

## PSYC215 Written Assignment

**Deadline:** 4<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at 5pm (late penalty will apply later than this)

**Preparation session:** Week 12 (17<sup>th</sup> April in class)

**Word count:** 1,500-2,000 words (sentences that surpass the limit will not be graded)

**Format:** APA style (Font size 12, Times New Roman, double-spaced), no abstract, title page and reference list not included in the word count (in text citations are included)

**References:** Minimum of 5 quality primary source articles

**Grade worth:** 25%

**Submission:** Upload to Moodle **as a PDF**

### **Content:**

The written assignment entails an information sheet on a childhood or adolescent disorder of your choice. You must choose from the disorders covered in this course. The information sheet is aimed at parents and caregivers whose child has received a diagnosis. However, as this is still an academic exercise, you must still cite your sources and include a reference list in APA style.

The information sheet is based on a literature review and should include the following:

- a) A *description* of the symptoms of the disorder and related diagnostic criteria
- b) A *discussion* of the possible causes of the disorder
  - This should include at least two major theories which should be described in detail
  - These theories should be supported by research evidence
- c) A *critical analysis* of available treatments and the strength of supporting evidence
  - This should include at least two evidence-based treatments
  - Supporting evidence should not be presented as descriptions of studies, rather:
    - i. Supporting evidence should be presented as a synthesis of evidence
    - ii. Supporting evidence should also be presented with an analysis of its overall quality
  - Please note you are not required to describe or understand the treatment (no description is required, see the grading matrix), rather you are required to demonstrate an ability to critically analyse the evidence for the treatments

**Grading matrix:**

<b>Answer classification</b>	<b>Description of symptoms (10 points)</b>	<b>Discussion of causes (40 points)</b>	<b>Critical analysis of treatments (40 points)</b>	<b>Literature searching (5 points)</b>	<b>Presentation (5 points)</b>
<b>Excellent</b>	Relevant and accurate symptoms identified and diagnostic criteria presented (5-10 points)	Two or more causal theories are described accurately and in detail, and supporting evidence for these theories is presented clearly (30-40 points)	Two or more evidence-based treatments are identified, and the supporting evidence for these treatments is synthesized and critically analyzed appropriately (30-40 points)	Literature is relevant, up-to-date, and from a reliable source (5 points)	Meets APA criteria, perfect or near perfect referencing, and few or consistent grammar or spelling errors (5 points)
<b>Good</b>	Relevant and accurate symptoms identified but with some missing symptoms and/or missing diagnostic criteria (3-4 points)	Two or more causal theories are described but with some inaccuracies and/or lack of detail, and/or inaccuracies or lack of supporting evidence (20-29 points)	Two or more evidence-based treatments are identified, and the supporting evidence for these treatments is synthesized and critically analyzed, but with some inaccuracies or lack of critical appraisal (20-29 points)	Literature is relevant and from a reliable source, but incomplete, or out-of-date (3-4 points)	Meets APA criteria most of the time, some errors in referencing, and/or some grammar or spelling errors (3-4 points)
<b>Average</b>	At least one relevant symptom identified but many missing or inaccurate symptoms and/or diagnostic criteria (1-2 point)	Two or more causal theories are described but with major inaccuracies, and/or major inaccuracies or lack of supporting evidence (10-19 points)	Two or more evidence-based treatments are identified, and the supporting evidence for these treatments is synthesized and critically analyzed, but with major inaccuracies or severe lack of critical appraisal (10-19 points)	Literature is from a reliable source, but not always relevant, is incomplete, and/or out-of-date (1-2 points)	Meets APA criteria some of the time, but with major errors in referencing, and/or major grammar or spelling errors (1-2 points)
<b>Poor</b>	Only inaccurate or irrelevant symptoms identified	Insufficient number of theories and/or theories	Insufficient number of treatments, or non-evidence-based treatments, are	Literature is not relevant, and/or not from a reliable source	Does not meet APA criteria, and/or major grammar or

	(0 points)	described with with major inaccuracies, and/or missing supporting evidence (0-9 points)	identified, and/or a severe lack of critical analysis of the supporting evidence (0-9 points)	(0 points)	spelling errors that falls far behind academic expectations (0 points)
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