Sciences UNSW; Chair of the NSW Mental Health Priority Taskforce; Consultant Psychiatrist, Black Dog Institute, Sydney; Guest Professor, Shanghai Jaitong University; and Board Member of the Anika Foundation.

His research and clinical interests are in bipolar disorder and depression, with a particular focus on the molecular genetics of bipolar disorder, transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS) for depression, and the pharmacological and psychological treatment of bipolar disorder and depression.

He was appointed as a Member of the Order of Australia in the 2010 Australia Day Honours List for service to medical education, particularly in the field of psychiatry, as an academic, researcher and practitioner, through contributions to the understanding, treatment and prevention of mental illness.



A/Professor Kimberlie Dean MBBS, MRCPsych, MSc, PhD

A/Professor Dean completed her medical studies in Tasmania and Adelaide. She completed basic training and advanced training in forensic psychiatry at the Maudsley Hospital in London while obtaining MSc degrees in Forensic Mental Health Science at Kings College London and Epidemiology at the London School or Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. She completed a PhD at Kings College London based on epidemiological research undertaken in collaboration with the National Centre for Register Research in Denmark and focused on familial patterns of mental disorder occurrence and criminality.

A/Professor Dean worked as an honorary Consultant Forensic Psychiatrist in a medium secure unit within the South London and Maudsley NHS Trust for three years. She was appointed Programme Leader of the MSc in Forensic Mental Health Research offered at the Institute of Psychiatry, Kings College London. She was appointed A/Professor of Forensic Mental Health at UNSW Australia and Justice Health in 2011.



Dr Andrew Ellis BMed, MA, FRANZCP

Dr Ellis is the NSW Director of Advanced Training in Forensic Psychiatry for the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists, and the Forensic Mental Health Network. His current clinical work is with the NSW Community Forensic Mental Health Service, Consultant to the NSW Police State Protection Group, as well as a private medicolegal practice.

Dr Ellis has previously held posts in London as the National Health Service International Fellow in Forensic Psychiatry, and as Consultant Forensic Psychiatrist to the NSW Statewide Court Liaison Service and Sexual Behaviours Clinic. He has studied Mental Disability Law at the New York Law School, and has research interests in arson, impulsivity, sex offenders, prisons and rehabilitation of mentally disordered persons in the criminal justice system. He is a lecturer and tutor for the NSW Institute of Psychiatry, and examiner for the RANZCP with wide experience in teaching and supervision of medical, mental health and professions involved in the justice system.

Dr Elizabeth Kaziro BA (Hons), MA (Hons), Grad Dip Ad Ed, BDivinity, M.Rehab Counselling, PhD Project Manager, MFMHP

Dr Kaziro received a PhD from the Department of Social Work, Sociology and Social Policy at the University of Sydney. In addition she holds qualifications in Behavioural Sciences from Macquarie University and a GradDip Adult Education from UTS.

Dr Kaziro has taught in Behavioural Sciences in Medicine in the former undergraduate medical program at the University of Sydney, and was a Student Counsellor for 10 years at the University of Sydney. She has also worked for the UNSW Australian Graduate School of Management as a researcher and trainer in the Development Program for Managers.

Dr Kaziro has a strong administrative and liaison background, her most recent position being Senior Liaison Officer with the Office of the Protective Commissioner, NSW Attorney-General's Department.

Additional ongoing interests include Youth Justice Conferencing for NSW Department of Juvenile Justice and Rehabilitation Counselling.

Professor David Mace Greenberg MB, ChB, FFPsych (SA), MMed (Psych), FRCPC (Canada), FRANZCP

Professor David Mace Greenberg is a formally trained Forensic Psychiatrist. He was the inaugural chair and Professor of Forensic Psychiatry at University of Western Australia and now is the Professor of Psychiatry, a conjoint appointment, at UNSW Australia.

Professor Greenberg has been practising medicine for 30 years. He graduated in Medicine from the University of Cape Town, South Africa, in 1979, and obtained his Psychiatry Fellowship from the College of Medicine in 1988. He completed a Masters degree in Psychiatry in 1990 and was made a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada in 1992. Professor Greenberg undertook full-time formal university forensic psychiatry fellowship training in Canada for an additional year. He was the Associate Professor of Forensic Psychiatry in Canada at University of Ottawa.

In 1999 Professor Greenberg was appointed as the Statewide Director of the State Forensic Mental Health Services for the Western Australian Health Department. In January 2002, he was recruited by NSW Health to establish the Court Liaison Service in NSW, which was awarded the NSW Premiers Gold Award for public service.

