

COGNITION IN ACTION

LIVE SESSION I: ASSESSMENT INFORMATION



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ASSESSMENT ONE: ESSAY

- One x 2,500-word written essay to demonstrate an in-depth critical evaluation of applied cognition
- Counts towards 50% of the overall module mark
- Proforma with question, submission deadline, and task description on module Moodle page

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ASSESSMENT ONE: ESSAY

- **Draft** TurnItIn submission portal on Moodle.
 - Use to check similarity rating of work:
 - **Do not** just look at overall %,
 - Look at the breakdown of similarity
 - Give yourself time to make any changes!!
- Submit to draft portal as many times as you want
 - Note: after 3rd submission similarity is slower to generate

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ASSESSMENT ONE: ESSAY

- Ensure to then upload correct and final document to **Main** TurnItIn portal.
- Can only submit to final portal once

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ASSESSMENT ONE: ESSAY

Suggested plan for written word essay (2,500 words) = 50%

Task	What it entails	Time assigned to task
Research essay	Find and read what an essay entails	2 hours
Research topic	Research information for the particular essay topic area through books and journal articles	Basic books/journal articles = 15 hours Advanced books/journal articles = 16 hours
Writing first draft	This should be done in Word, start writing your basic arguments	10 hours
Writing second draft	Check coherence of argument and structure of argument flow throughout	6 hours
Writing final draft	Write version to be submitted, complete with citations and full reference list	4 hours
Proofread and check	Proofread for structure and errors, check for presentation + submit to draft Turnitin portal to check for plagiarism.	3 hours
Time allocated to assessment = 56 hours		

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ASSESSMENT ONE: ESSAY

- Standard Essay format:
 - Introductory paragraph setting out broad topic area/details of what will be discussed.
 - Main body to discuss theories and empirical research studies.
 - I.e., setting out main arguments to answer question
 - Critical evaluation of theory and research
 - Concluding paragraph to wrap-up essay, draw everything together, provide a conclusion about the arguments presented.
 - Important to link to real-world applications and implications
 - DO NOT repeat info from main body of the essay

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ASSESSMENT ONE: ESSAY

- Essay question will ask you to:
 - Critically **evaluate**
 - Will need to include evaluation of:
 - Any theories discussed
 - Empirical Research evidence
- Simply providing descriptions (even if they are correct) will not achieve high marks.

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ASSESSMENT ONE: ESSAY

- Discuss strengths and weaknesses
 - Of theories and empirical research studies
 - Evaluate their appropriateness for investigating the area they wish to explain.
- Discuss whether empirical research studies support or contradict the theories presented.
- **Best focus on a few aspects and discuss them in detail rather than try to cover lots of information at a superficial level.**

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ASSESSMENT ONE: ESSAY

Let's have a look at the
proforma on Moodle.

+

Task: start sourcing literature for
the essay

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ASSESSMENT TWO: CASE REVIEW BRIEFING REPORT

- One x 2,500-word written case review briefing report.
 - The aim is to apply knowledge of theory from cognitive psychology to explain behaviour in real-world settings, with subsequent suggestions for methods of intervention or changes to policy/practice.
 - Will be aimed at informing government/local health board/third sector organisation reviewers.
 - It is going to take some imaginative thinking on your part.

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ASSESSMENT TWO: CASE REVIEW BRIEFING REPORT

- Counts towards 50% of the overall module mark
- Proforma with question, further guidance, and submission deadline are on module Moodle page
- Same Draft and Final TurnItIn submission procedures as the essay

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ASSESSMENT TWO: CASE REVIEW BRIEFING REPORT

- **Assessment title:**
 - With support from a relevant cognitive theory relating to either attention, memory or decision making, produce a briefing report for the local health board to explain the lack of handwashing adherence in a recent case review of community healthcare settings, and explain what measures based upon current knowledge of your identified theory could be implemented to help improve adherence to the hand washing policy.

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ASSESSMENT TWO: CASE REVIEW BRIEFING REPORT

■ The assessment will involve the following:

1. Consider background to why the report is needed
 - I.e., issue in real-world setting has been identified
2. Apply theory from Cognitive Psychology to understand and explain why the identified issue may have occurred.
3. Make use of the theory to suggest new procedures to improve working practices to ensure issue does not happen again (or at least the likelihood is reduced).

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WHAT IS A CASE REVIEW BRIEFING REPORT?

