PSYCHOLOGY SUMMER CONFERENCE

17 JANUARY 2025



SUPPORTED BY





PROGRAM

8:45 am

WELCOME

Matthew Little, Conference Convenor

9:00 am

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Lydia Woodyatt, Flinders University

Lydia Woodyatt is a Professor in Psychology at Flinders University and an expert in using psychological science to enhance engagement, motivation, and well-being. Her research spans diverse areas including relationships, organisational leadership, workplace conflict, mental health, and education, with a focus on responses to failure, transgression, and moral repair. She co-created Flinders University's Certificate and Graduate Certificates in Mental Health and Wellbeing and developed the online topic The Psychology of Surviving and Thriving. As Teaching Program Director in Psychology, she has led initiatives to support student engagement and retention. An award-winning teacher and public speaker, Woodyatt's work is informed by her research into how psychology adapts to evolving ethical, technological, and societal challenges.

In this keynote address, we will explore the evolving landscape of Psychology, both in academia and the broader field. We'll examine how the experience for psychology students has shifted—highlighting changes in attitudes, content, engagement, and preparedness, as well as the increasing influence of technology, AI, and mental health considerations. We'll also delve into how the field of Psychology itself has transformed, addressing shifts in ethical practices, replication issues, workforce dynamics, research methodologies, and academic approaches. Finally, we'll examine what's been redefined in our thinking about psychology's role in education, research, and society.

10:00 am

CONCURRENT WORKSHOP SESSION 1

1.1 KEYNOTE FOLLOW-UP WORKSHOP

Lydia Woodyatt, Flinders University

Social Psychology is a dynamic field, constantly evolving to reflect societal shifts and emerging research. This workshop invites educators to critically evaluate the evolution of Social Psychology and its relevance to contemporary contexts. Together, we'll explore:

- How key theories and concepts in Social Psychology have adapted over time.
- The impact of cultural, technological, and societal changes on our understanding of human behaviour.
- Strategies for teaching students to critically assess the historical and modern significance of Social Psychology.

Through discussion and collaboration, participants will gain tools to deepen student engagement and foster critical thinking about this ever-changing field.

1.2 INNOVATIVE TASK DESIGN: TAKING THE TESTS OUT OF SATS

Lauren Scarfe, Adelaide Botanic High School

The current education shifts are looking at authentic and Al-proof assessments as well as developing skills and competencies that will be more useful to students in an Al world. Memorisation of content is taking a backseat as we look ahead to the future. It's time to think about ways in which we can tailor assessments to the skills and needs of students more effectively than giving them test after test. Try your hand at forming a new assessment task for next year and sharing ideas with others as we harness our collective genius.

1.3 WHAT I WISH THEY TOLD ME AND WHAT I'LL DO DIFFERENTLY THIS YEAR – ULTIMATE GUIDE FOR TEACHERS TO THRIVE IN 2025

Jai D'Antonio, St Columba College

Designed for early career and experienced teachers alike, this workshop dives into what every educator wished they'd known before starting out. Reflecting on the challenges and successes of 2024, this workshop will delve into practical strategies for engaging students, designing effective tasks, and exploring the 'lessons I wish I had known from the start but found out at the end'. Whether you're a new teacher navigating your first years, or a seasoned educator seeking fresh insights, this session offers actionable tips and a roadmap for you to thrive in 2025.

10:45 am

MORNING TEA

11:00 am

SACE EXAMINATION AND MODERATION REVIEW - PART 1

12:00 pm

CONCURRENT WORKSHOP SESSION 2

2.1 WHAT I WISH THEY TOLD ME AND WHAT I'LL DO DIFFERENTLY THIS YEAR – ULTIMATE GUIDE FOR TEACHERS TO THRIVE IN 2025

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2.2 HOW TO SCAFFOLD TASKS IN A WORLD DOMINATED BY SHORT-FORM CONTENT

Ethan Murphy, Muirden Senior College

Short-form content is taking over the world, and our students are here for it—snackable videos, instant answers, and endless scrolling. But how do we, as Psychology teachers, help them slow down, dig deeper, and actually think?

This workshop is all about fun, practical ways to scaffold tasks that meet students where they're at while still leading them to big "aha!" moments.

What you'll get:

- A look at how bite-sized content is shaping student attention (and what we can do about it).
- Creative scaffolding strategies that build knowledge and skills, one manageable step at a time.
- Tips to blend quick wins with deeper dives that keep students engaged.
- Ideas you can tweak and take straight back to your classroom.

It's all about making learning meaningful—and maybe even a little fun—in a world of 15-second fame.

2.3 ORGANISATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY IN POPULAR CULTURE

SA College of Organisational Psychologists, The University of Adelaide

This engaging workshop explores innovative ways to integrate popular culture into the teaching of Organisational Psychology. Participants will be introduced to creative ideas and diverse assessment types designed to connect psychological concepts with real-world examples from contemporary culture. The session aims to provide educators with practical resources and strategies to make the subject matter more relatable, relevant, and engaging for students. By the end of the workshop, teachers will be equipped to foster deeper connections between organisational psychology theories and the world around us, enhancing both students understanding and interest.

12:45 pm

LUNCH

1:30 pm

SACE EXAMINATION AND MODERATION REVIEW - PART 2

2:30 pm

CONCURRENT WORKSHOP SESSION 3

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3:15 pm

CONFERENCE PLENARY

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3:30 pm

HAPPY HOUR