Professor Greenberg is a nationally and internationally recognised expert in Forensic Psychiatry. He is the recipient of distinguished awards from the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law and the American Academy of Forensic Sciences. He has authored over 50 peer-reviewed journal articles and book chapters and read over 100 peer-reviewed papers at national and international conferences.

He is the past chair of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists, Forensic Psychiatry Section, WA Branch. He currently acts as a consultant to the Federal RANZCP and NSW Health on forensic psychiatry matters.







Dr Tobias Mackinnon MBBS, MSc, MRCPsych

Dr Tobias Mackinnon was appointed in January 2013 as Statewide Clinical Director for Forensic Mental Health with Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network NSW. He trained in medicine in Australia then trained in psychiatry in the United Kingdom, later pursuing specialist training in Forensic Psychiatry at the Maudsley Hospital in London, where he also completed a MSc in Forensic Mental Health (Kings College London).

From 2008 he worked as a consultant in Forensic Psychiatry in East London, initially at a Medium Secure Unit treating men with Dangerous and Severe Personality Disorder via an adapted Therapeutic Community model, and later with a more general population in medium secure and community settings. Throughout his training and work he developed an interest in medical systems and management, personality disorders, and substance misuse.



A/Professor John V. Basson MB, ChB, BSc (Hons), MPhil, FRCPsych, FRANZCP

A/Professor Basson has worked in Forensic and General Mental Health Management in Scotland, England and Australia. He has run services in prisons, high security hospitals, and medium and low secure units. He has provided evidence in courts at all levels and was involved in community Forensic Services in Scotland and London.

A/Professor Basson has published in the areas of Psychiatric Intensive Care, Hep B and HIV in prison settings, comparisons of mental illness in the community and prison, and the treatment of nonmetastatic pain, and illicit drug testing in high security hospitals.

Since his migration to Australia, he has worked as the Statewide Director for Forensic Mental and as has held the appointment of Chief Psychiatrist, NSW Health. Professor Basson works in the West Sydney Forensic Psychiatry Service as a Staff Specialist.

Dr Stephen Allnutt MB, ChB, FRANZCP, FRCPC

Dr Allnutt trained in Psychiatry at McMaster University in Canada and in Forensic Psychiatry in Ottawa, Canada. He has held a number of positions including Deputy Director of Mason Clinic (Auckland, NZ) and Clinical Director of Long Bay Hospital, Sydney. He is currently Clinical Director of the NSW Community Forensic Mental Health Services. Dr Allnutt has a ministerial appointment with the Sentinel Events, Homicide Sub-committee.

Dr Allnutt is the recipient of awards from the American Journal of Forensic Services and has a NSW Premiers Gold Award for work with the NSW Court Liaison Service.

In addition to being a conjoint Senior Lecturer at the University of New South Wales, Dr Allnutt is a well received speaker, and has presented and published papers both locally and internationally on forensic topics. He has a scientific interest in the bizarre, the enigmatic and the dangerous.

A/Professor Dan Howard SC, LLB

Dan Howard SC is a Conjoint Associate Professor in the School of Psychiatry, UNSW Australia. He is a Professorial Fellow at the University of Wollongong Faculty of Law, where he was Professor and Director of the Postgraduate Prosecutions Program for four years prior to 2012.

Professor Howard has been practising law for over 30 years. He is a Senior Counsel at the New South Wales Bar, and was a Crown Prosecutor with the Office of the DPP for fifteen years, where he ran the program of continuing professional development for the NSW Crown Prosecutors. He has been counsel in many cases involving mental health issues.

In 2008, he was awarded a Churchill Fellowship to study Forensic Mental Health systems in the United States and Canada. He has been a Member of the NSW Mental Health Review Tribunal since 2008 and has been President of the Tribunal since June, 2012. He is an Acting Judge of the District Court of NSW.

Dr Jacqueline Canessa B Med, FRANZCP

Dr Jacqueline Canessa is a consultant Forensic and Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist employed as a staff specialist with NSW Justice Health Adolescent Service and SESIAHS Adolescent Service. Dr Canessa qualified in medicine from the University of Newcastle, NSW and obtained the Fellowship of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists in 2004.

Dr Canessa is one of a few psychiatrists in Australia with dual training in Forensic and Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. She also holds a conjoint lecturer's appointment with the School of Psychiatry, UNSW Australia. Her work is related to the assessment and management of adolescents with mental health and drug and alcohol issues in custodial and community settings with a particular interest in attachment/ trauma/family patterns in youth behaviours and offending.

