

Dissertation Supervision

List of Supervisors and Procedure 2024/2025

Resident Lecturers

Name	Area of Specialisation	Special Interests
Dr Gottfried Catania- will not be available 2025/2026	Organisational psychology	Anything to do with human behaviour at the workplace, in particular workplace motivation, the influence of technology in the workplace, goal setting, performance management, diversity at work.
Dr Katya De Giovanni	Organisational Psychology/ Aviation Psychology	Educational and Career Transitions, The influence of technology at work, Aviation Psychology in general, Financial Literacy, Selection and Assessment
Dr Sandra Scicluna Calleja- will not be available 2024/25	Counselling Psychology	Psychoanalysis, ethics in psychology, psychotherapy, dreams, adult development, psychological well-being, gardening and urban farming, psychology of nature agriculture, attitudes towards climate change, conservation and sustainability and any interesting original topic.
Dr Marta Sant	Counselling Psychology	Qualitative research methodologies, interpersonal relationships, ageing, existential issues (e.g. life transitions, death and bereavement), mental health, the therapeutic relationship
Prof Paul Bartolo	Educational Psychology	Diversity and inclusion, professional psychology, cognitive development, qualitative research
Prof Carmel Cefai	Health & Educational Psychology	Health promotion, resilience, social and emotional learning, mental health in schools
Dr Anna Grech	Academic Psychologist	Addiction and Addictive Behaviour, Behavioural Addictions, Online Behaviour, Quantitative/Qualitative/ Mixed Methods
Dr Pamela Portelli	Health psychology	Addiction, chronic pain, adjustment, quality of life, eating disorders, eHealth, mental health
Dr Greta Darmanin Kissaun	Clinical Psychology/ Psychotherapy	Psychopathology; Personality Disorders; Issues in psychotherapy (e.g. transference and countertransference, the therapeutic frame, shame); unconscious motives for choosing psychology or psychotherapy as a career

Dr Kristina Bettenzana	Clinical Psychology/ Neuropsychology	Mental health (OCD, perfectionism, bipolar, suicide), neurodevelopmental disorders (ADHD, ASD), Neurodegenerative disorders (dementia, MS, Parkinsons), Acquired Brain Injuries (TBI, Brain Tumors), Attitudes to mental health (Implicit and Explicit)
Dr Chantal Avellino	Forensic Psychology	Anything related to Forensic Psychology
Prof Marilyn Clark	Forensic Psychology/ Social Psychology	Addiction careers; criminal careers; victimization careers; youth studies; safety of journalists
Dr Lorleen Farrugia	Social Psychology	Social Psychology
Prof Mary Ann Lauri	Social Psychology	Social media; children and internet; organ donation; digital citizenship

Visiting Lecturers

Name	Area of Specialisation
Ms Analise Grech Muscat analise.grech.12@um.edu.mt	Neuropsychology / Clinical Psychology
Ms Michaela Vassallo Gatt vassallogattmichela@gmail.com	Neuropsychology / Clinical Psychology
Ms Kristina Koller kkoll01@um.edu.mt	Neuropsychology / Clinical Psychology
Dr Erika Galea erika.galea@um.edu.mt	Educational Neuroscience: Neuroscience of learning, the neuroscience of emotion, and the complex interplay between cognition, behaviour, and emotional processes, examining the neural mechanisms underlying each domain and how they influence and shape one another. Memory and Learning; Executive Function Skills; and Attention and Focus
Ms Kelsey Renaud krena01@um.edu.mt kelseyrenaud93@gmail.com	Clinical Psychology
Ms Paula Zerafa paula.a.caruana@gmail.com	Clinical Psychology
Dr Tania Farrugia farrugiat@gmail.com	Clinical Psychology
Ms Gabriella Farrugia Cassar cassargabriella@gmail.com	Clinical Psychology
Dr Miriam Gerdali Gauci miriam.gerdali-gauci@um.edu.mt	Clinical Psychology
Ms Michèle Ricci michele.ricci.07@um.edu.mt	Clinical Psychology
Ms Jeannette Magrin jeannettemagrin@gmail.com	Clinical Psychology, Addiction, Trauma
Ms Nadya Abdilla nadya.abdilla@gmail.com	Clinical Psychology / family therapy
Dr Angie Chircop Coleiro chircopa@tcd.ie	Clinical Supervision, Living and/or working with chronic conditions / chronic pain including nature or animals in the therapeutic process, Grief and loss & Ethical, diverse, and inclusive practice