■ To understand what a Case Review Briefing Report is, we first need to understand what is meant by a **case review**:

- When an incident occurs – e.g., fatality or serious harm (typically involving children or vulnerable adults), a case review is conducted to identify what happened and how professionals and organisations can improve the way they work to safeguard those under their care.
- Panel of independent experts advise local safeguarding boards about conducting and publishing the case review.
- These can be linked to local government, local authorities and local health boards.

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WHAT IS A CASE REVIEW BRIEFING REPORT?

- For this assessment, you will produce a briefing report for the local health board in response to a **HYPOTHETICAL** case review that has been published.
- This hypothetical case review was published due to an incident involving a group of patients within a community healthcare setting.

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WHAT IS A COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE SETTING?

- Diverse sector covering range of services – e.g.,
 - District nurses caring for the elderly in their homes
 - School nurses
 - Community clinics
 - Therapy services
- Link to website on community healthcare services:
[The King's Fund](#)

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WHAT IS A COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE SETTING?

- For this task, the community healthcare setting will be:
 - **District nurses visiting the elderly in their homes**

District Nursing:

- A healthcare service for people unable to visit the GP or community clinics
- Nursing care, advice and support to those permanently or temporarily housebound.
- Branch of nursing profession consisting of specialist district nurses, community staff nurses and health care support workers with a wide range of specialist skills.
- Work in partnership with other colleagues in the community and hospitals
- Usually involves 24-hour, seven-day-a-week services to enable individuals to maintain their own independence and achieve self-care.
- When that is not possible, care is provided for those unable to return to independence, with chronic debilitating conditions and at the end of their lives.

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SYNOPSIS OF THE CASE REVIEW (HYPOTHETICAL)

- The local health board has a strict handwashing policy that all district nurses must adhere.
- The policy provides guidance on proper handwashing techniques and stipulates handwashing procedures must be completed **before and after** entering a patient's property, to avoid spreading infections.
- The handwashing policy and detailed explanation of techniques to employ as part of the handwashing procedure are explained to district nurses during their training period.
- All district nurses must pass a written and practical test to demonstrate understanding and competency of the handwashing policy.

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SYNOPSIS OF THE CASE REVIEW (HYPOTHETICAL)

- However, it was brought to the health board's attention, that some nurses were not consistently adhering to the policy.
- Some were not following correct techniques, some were rushing, while some were not always washing their hands both before and after visiting a patient's property.
- As a consequence, eight patients contracted a serious infection, one of which led to a fatality.

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SYNOPSIS OF THE CASE REVIEW (HYPOTHETICAL)

- Information provided by the district nurses and local health board noted that due to staff shortages and increase in patients requiring care in the community, working hours became increasingly long in the months prior to the incident.
- Many nurses worked back-to-back shifts on multiple occasions per week and had to provide care to double the number of patients they would normally visit.

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SYNOPSIS OF THE CASE REVIEW (HYPOTHETICAL)

- The health board must now further investigate the incident particularly as all nurses had passed written and practical tests perfectly and had substantial experience in their roles.
- The health board will also look to implement new strategies to ensure an incident such as this does not occur again, even when workload capacity is being stretched.

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CONSTRUCTING THE CASE REVIEW BRIEFING REPORT



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WHAT IS A BRIEFING REPORT?

- A report providing a summary of facts/information quickly and effectively about an issue.
- Can be used to influence decisions, offer solutions, or suggest future course of action.
- Make use of outlined or sub-heading sections with a set of precise statements and instructions intended to inform an organisation of the issue at hand.

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THE BRIEFING REPORT

- Lots of information online regarding writing briefing reports
- However, your report must follow the structure and include information documented on the assessment proforma.
- Typical briefing reports use bullet points and are shorter than what is expected for this assessment.
 - To meet the learning outcomes for this module, your report needs to be more substantial and written in full coherent sentences and paragraphs, under the sub-headings outlined in the proforma.

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THE BRIEFING REPORT

- To explain to the health board why the handwashing policy had not been adhered, you must identify a theory from Cognitive Psychology and explain how it relates to the issue in the health board's case review.
- Your identified theory should then be used to make recommendations, suggestions, and implementations to new working procedures to help improve adherence to the handwashing policy.