Dr Claire Gaskin MB BS, MRCPsych (UK), FRANZCP

Dr Gaskin qualified in medicine from St George's Hospital Medical School, University of London in 1991. Dr Gaskin then trained in psychiatry, gaining Membership of the Royal College of Psychiatrists in 1998. Dr Gaskin completed Advanced (Specialist Registrar) training at the Maudsley Hospital in both Child and Adolescent and Forensic Psychiatry.

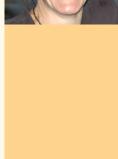
Dr Gaskin have worked as a Consultant in specialist adolescent forensic services since 2003, first in the UK and since 2006 in New South Wales with Justice Health, where Dr Gaskin have been involved alongside other relevant agencies in developing a range of mental health services to young offenders in the community and custody.

Dr Gaskin have collaborated on projects to enhance provision of mental health care to the young offender populations, including the production of a World Health Organisation Manual to aid the management of mental health disorders in the prison setting.











Dr Barbara Sinclair MPharm, MBChB, FRANZCP, FAChAM

Dr Barbara Sinclair currently works as a consultant forensic psychiatrist and addiction medicine specialist. Her work is specifically in medico-legal and forensic psychiatry, addiction medicine and generalist and adult psychiatry. She is currently a consultant psychiatrist and senior staff specialist in the forensic hospital of the Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network. She also has responsibility for drug and alcohol consultation in the forensic hospital.

Dr Sinclair is the clinical director of the new Involuntary Drug and Alcohol Treatment Unit at Bloomfield Hospital, Orange health service. In addition she provides addiction medicine services in the Illawarra/ Shoalhaven local health district opioid treatment unit in Wollongong. She has been associated with the master of forensic mental health program as a coordinator since its inception.



Dr John Kasinathan MBBS (Hons1), M.Psychiatry, FRANZCP, Cert Forensic Psych, M.FMH

Dr Kasinathan is a formally trained Consultant Forensic Psychiatrist. He graduated with First Class Honours in Medicine from the University of Sydney. He is a Fellow of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists (FRANZCP) and holds formal Certification of Advanced Training in Forensic Psychiatry.

He is an RANZCP Accredited Supervisor in Forensic Psychiatry, a member of the Subcommittee for Advanced Training in Forensic Psychiatry and the Bi-national RANZCP Committee of the Special Interest Group in Child and Adolescent Forensic Psychiatry. He holds a Master's degree in Psychiatry (NSW Institute of Psychiatry) and a Master's degree in Forensic Mental Health, UNSW Australia.



Mr Lee Knight RN(MH), MN(CP), MFMH

Mr Knight trained in the UK at the University of Nottingham as a registered nurse in mental health. After working in the field of acute psychiatric admissions he immigrated to Australia in 2000.

Lee has extensive experience in acute inpatient mental health, community case management, acute care, consultation liaison psychiatry and forensic psychiatry.

In 2006 Lee joined Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network as a clinical nurse consultant in forensic psychiatry. Lee has worked for the Court Liaison Service offering comprehensive assessments on mentally ill offenders producing hundreds of comprehensive psychiatric reports and facilitating referrals both in custody and in community mental health facilities.

Lee's qualifications include a Master of Nursing in Clinical Practice (Majoring in Mental Health) (UTS) and a Master of Forensic Mental Health, UNSW Australia.

Dr Sascha Callaghan LLB (Hons), M Bioeth, PhD

Dr Callaghan is a lawyer and Conjoint Lecturer in mental health law UNSW Australia. Sascha's PhD research is in compulsory treatment for mental illness.

She is a recognised expert in mental health law and has published numerous articles on capacity and consent to medical treatment and decision making in mental illness, and has contributed to legislative reviews in several Australian jurisdictions.

Dr Sarah-Jane Spencer MA, MBBS, MRCPsych, FRANZCP, LLM

Dr Sarah-Jane Spencer is a Consultant Forensic Psychiatrist working in four of the Correctional Centres across NSW. Sarah-Jane is originally from the UK, she completed her pre-clinical medical education at Cambridge University before returning to London to complete her clinical studies at The Royal Free Hospital Medical School.

She specialised in psychiatry, completing her basic training working in Sydney and London and went onto further specialise in forensic psychiatry, a field Sarah-Jane has been working in since 2004. She has a particular interest in the law, with a Masters of Mental Health Law from Newcastle University and Sarah-Jane is a Medical Member of the Mental Health Review Tribunal in NSW.

