School of Psychology

Applying for Psychology Honours
2016

Information Booklet
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Psychology Honours 2016

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PSYCHOLOGY HONOURS 2016

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 (part time candidature may only be permitted under special circumstances)
• Empirical project (50%) – Semester 1 and 2
• Special Fields Options (2 Special Fields), each worth 15% OR Theoretical Thesis (30%) – Semester 1
• Psychological Research Methods (15%) – Semester 1
• Ethics and Current and Professional Issues (5%) – Normally Semester 2

SPECIAL FIELDS OPTIONS IN THE PSYCHOLOGY HONOURS PROGRAMME:

Seminars (2 hours per week in Semester 1) are offered in a range of areas. The seminars will vary, subject to availability of staff. Below is a list of recently offered seminars.

• Language
• Intelligence and Cognitive Ability
• The placebo effect: something from nothing?
• Developmental psychology and education
• The Self: Social Psychological Perspectives
• Animal Learning & Cognition
• Child Clinical Psychology
• Theory & Systems
• Word-reading thrills and experiment skills
• Neuroscience
• Quality of life and other patient reported outcomes.
• Current Issues in Individual Abilities
• Developmental Neuropsychology
• Psychological interventions
• Human Learning and Cognition
• Emotional Intelligence
• Psychopharmacology: Drugs & Behaviour
• Eyewitness and Forensic Psychology
• Qualitative Research Methods
• Religion, Spirituality, and Psychological Health
ENTRY REQUIREMENTS (for 2016 entry)

1. an APAC (http://www.psychologycouncil.org.au/) accredited Bachelor's degree from a recognized University with an accredited Psychology major obtained within the past 10 years

   WHICH INCLUDES

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

   AND

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

   NB. This is a minimum requirement. It may not be sufficient because the strength of the cohort varies each year.

   AND

4. completion of a statistical methods unit at third year level

   AND

5. successful completion of a History and Philosophy of Psychology unit at third year level only if you wish to be considered for the Theoretical Thesis option.

   AND

6. a SCIWAM of at least 65 only if you are a Science Faculty student.

Please note: All undergraduate students in the faculty of Arts and Social Sciences must complete their Honours requirements within no more than 10 years from commencement of candidature in their pass degree. Detailed information can be found at:


SELECTION

- There is a quota of approximately 80 places in the Honours programme, subject to staff availability. A maximum of 6 places maybe offered to external applicants.

- Selection is based solely on academic performance in Intermediate (second year) and Senior (third year) level Psychology, with performance in third year weighted double.

- The first applicants in order of merit up to the designated quota (approximately 80) will be offered places in the Honours programme regardless of the degree in which they are enrolled.

- BPysch students who meet the criteria for progression to the fourth year (Honours) of the BPysch course (see the Faculty of Science Handbook) will be admitted into the Honours programme.

Note to applicants from Universities other than The University of Sydney:

Entry into Psychology Honours at The University of Sydney is based solely on academic merit. It is competitive because we have a limited quota and there are many more applicants than places. We openly give preference to our own psychology students and thus have very few places for external
applicants. We reserve the right to offer places exclusively to internal candidates if demand is sufficiently high, but we may decide to make up to a maximum of 6 external offers in a given year. Given the limited number of places, the application mark for external applicants is considerably higher than for internal students. Because of the quota, the minimum application mark for internal students is typically a distinction average (it varies slightly from year to year depending on the strength of the cohort, but not by much). Eligible external students are expected to have an application mark exceeding 85/100 (note that this is a minimum requirement and does not guarantee that an offer will be made).

CALCULATION OF YOUR HONOURS APPLICATION MARK

Please refer to the appropriate spreadsheets on our future Honours webpage:


APPLYING FOR HONOURS: INTERNAL APPLICANTS

Internal applicants are those who have completed an accredited degree with an accredited psychology major in the School of Psychology at the University of Sydney within the past ten years.

Step 1 INTERNAL APPLICANTS: School application

ALL internal applicants (including BPsych and BA (Psych) students) must first apply directly to the School of Psychology by submitting the School of Psychology online Application Form by 30 November 2015. The online application form is available at the following URL and will open in early September:


Completion of the School application will generate an email receipt to you. Save/Print this email to PDF as you will need it to complete the next step.

