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PSYCHOLOGY HONOURS 2018

AIM

To provide a fourth year course accredited by the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC) that will:

1. enable you to apply for postgraduate study
2. permit provisional registration with the Psychology Board of Australia

COURSE DESCRIPTION

- 1 year full-time\(^1\) study consisting of:
  - Empirical project (50% of final Honours mark) – throughout Semester 1 and 2
  - 2 x Special Fields electives (each worth 15%) \textbf{OR} Theoretical Thesis (30%) – Semester 1
  - Psychological Research Methods (15%) – Semester 1
  - Ethics and Professional Issues (5%) – Semester 2

\(^1\) Part-time candidature is not normally offered for Honours studies but may be permitted, only under special circumstances.
ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

1. a complete\textsuperscript{2} Bachelor's degree or equivalent from a recognised institution

2. obtained within the past 10 years

3. completed with a major in Psychology

3. accredited by APAC (https://www.psychologycouncil.org.au/)

**WHICH INCLUDES:**

4. at least 48 credit points (or equivalent) of Intermediate and Senior Psychology

AND

5. a credit average result in second and third year Psychology units

\textbf{(NB: This is a minimum requirement. A credit average may not be sufficient for entry into Honours because the strength of the cohort varies each year.)}

AND

6. completion of a statistical methods unit at third year level (e.g. PSYC3010 at the University of Sydney)

**ADDITIONAL CRITERIA:**

- If you are a University of Sydney Faculty of Science student, a SCIWAM of at least 65

- If you wish to be considered for the Theoretical Thesis option, successful completion of a third-year level History and Philosophy of Psychology unit

\textsuperscript{2} If not already awarded, requirements for the bachelor degree must be completed by 31\textsuperscript{st} December 2017.
SELECTION PROCESS

• There is a limit of approximately 80 places in the Honours program, subject to staff availability.
  o A maximum of 6 places may be offered to external applicants. We openly give preference to University of Sydney students and thus have very few places for external applicants. We reserve the right to offer places exclusively to internal applicants if demand is sufficiently high.

• Entry into Honours in Psychology at the University of Sydney is based solely on academic performance in Intermediate (second year) and Senior (third year) level Psychology.

• An Honours application mark is calculated for each applicant in which performance in Senior Psychology (third year) is weighted double that of Intermediate Psychology (second year). See: http://sydney.edu.au/science/psychology/future_students/honours/index.shtml for spreadsheets that show example calculations of the Honours application mark.

• Applicants are rank ordered according to their academic performance, and the first applicants in order of merit up to the designated limit will be offered a place in the Honours program regardless of the degree in which they are currently enrolled.
  o Because of the limit on places in the Honours program, the minimum application mark for internal students is typically a distinction average but will vary from year to year depending on the strength of the cohort.
  o Given the limited number of places, the Honours application mark for external applicants is considerably higher than for internal students. Eligible external students are expected to have an Honours application mark that exceeds 85 (out of 100). Note that this is a minimum requirement and does not guarantee that an offer will be made.

• Current Bachelor of Psychology (B.Psych) students who meet the criteria for progression to the fourth year (Honours) of the B.Psych course (see the Faculty of Science Handbook) will be admitted into the Honours program.
HOW TO APPLY FOR HONOURS

Please note that there are different processes for applying for Honours depending on your current/existing degree and where you completed it. The following section has information about how to apply for Honours, but the exact steps you need to take will depend on your situation.

• Internal Applicants (University of Sydney - Bachelor of Psychology) – Step 2 ONLY
• Internal Applicants (University of Sydney - all other degrees) – Step 2 and 3 ONLY
• External Applicants (from Australian institutions) – Steps 2, 3, and 4 ONLY
• External Applicants (from International institutions) – Steps 1, 2, 3, and 4

STEP 1 – APAC Accreditation

External applicants who complete their degree at non-Australian universities must have their undergraduate qualification assessed for equivalence to an Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC) accredited sequence of study.

The Australian Psychological Society (APS) is the national authority in Australia for assessment of overseas academic qualifications in Psychology. The APS will assess your psychology qualification for a fee: http://www.psychology.org.au/membership/qualifications

Please contact the APS with queries regarding accreditation and degree equivalence. The University of Sydney School of Psychology cannot provide you with equivalence checks.

