



THE ENHANCED COGNITIVE INTERVIEW (ECI)

This 2-day Enhanced Cognitive Interview (ECI) Course is designed for Student Conduct Investigators who already have foundational interviewing skills and are required to conduct complex and sensitive interviews, particularly in cases involving sexual misconduct and harassment. Aligned with the OIA Good Practice Framework and OfS Condition E6, the course supports the requirement for appropriately trained investigators by developing advanced, evidence-based interviewing capability. The Enhanced Cognitive Interview is widely recognised as an effective approach for improving memory recall while remaining trauma-informed, fair and procedurally robust.

Using realistic student conduct scenarios, participants learn how to apply ECI techniques within institutional investigations to obtain more detailed and reliable accounts, manage trauma-related responses and conduct interviews that meet regulatory expectations and sector good practice.

BY THE END OF THE COURSE DELEGATES WILL LEARN:

1. The stages of memory, including its constructive nature and the key factors that can affect recall at each stage
2. The core instructions of the Cognitive Interview (CI) and the structure and purpose of the Enhanced Cognitive Interview (ECI)
3. The impact of trauma on memory and recall, and how to apply trauma-informed strategies during interviews
4. The types of conduct interviews in which the ECI can assist, including complex and sensitive student conduct cases
5. How to apply the Enhanced Cognitive Interview in a realistic student conduct scenario to enhance the quality and reliability of evidence

ABOUT THE TRAINER

James Harris is an experienced investigator and trainer with a professional background spanning law enforcement, higher education, and governance. Over the course of his career, he has led and supported complex investigations, delivered specialist training, and helped organisations strengthen their approach to fairness, accountability, and professional conduct