Ms Michaela Scerri michaela.scerri.14@um.edu.mt	Neuropsychology
Ms Monique Saliba monique.saliba.12@um.edu.mt	Neuropsychology
Ms Vinciana Vella vinciana.vella.15@um.edu.mt	Neuropsychology
Prof Ruth Falzon ruth.falzon@um.edu.mt	Counselling, Educational Psychology
Dr Elaine Schembri Lia elaine.schembri@gmail.com	Counselling Psychology/ Family Therapy
Ms Rena-Christine Vassallo rvass03@um.edu.mt	Counselling Psychology
Ms Mariella Mamo mariella.mamo@gov.mt	Counselling Psychology- specialised in rehabilitation psychology
Ms Marie Lanzon marie.n.lanzon.13@um.edu.mt	Counselling Psychology
Ms Sarah Formosa sarah.formosa.14@um.edu.mt	Counselling Psychology
Dr Stephanie Borg Bartolo sbart03@um.edu.mt	Counselling Psychology, specifically, infant and perinatal mental health
Dr Maris Catania maris.catania@um.edu.mt	Online behaviours, cyberpsychology, behavioural addictions, and substance addictions. Methodology: Both Qualitative and Quantitative
Ms Gail Debono gail.debono@um.edu.mt	Forensic Psychology
Ms Jessica Grech Parnis jessica.grech-parnis@gov.mt	Forensic Psychology
Ms Deborah Francalanza deborah.francalanza.14@um.edu.mt	Forensic Psychology
Ms Sarah Xiberras sarah.xiberras.15@um.edu.mt	Forensic Psychology
Ms Petra Scicluna petra.scicluna@um.edu.mt	Forensic Psychology
Ms Yanika Tabone	Forensic Psychology

Ytabo01@um.edu.mt	
Mr Kurt Abela kabel07@um.edu.mt	Forensic Psychology
Ms Franica Camilleri franica.cassar.06@um.edu.mt	Domestic violence
Ms Jo Christine Scicluna jsic01@um.edu.mt	Educational Psychology
Ms Ritianne Attard ritianne.attard@gmail.com	Educational Psychology
Ms Davina Schembri davina.schembri.09@um.edu.mt	Educational Psychology
Ms Lara Portelli lara.portelli.13@um.edu.mt	Educational Psychology
Dr Madeline Duca madeline_duca@hotmail.com	Educational Psychology
Ms Lara Jane Gauci lgauc03@um.edu.mt	Educational Psychology, ADHD, learning disorders, and other neurodevelopmental disorders
Ms Chantelle Cassar chantellepsy@gmail.com	Educational Psychology
Ms Francesca Diacono frannydiacono@gmail.com	Early intervention, early years, inclusive educational practices
Ms Charlotte Cuschieri charlotte107@gmail.com	Health Psychology
Ms Kay Cassar kaycassar@gmail.com	Health Psychology
Ms Giulia Bertone giulia.bertone.14@um.edu.mt	Health Psychology
Ms Martha Cutajar Penza martha.cutajar-penza.15@um.edu.mt	Health Psychology
Mr Andre Soler andre.soler.13@um.edu.mt	Health Psychology (with interest in Geriatric Psychology)
Dr Luke Buhagiar luke.buhagiar@um.edu.mt	Social Psychology