STEP 2 – School of Psychology Honours Application

All applicants must complete a School of Psychology Honours application by 30th November 2017.

The School of Psychology Honours application is completed in an online form, available at: http://sydney.edu.au/science/psychology/future_students/honours/index.shtml

When you confirm and submit your School of Psychology Honours application, a receipt will be emailed to you. Please save this receipt as a PDF, as depending on your situation, you may need it for the following steps.
STEP 3 – University Application via Sydney Student

Submit a formal University application via Sydney Student by 30th November 2017. See the table below for the relevant application links. As part of your University application, you will be asked to submit proof of contact with a supervisor – you do not need to contact a potential supervisor, rather upload your saved PDF of the receipt of your School of Psychology Honours application. You do not need to contact potential supervisors to complete your University application.

APPLICATION LINKS BASED ON YOUR DEGREE

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<tr>
<th>Your degree</th>
<th>Apply for</th>
<th>University Application Link</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BSc (or equivalent)</td>
<td>BSc(Hons)</td>
<td><a href="http://sydney.edu.au/courses/bachelor-of-science-honours">http://sydney.edu.au/courses/bachelor-of-science-honours</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA (or equivalent)</td>
<td>BA(Hons)</td>
<td><a href="http://sydney.edu.au/courses/bachelor-of-arts-honours">http://sydney.edu.au/courses/bachelor-of-arts-honours</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BHlthSci</td>
<td>BSc(Hons)</td>
<td><a href="http://sydney.edu.au/courses/bachelor-of-science-honours">http://sydney.edu.au/courses/bachelor-of-science-honours</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>BPsych</td>
<td>BSc(Hons)</td>
<td><a href="http://sydney.edu.au/courses/bachelor-of-science-honours">http://sydney.edu.au/courses/bachelor-of-science-honours</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GradDipPsyc</td>
<td>BSc(Hons)</td>
<td><a href="http://sydney.edu.au/courses/bachelor-of-science-honours">http://sydney.edu.au/courses/bachelor-of-science-honours</a></td>
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STEP 4 – Academic Reference

Offers made to external applicants will be conditional. The external applicant must arrange for one academic reference – this will be requested from you if a conditional offer is made to you, so you do not need to send this information until requested. The Honours Coordinator will assess the academic reference, either withdrawing the conditional offer or making the offer unconditional.
OFFERS OF PLACES

Offers of places in the 2018 Honours program will be made from mid-December 2017 to early January 2018. Successful applicants will be required to indicate their acceptance by the first week of January 2018.

All applicants should ensure that both the School of Psychology (i.e. in your School Application) and the University (i.e. in your University Application) have their current email address and phone number. Places will not be held for applicants who fail to respond to their offer by reported deadlines.
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

My application in Sydney Student is asking for proof that a supervisor is willing to oversee my Honours studies. What should I do?

As part of your University application, you will be asked to submit proof of contact with a supervisor – you do not need to contact a potential supervisor and should instead upload your saved PDF of the receipt of your School of Psychology Honours application. You do not need to contact potential supervisors to complete your Faculty application.

I have already completed a postgraduate qualification. Will this count towards my Honours application mark or towards my Honours coursework if I am accepted into the Honours program?

No. Entry into the Honours program is based on academic performance in undergraduate psychology only. Advanced standing is not given to applicants with postgraduate qualifications.

I completed some of my psychology units of study while on exchange at an overseas university. How will my Honours application mark be calculated?

For internal applicants, your Honours application mark will be based only on psychology units of study completed at the University of Sydney.

I want to do Honours in 2019, not 2018. Should I apply now and defer any offer that I get?

Applicants enrolled in degrees other than the Bachelor of Psychology cannot defer an offer into the Honours program. If you wish to be considered for a later Honours year (e.g. 2019) please apply the year before.

I have relevant work experience. Will this be taken into account when I apply for Honours?

No. Entry into the Honours program is based on academic performance in undergraduate psychology only.
QUESTIONS?

If you cannot find the answer to your question in this document or at this website http://sydney.edu.au/science/psychology/future_students/honours/index.shtml

Please email: psychology.honours@sydney.edu.au