NCS2102
Mental Health: Case study
Maureen Buckingham – Senior Learning Adviser
How to approach case studies

Critical reading and re-reading of unfolding case study/questions
Critical thinking, reading, understanding, researching, problem solving, applying
Prep/Planning – review assignment instructions and watch UC video
Reviewing modules 1 – 6 and readings
Structure of your case study

Introduction

Main body will be structured around the 6 questions (you can copy and paste question into your assignment or use clear topic sentences using the key words from the question).

Conclusion

References
Introduction

*Topic/Orientation* – opens the topic and establishes the broader context. Sometimes includes definitions

*Purpose/Thesis statement*

*Structure* – outlines your approach

---

When writing your introduction:

- Introduce broad topic and use the key words or terms from the task
- Be very clear about your purpose
- Be very clear about structure and what will follow.
- Mention the scope (extent and limitations) of your writing, if appropriate
How is a case study written?

- All case studies need to be written in a clear and concise style.
- The style of writing is more direct than an essay, with a more economic use of language.
- Writing is usually in full sentences using correct grammar, spelling and punctuation.
- Structure around the questions provided and write in paragraph format.
- Organise paragraphs in a logical sequence.
  - One key idea per paragraph with a topic sentence and supporting sentences.
- All sources must be acknowledged and referenced using APA style.
Apply the case study

There should be a mix of your academic voice answering the question and applying to the case study supported with quality academic evidence.

Your discussion and academic references should be linked to the case study to show direct relevance and your understanding of what is being asked.

Body paragraph structure

T.....Topic sentence (One sentence that explains the idea for that paragraph –addresses question)

E.....Explain (Flesh out the idea a bit more) Apply to case study

E.....Evidence (Provide research to support your discussion)

L.....Link (Link the idea back to your topic by explaining how the evidence is significant to the topic)
A good conclusion

- Restates the topic.
- Sums up the key ideas in relation to the topic/case study.
- No new ideas.
- Finishes with statement to broader topic.
A word about referencing ….

Must have minimum of 10 sources (peer reviewed journal articles/texts) within 5 years of publication.

You must comply with the ECU APA referencing guide and ensure all in-text and end-text references are correct.

- In-text:
  - Surname and year only for paraphrasing e.g.
    Smith (2014) stated….. or
    The objective of nursing care is to resolve actual health problems, prevent potential problems and maintain a patient’s healthy state (Phillips, 2013).
- End-text: review ECU Quick Referencing Guide and follow the format depending on the source type
  - http://ecu.au.libguides.com/referencing

Entries need to be alphabetical as per the first author listed on the source.
Proofreading and editing

- **Editing** focusses on the structure of your ideas within paragraphs i.e. What you say.
- **Proofreading** focusses on the grammar and punctuation. If this is not your strong point, go to this site for the rules:

  Consider going to following workshops:
  
  - Proofread for Grammar
  - Write Better Sentences
  - Perfect Your Punctuation
  - Make Your Writing Flow

  Review the schedule or PPTs from the Academic Skills Centre community site.

Formatting

Follow the 2019 Assignment Guidelines document and use the assignment template.
What will the marker be looking for in my answer?

1. That you answer ALL parts/questions outlined in the assignment instructions.
2. That you showed critical analysis of the case study and integrated credible, relevant evidence to support your discussion.

…..and?

2. That your answer adheres to the marking rubric.
Good luck!