Step 2 INTERNAL APPLICANTS: Faculty application (ALL INTERNAL APPLICANTS EXCEPT B.PSYCH Students*)

Submit a Faculty application through Sydney Courses by 30 November 2015 (even if your Faculty has a later deadline):

INTERNAL Students who have completed OR are completing:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Your degree</th>
<th>Apply for:</th>
<th>Application Link</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BSc</td>
<td>BSc (Hons)</td>
<td><a href="http://sydney.edu.au/courses/bachelor--science--honours">http://sydney.edu.au/courses/bachelor--science--honours</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA</td>
<td>BA (Hons)</td>
<td><a href="http://sydney.edu.au/courses/bachelor--arts--honours">http://sydney.edu.au/courses/bachelor--arts--honours</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLAS</td>
<td>BLAS (Hons)</td>
<td><a href="http://sydney.edu.au/courses/bachelor--liberal--arts--and--science--honours">http://sydney.edu.au/courses/bachelor--liberal--arts--and--science--honours</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BCom(LibStud)</td>
<td>BCom(LibStud) (Hons)</td>
<td><a href="http://sydney.edu.au/courses/bachelor--commerce--liberal--studies--honours">http://sydney.edu.au/courses/bachelor--commerce--liberal--studies--honours</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSc(Adv)</td>
<td>BSc(Adv)(Hons)</td>
<td><a href="http://sydney.edu.au/courses/bachelor--science--advanced--honours">http://sydney.edu.au/courses/bachelor--science--advanced--honours</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BHlthSci</td>
<td>BSc (Hons)</td>
<td><a href="http://sydney.edu.au/courses/bachelor--science--honours">http://sydney.edu.au/courses/bachelor--science--honours</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GradDipPsyc</td>
<td>BSc (Hons)</td>
<td><a href="http://sydney.edu.au/courses/bachelor--science--honours">http://sydney.edu.au/courses/bachelor--science--honours</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*B.Psych</td>
<td>No need to submit a Faculty Application</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
On the Faculty Application Form, you will be asked to submit evidence of having made contact with a supervisor – this is where you should upload the saved PDF of the email receipt of the School application. You DO NOT NEED to contact potential supervisors to complete your application.

**APPLYING FOR HONOURS: EXTERNAL APPLICANTS**

**External applicants** are those who have completed an accredited degree with an accredited psychology major somewhere other than in the School of Psychology at the University of Sydney within the past ten years. Please only submit an application if your average mark in psychology units of study is likely to be 85/100 or above. **External students who completed their bachelor's degrees at non-Australian universities must have their undergraduate qualification assessed for equivalence to an Australian Psychology Accredited Council (APAC) accredited sequence of study.** The Australian Psychological Society (APS) is the national assessing 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](http://www.psychology.org.au/membership/qualifications)

**Step 1 EXTERNAL APPLICANTS: School application**
ALL external applicants must first apply directly to the School of Psychology by submitting the School of Psychology online Application Form by 30 November 2015. The online application form is available at the following URL and will open in early September:


Completion of the School application will generate an email receipt to you. Save/Print this email to PDF as you will need it to complete the next step.

**Step 2 EXTERNAL APPLICANTS: Faculty application (ALL EXTERNAL APPLICANTS)**
Submit a Faculty application through Sydney Courses by 30 November 2015 (even if your Faculty has a later deadline):

**EXTERNAL Students who have completed OR are completing:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Your degree</th>
<th>Apply for</th>
<th>Application Link</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BSc or similar</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 similar</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>
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</table>

On the Faculty Application Form, you will be asked to submit evidence of having made contact with a supervisor – this is where you should upload the saved PDF of the email receipt of the School application. You DO NOT NEED to contact potential supervisors to complete your application.

**Step 3 EXTERNAL APPLICANTS: Academic reference**

Any offers made to external students will be conditional in the first instance. If a conditional offer is received, the external applicant must also arrange for an academic reference to be emailed to the Honours Coordinator, [psychology.honours@sydney.edu.au](mailto:psychology.honours@sydney.edu.au) by 8 January, 2016. The coordinator will read the reference before deciding whether to confirm the offer unconditionally.
OFFERS OF PLACES

Offers of places in Honours will be sent out between mid December and early January. Students will be required to indicate their acceptance by the first week of January. For these reasons, applicants must complete their application processes before November 30, 2015, even if the Faculty applications have later deadlines.

All applicants should ensure that their Faculty and the School of Psychology have their current email address and phone number. Places will not be held for applicants who fail to respond to their offer by the deadline.

REGISTRATION AS A PSYCHOLOGIST IN AUSTRALIA

Registration with the Psychology Board of Australia is required in order to practise as a Psychologist or to use the title ‘psychologist’ in Australia.

Go to: http://www.psychologyboard.gov.au/

ACCREDITATION OF PSYCHOLOGY COURSES IN AUSTRALIA

Go to: http://www.psychologycouncil.org.au/

CHECKLIST FOR HONOURS APPLICATION

☐ Fill in and submit the School of Psychology Online Honours Application Form by 30 November 2015. Link to the school online application form is available from:


☐ Save receipt of School Application submission as PDF

☐ Apply through Sydney courses by 30 November, 2015 (even if your Faculty has a later deadline)

☐ Submit PDF of School Application as evidence of having made contact with a potential supervisor

☐ Apply for Honours Scholarships


☐ External Applicants with a conditional offer – arrange for an academic reference to be sent to the Honours Coordinator

QUESTIONS?

Please email the School of Psychology if any aspect of this document is not clear or if you have further questions:

psychology.honours@sydney.edu.au