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THE BRIEFING REPORT

- Up to you which theory to use.
- However, it **must** come from one of the following three sub-areas within cognitive psychology:
 - Attention (e.g., processing capacity models – e.g., Wickens)
 - Memory (e.g., working memory – e.g., Baddeley & Hitch)
 - Decision Making (e.g., risk models/cognitive biases – e.g., Kahneman/Tversky)

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THE BRIEFING REPORT

- Must ensure basic premise of theory is discussed
 - The report is for the (hypothetical) health board – those reading the report may not have knowledge of the cognitive theory you have chosen to discuss.
 - It is your job to explain the theory and provide justification for why you think it may have influenced the outcomes from the case review.

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STRUCTURE OF THE CASE REVIEW BRIEFING REPORT

1. Introductory paragraph setting context of the report.
2. Basics of theory (reference theory authors) and general empirical research examining the theory.
3. Specifically discuss how the theory explains the lack of hand washing noted in the case review and include examples where the theory has been previously used in a similar context.
4. Use knowledge of the theory to suggest procedures to implement in the community healthcare setting to improve adherence to the policy (e.g., automated notification on phone as external memory cue on exiting patient's property).

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STRUCTURE OF THE CASE REVIEW BRIEFING REPORT

- Be explicit and specific as to how understanding of the theory can be used to help ensure the policy is met by those working in the healthcare setting.
- Examples from literature on measures, procedures, techniques implemented in similar contexts based on your chosen theory should be included.

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STRUCTURE OF THE CASE REVIEW BRIEFING REPORT

- To end, acknowledge critique of the theory (generally and relating to the assessment scenario).
- Provide clear evaluation of link between theory and suggested implementation strategies.
- Acknowledge that the theory may not be the answer to dealing with the scenario.
- Provide a concluding paragraph and final thoughts/recommendations.

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STRUCTURE OF THE CASE REVIEW BRIEFING REPORT

Use the template report structure on Moodle to create your briefing report

This already contains the sub-headings to use within your report

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GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Finding credible peer-reviewed literature on a cognitive theory will be easy (lots of literature available in textbooks and journals).
- Finding credible peer-reviewed literature on adherence to hand-washing is also going to be easy.
- Challenging part: finding literature using cognitive theory applied to a similar scenario (how it explains what has happened and examples where it has been used to suggest improved working practices).
- So, before deciding on a theory, engage in literature searching to ensure there is sufficient evidence to include in your report.

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ASSESSMENT TWO: CASE REVIEW BRIEFING REPORT

Suggested plan for Case Review Briefing Report (2,500 words) = 50%

Task	What it entails	Time assigned to task
Research Case Review Briefing Report	Find and read up as to what a Case Review Briefing Report entails, using local health board and government websites	6 hours
Research topic area	Research information for the particular Case Review Briefing Report topic area through books, journal articles, and local health board/government websites	Basic books/journals /websites = 14 hours Advanced books/journals /websites = 14 hours
Writing first draft	This should be done in Word, start writing your basic arguments	10 hours
Writing second draft	Check coherence of argument and structure of argument flow throughout	5 hours
Writing final draft	Write version to be submitted, complete with citations and full reference list	4 hours
Proofread and check	Proofread for structure and errors, check for presentation + submit to draftTurnitin portal to check for plagiarism.	3 hours

Time allocated to assessment = 56 hours

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ASSESSMENT TWO: CASE REVIEW BRIEFING REPORT

Look at the proforma on Moodle to run through the specifics of the Case Review Briefing Report in more detail.

Example documents on Moodle of how to structure the report.

We'll also look at some past paper examples of Case Review Briefing Reports.

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READING

- Suggested reading:
 - For basic understanding:
 - Core texts associated with this module
 - Applied Cognitive Psychology, links to additional texts under weekly tiles on Moodle, etc.
 - For evaluation points:
 - Journal articles
 - Specialist textbooks on topic area

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READING

- Only use evidence from credible sources
 - Journal articles
 - Textbooks
 - Government website
- NO RANDOM INTERNET SITES OR WIKIPEDIA!!!

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READING

■ Finding Reading materials:

- Use relevant search engines
 - The Online Leganto Reading list on the module Moodle page
 - The Library Database
 - Google Scholar

Type key words from the title in to these databases to find relevant literature.

Tip:

When you find a relevant paper, do this to find more related reading:

1. Use the papers reference list to find previous work.
2. Type the name of the paper in Google Scholar or the library database and click on the "cited by" icon to see who has cited the paper since it was published.
 - This enables you to find more up-to-date work on the area.

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FINAL THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY AND ANY QUESTIONS



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