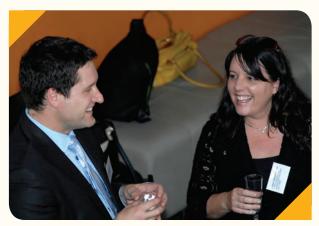




Master of forensic mental health orientation



L-R: Melissa Moretti, Shelley Caton, Sipho Nthakomwa



L-R: Dr Andrew Ellis, A/Prof Kimberlie Dean



L-R: Professor Philip Mitchell, Dr Barbara Sinclair



L-R: Elizabeth Roper, Dr Sue Morgans, Natalie Yee



L-R: A/Professor Dan Howard, Julie Babineau



L-R: Michael Sterry, Dr Antonella Ventura

Master of forensic mental health graduations



L-R: Kempo Bailey, Dr Barbara Sinclair, Dr Elizabeth Kaziro, Valerie Bailey, Dr Andrew Ellis



Beth Standen



L-R: Grey Moyo, Valerie Bailey, Kempo Bailey, Dr Andrew Ellis, A/Prof Kimberlie Dean



L-R: Professor Philip Mitchell, Haru Mumera, Jennifer Seymour, Dr Elizabeth Kaziro, Hilton Mtande, Alice Vafo'ou



L-R: Dr Antonio Simonelli, Govero Maposa, A/Prof John Basson, Dr Elizabeth Kaziro



Leanne Gulliver



Key contacts with the university

Department	Contact Details	Overview
UNSW Australia Website	unsw.edu.au	The UNSW Australia website is the gateway to university departments, schools, activities, and news. A good place to start a university-wide search.
Admissions Office (Postgraduate Coursework)	Lower Ground Floor, Chancellery Building Tel: +61 2 9385 3656 Queries for applicants: www.enquiry.unsw.edu.au	Queries regarding progress of your application. Please remember to quote your student ID and application number in all correspondence.
Graduate Research School (Research Student Administration)	Ground Floor, South Wing, Rupert Myers Building Tel: +61 2 9385 5500/5502 Email: medicine.grs@unsw.edu.au research.unsw.edu.au/units/graduate-research- school	Queries regarding applications and administrative procedures and policy for students enrolled in research degrees.
UNSW Student Central	Lower Ground Floor, Chancellery Building Tel: +61 2 9385 8500 Email: studentcentral@unsw.edu.au student.unsw.edu.au/student-central	Student enquiries – provides referral and advice on administrative procedures and policies for students enrolled in coursework degrees.
myUNSW	my.unsw.edu.au	Access enrolment information, check results, change personal contact details, pay fees, obtain copy of academic record and view information about UNSW procedures and deadlines.
Fees/Payment	Lower Ground Floor, Chancellery Building Tel: +61 2 9385 8500 Email: csandfees@unsw.edu.au my.unsw.edu.au/student/fees/FeesMainPage.html	Queries regarding fee payment
Moodle	teaching.unsw.edu.au/elearning	Information about web-based teaching and login to web-based courses.
The Learning Centre	Lower Ground Floor, Chancellery Building Tel: +61 2 9385 2060 Email: learningcentre@unsw.edu.au www.lc.unsw.edu.au	Offers support services and workshops in regards to developing academic skills eg writing, presentations, computers skills, plagiarism, referencing.
UNSW Library	Tel: +61 2 9385 2650 www.library.unsw.edu.au/ Postgraduate Services: www.library.unsw.edu.au	Find information resources for your assignments, access electronic resources & databases, advise you on library and information services.

Guidelines and procedures

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

If you intend to take leave for a session or two, you must contact your Project Manager before the census date for each session, i.e. Session 1, Session 2. Within your request please include your name, student number, the program you are in, your postal address and how many sessions of leave you wish to take.

Note: you will not be able to drop your total enrolment yourself online – you need permission from the School, thus it is imperative that you contact your Program Administrator. Further details are available on the School's website.

WITHDRAWAL FROM COURSES

The last date to discontinue a course without academic or financial penalty is the census date in each session. The census dates are:

Session 1 : 31 March 2015 Session 2 : 31 August, 2015

You can still discontinue courses on myUNSW until the end of Week 8. Until this time you will not be penalized academically for a withdrawal, however you are still held liable for fees for the course. If your discontinuation is the result of special circumstances you may wish to apply for reimbursement of charges for the course. In this case you should be able to show that:

- the special circumstances could not have been foreseen
- the circumstances are of such severity that you will be unable to continue the course, and
- you can supply documentation to confirm the special circumstances

More information will be placed on the MFMH website.

