**BEHL1005: Applied Psychology**

**Slide 1: Introduction**

This is a presentation on writing a case study which is the second assessment for this course. The presentation focuses of what a case study is, the processes that are involved when writing a case study and some good and weak examples. The case used in this presentation is an example only. Please refer to your Learnonline site for the actual case study that you need to address.

**Slide 2: What is a case study?**

A case study is a description of a situation that you are likely to encounter in your working life, which you will be required to analyse and respond to. A case study allows you to think about the complexities of real-life situations and use the theories and concepts that you have learnt to provide realistic and practical solutions to address problems.

**Slide 3: Processes involved**

There are three important processes that you need to undertake when working on a case study and they are: 1) analyse the case; 2) relate theories/concepts; and 3) address the problem. When you analyse the case you need to find out what the facts are, what has happened, who is involved and what their role is. To really examine in-depth all of the possible issues included in the case, you need to read and think at the same time.

As you need to use theories to make your interpretation, it is important to read about the theories and identify those that align to the case. You would then need to apply your chosen theory or theories to relate to the case. It is important that you use the theory to explain the conditions or situation of the client or clients in the case.

Finally, you need to address the problem. You would do this by making assessments, identifying solutions and making recommendations. However, it is important to read and identify what you are required to do in your assessment task as your instructor would have clearly specified what you are required to do.

**Slide 4: Case Example**

On this slide, you can see an example of a case. Normally, the case would be presented to you in paragraph form and you would be expected to analyse and interpret the case using the theories or concepts that you have learnt in class. Using a table such as the one presented on this slide, helps you to better analyse the case. In this example, there are multiple clients. You may be asked to assess a case similar to this or you may be required to work on a case that has only one client. No matter which case you are presented with, you would be required to do an in-depth analysis of the case, apply theories to make interpretations and come up with recommendations or solutions.

**Slide 5: The task**

On this slide you can see the task that you are required to address for Assessment 2 of this course. Please refer to your Learnonline site for the actual case that you need to refer to for the completion of the task. Remember that are three components that you need to address for this task.

**Slide 6: Associated Processes**

Before you begin writing your answer, you need to carefully read and understand the case. Next, you need to read about the developmental theories that have been introduced to you in class. Then you need to select two of the theories to discuss the developmental issues that have contributed to the life situation of the client in your chosen case study. You need to justify why you selected these theories. You would also be expected to describe the main principles for each of the theories you selected and apply them to inform your interpretations or practice.

**Slide 7: Structure of answer**

For Assessment 2 in this course, you are expected to structure your answer for the case study in the form of an essay. Your answer should comprise three sections, the introduction, body and conclusion. The introduction should comprise approximately 10% of the total word count of your discussion. In this component you would generally introduce the case that you have selected, one or two of the related issues, the theories that you would apply to make your interpretations and how you would organize your answer.

In the body section which consists of approximately 80% of the total word count, you would use paragraphs to address the different sections of the tasks. Each paragraph should have a topic sentence to introduce the key point and each of the key points should be expanded with evidence and justification. Where applicable, examples should be used to make a point clearer. Whenever you refer to external evidence, you need to cite these using the APA 6th edition referencing conventions. You should also include a reference list at the end of your discussion.

The conclusion of approximately 10% of the total word count should include a restatement of the thesis statement or the main message of your discussion. You should also interpret or recap the key ideas that you raised in the body section and conclude your argument. No new ideas should be introduced in the conclusion.

**Slide 8: Intro: Good and weak examples**

On this slide you are presented with a good and weak example of an introduction section. Do be aware that the writer addresses the example case study that was illustrated on Slide 4. This is not the case that you are required to analyse for Assessment 2. Please refer to your course Learnonline site for the actual case study.

Due to space limitations, the complete introduction has not been presented. You would be required to write a complete introduction that includes the different sections identified on Slide 7. Furthermore, please ensure that you do not repeat the case in your introduction.

**Slide 9: Body example (Good)**

On this slide and the next, you can see an example of a good body paragraph. Please take some time to observe how the writer has organised their answer.

**Slide 10: Body (cont’d): Good example**

On this slide you can see the continuation of a good example of the body paragraph.

**Slide 11: Body: Weak example**

On this slide you can observe a weak example of the body paragraph. If your discussion of the case study is similar to that of the example provided on this slide, you may not obtain good grades.

**Slide 12: Conclusion: Good example**

On this slide, you can see an example of a good conclusion.