Ms Rebekah Mifsud rebekah.mifsud@um.edu.mt	Cognitive Psychology
Dr Marthese Borg marthese.borg@um.edu.mt	Cognitive Science, Linguistics, Artificial Intelligence (AI)
Ms Tram Nguyen tram.nguyen@um.edu.mt	Experimental and Cognitive Psychology
Mr Christian Vella cvell17@um.edu.mt	Geriatric Psychology
Ms Valeriya Bonkova valeriya.bonkova.14@um.edu.mt	Neuropsychology / Geriatric Psychology
Ms Claire-Suzanne Borg claire-suzanne.borg@hotmail.com	Organisational Psychology/ Psychometric Tests
Ms Lara Farrugia lara.debbie@gmail.com	Organisational psychology with a strong interest in topics related to workplace culture, employee engagement, performance management, and organisational change. Methodology: Qualitative
Mr John Paul Muscat johnpaulm18@gmail.com	Positive Psychology
Ms Sana Grillo sanagrillo@gmail.com	Sports Psychology
Dr Daniel Vella Fondacaro daniel.vella-fondacaro@gov.mt	Sports Psychology
Ms Rosanne Rocco rosanneformosa@yahoo.co.uk	Sports Psychology
Ms Beverley Abela Gatt bev.abela@gmail.com	Gender Studies
Dr Collette Farrugia Bennett cfarr08@um.edu.mt	Gender and Sexuality
Mr Vince Mallia vincemallia@hotmail.com	Men, male friendships, masculinities, LGBTIQ+, sexualities, genders, and dating apps
Mr Ian Vella ian.vella@hotmail.com	Gender Studies, Human resources and Leadership, Motivation/ Engagement and Performance Management/ Methodology: Qualitative
Prof Louis Lagana louis.lagana@um.edu.mt	Psychology and the Arts, Wellbeing
Prof Ian M Thornton Ian.thornton@um.edu.mt	MAKS (Cognitive Science, Dynamic Representations, Attention, Biological Motion, Faces & Bodies, Virtual Reality & Mobile Devices)

Prof Holger Mitterer Holger.mitterer@um.edu.mt	MAKS (Psycholinguistics, Phonetics)
Prof Andrew Azzopardi andrew.azzopardi@um.edu.mt	Social movements, community development, social policy, youth studies, youth activism & disability studies.
Ms Carmen Mangion carmen.d.mangion@um.edu.mt	Youths / Higher education / Well-being
Dr Maria Pisani maria.pisani@um.edu.mt	Migration

You might also wish to approach Resident Academics from the following Departments within the Faculty for Social Wellbeing:

Department of Counselling Department of Criminology
 Department of Disability Studies
 Department of Family Studies Department of Gender Studies
 Department of Gerontology
 Department of Social Policy and Social Work
 Department of Youth and Community Studies

You might also wish to approach Resident Academics within the Department of Cognitive Science within the Faculty of Media and Knowledge Science

Procedure:

1. Decide on an area of study and attempt to formulate a research agenda and research approach
2. Identify a potential supervisor from the above list.
3. **AVOID contacting multiple potential supervisors at the same time as it WILL take up the space of another student.**
4. Make an appointment and meet with the supervisor. **ONCE you have a supervisor you CANNOT go “shopping” for other supervisors.**
5. If the individual you wish to supervise your dissertation is not on the list of approved supervisors and is not a member of staff within the Faculty of Social Wellbeing, you are required to discuss this in the first instance with the Dissertations Coordinator.
6. Secure a commitment to supervision and together with the supervisor, complete the Research Proposal Form.
7. Supervisors have two weeks to ANSWER emails and three weeks to CORRECT work.

8. You can have two face-to-face (online) supervision sessions re the proposal and three face-to-face (online) supervision during the write-up of the dissertation. All other correspondences/queries should be addressed via email.
9. If you have difficulties in your supervisory relationship – 1) you speak to your supervisor and if it is not resolved 2) discuss it with the dissertation coordinator.

Submission deadlines:

- Second Year B.Psy (Hons.) students: Please submit your Research Proposal on VLE by Monday 17th November 2025
- Higher Diploma in Psychology students: Please submit your Research Proposal on VLE by Monday 10th November 2025

Please note that prospective supervisors can only be contacted via the work email available on the UoM website or the email provided by Ms Elena Mallia (Administrator, Department of Psychology). **Prospective supervisors should not be contacted via Facebook, LinkedIn, Messenger, WhatsApp, text message etc. Students are not to share prospective supervisors' email addresses with one another or on social media.**