TAKING ELECTIVES FROM OTHER INSTITUTIONS

It is possible to take electives at other institutions once your request has been approved by the School. This is called crossinstitutional enrolment.

Students may access details from the website: http://www.forensicmentalhealth.unsw.edu.au

TRANSFERRING CREDITS FROM OTHER INSTITUTIONS

Students may apply for a credit transfer on the basis of relevant coursework previously completed. For further information on obtaining credit transfer for courses undertaken at other institutions see the MFMH website: http://www.forensicmentalhealth.unsw.edu.au

Please contact the Program Administrator if you think you may be eligible.

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

The University has an established set of procedures to follow for the resolution of grievances concerning any decision that affects standing or ability to progress in a program. Students should first attempt to resolve the grievance with the Course Convener. If the grievance is still unresolved, it should be directed to the Program Coordinator and the Head of School. Further procedures are listed on:

https://my.unsw.edu.au/student/atoz/Complaints.html

SPECIAL CONSIDERATION

On some occasions sickness, misadventure, or circumstance beyond your control may prevent you from completing a course requirement or attending or submitting assessable work for a course. Such assessable requirements may include a formal end of session examination, class test, seminar presentation, etc. It is also possible that such situations may significantly affect your performance in an assessable task. The University has procedures that allow you to apply for consideration for the affected assessments. Depending on the circumstances, the University may take action to allow you to overcome the disadvantage, e.g. give you additional assessment or extend a deadline.

Your should note that merely submitting a request for Special Consideration does not automatically mean that you will be granted additional assessment, nor that you will be awarded an amended result.

HOW TO APPLY FOR SPECIAL CONSIDERATION

You must make formal application for special consideration for the course/s affected as soon as practicable after the problem occurs, and within three working days of the assessment to which it refers. An application for extension for an assignment will be sent to you by Project Manager Dr Elizabeth Kaziro: elizabeth.kaziro@justicehealth.nsw.gov.au



YVETTE BLACK

I am an Occupational Therapist at the Macquarie Unit, a medium secure forensic mental health facility.

I enrolled in the Masters of Forensic Mental Health to increase my knowledge and confidence in this unique and often controversial area of mental health practice. While I had worked in various clinical areas and in mental health prior to the forensic unit, I had not the appreciation of how the

legal, ethical and risk issues intersected so much with psychiatric treatment. I was also very well supported by my managers, colleagues, the Western NSW LHD (Mental Health Drug & Alcohol Services), and the Justice Health & Forensic Mental Health Network – without this it would have been a much greater challenge.

The learning resources and lectures provide up to date insights into forensic mental health practice and I found that really interesting, as it was so applicable to situations at work. I have valued the experience as it has been a way in which I can improve my contributions on the unit as a colleague and practitioner, and will hopefully continue to do so! Being able to build up a network of professional contacts with such experience and knowledge in their specialist areas has been very beneficial, and the contributions of peers in the course enhances the learning experience further.

While the commitment in time and energy is significant, it is very rewarding, especially considering the topics and application of the course to work is very relevant.

I would suggest that new students make the most of the opportunities you have to read, learn and get involved... and a great collection of 'music to study to' was very helpful at times!

Key dates for 2015

The internal academic year is divided into two sessions, each containing fourteen weeks for teaching. There is a recess of six weeks between the two sessions and there are short recesses of one week within each of the sessions. (Note: There are currently no exams in the MFMH program).

SESSION 1 – 2015		
March 2 – June 27		
First Session begins	2 March, 2015	
Session 1 courses discontinue	31 March, 2015	
Without Failure		
Mid-session Recess	3-12 April, 2015	
Last day of Session	5 June, 2015	
Session 1 Assessment period	6-11 June, 2015	
Mid-year Recess	30 June-26 July, 2015	

SESSION 2 – 2015	
July 27 – November 5	
Second Session begins	27 July, 2015
Session 2 courses discontinue	31 August, 2015
Without Failure	
Mid-session recess	26 September-5 October, 2015
Last day of Session	30 October, 2015
Session 2 Assessment period	31 October-5 November, 2015

Location NSW Justice Health Suite 402 Level 3, 152 Bunnerong Road Eastgardens NSW 2036

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www.forensicmentalhealth.unsw.edu.au

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Master of Forensic Mental Health Handbook 2015

Master of Forensic Mental Health Program School of Psychiatry - Faculty of Medicine UNSW Australia