



School of Psychology

Honours Application

Information Booklet

2019

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PSYCHOLOGY HONOURS 2019

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-time¹ study consisting of:
 - Empirical project (50% of final Honours mark) – throughout Semester 1 and 2
 - 2 x Special Fields electives (each worth 15%) **OR** Theoretical Thesis (30%) – Semester 1
 - Psychological Research Methods (15%) – Semester 1
 - Ethics and Professional Issues (5%) – Semester 2*

*Semester dates for 2019 [have changed](#). As a result the Ethics and Professional Issues module of your honours year *may* begin earlier than Week 1 of Semester 2 (i.e. may begin in Orientation Week of Semester 2). This will be confirmed before your honours year begins.

¹ Part-time candidature is not normally offered for Honours studies but may be permitted, under exceptional circumstances, with School and Faculty Permission.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

1. a complete² Bachelor's degree or equivalent from a recognised institution
2. obtained within the past 10 years (from the start date of your Bachelor's degree)
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

(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 (e.g. HPSC3023 at The University of Sydney)

SELECTION PROCESS

- There is a limit of approximately 80 places in the Honours program, subject to staff availability.
 - 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: <https://sydney.edu.au/science/study/undergraduate-courses/honours-in-science.html> 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.
 - Because of the limit on places in the Honours program, the minimum application mark for internal students is typically a distinction average (75 DI) but will vary from year to year depending on the strength of the cohort.
 - 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.

² If not already awarded, requirements for the bachelor degree must be completed by 31st December 2018.

- 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. Faculty of Science Handbook available at:
http://sydney.edu.au/handbooks/science/subject_areas_nz/psychology.shtml

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 and the 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 2018**.

The School of Psychology Honours application is completed in an online form, available at: <https://sydney.edu.au/science/study/undergraduate-courses/honours-in-science.html>

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 2018**. 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; 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 University application.

APPLICATION LINKS BASED ON YOUR DEGREE

Your degree	Apply for	University Application Link
BSc (or equivalent)	BSc(Hons)	https://sydney.edu.au/courses/courses/uc/bachelor-of-science-honours.html
BA (or equivalent)	BA(Hons)	https://sydney.edu.au/courses/courses/uc/bachelor-of-arts-honours.html
BLAS	BLAS(Hons)	https://sydney.edu.au/courses/courses/uc/bachelor-of-liberal-arts-and-science-honours.html
BMedSci	BMedSci(Hons)	https://sydney.edu.au/courses/courses/uc/bachelor-of-medical-science-honours.html
BCom(LibStud)	BCom(LibStud)(Hons)	https://sydney.edu.au/courses/courses/uc/bachelor-of-commerce-liberal-studies-honours.html
BSc(Adv)	BSc(Adv)(Hons)	https://sydney.edu.au/courses/courses/uc/bachelor-of-science-advanced-honours.html
BHlthSci	BHlthSci(Hons)	https://sydney.edu.au/courses/courses/uc/bachelor-of-health-sciences-honours.html
BPsych	BSc(Hons)	https://sydney.edu.au/courses/courses/uc/bachelor-of-psychology0.html
GradDipPsyc (GDP)	Bxx (Hons)	<p>The pathway through which you apply for honours (e.g. BSci (Hons)) will depend on your Bachelor degree. For example, if you completed a BSc at undergraduate, you would apply through BSc (Hons). If you completed a BA at undergraduate, you would apply through BA (Hons). For more information please visit</p> <p>https://sydney.edu.au/courses/courses/pc/graduate-diploma-in-psychology0.html</p>

If your Bachelor degree was in a discipline not listed here, please contact the Admissions Office. Your application may be assessed on a case by case basis, taking into consideration when you began/completed your degree.

For more information please visit <https://sydney.edu.au/courses/subject-areas/hons/psychology.html>

STEP 4 – Academic Reference

The external applicants must arrange for **one** academic reference – this will be requested from you if your application is considered for admission by the School of Psychology. You do not need to send this information until requested. The Honours Coordinator will assess the academic reference and may or may not proceed with your application. Request for an academic reference is in no way indicative of being offered a place.

OFFERS OF PLACES

Offers of places in the 2019 Honours program will be made by the Admission Office in early 2019. The School of Psychology will not communicate with you about your application unless further documentation or information is required. Successful applicants will be required to indicate their acceptance to the Admissions Office, according to instructions given by the Admissions Office.

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 the deadline advised by the Admissions Office. Internal applicants should use their University of Sydney email addresses for applications.

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 2020, not 2019. 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. 2020) please apply the year prior to the year you wish to be enrolled.

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 <https://sydney.edu.au/science/study/undergraduate-courses/honours-in-science.html> please email: psychology.honours@sydney.edu.au. Please note that during the application period the School of Psychology has a large number of enquiries so we encourage you to try and find the information you need online, or by contacting Future Students.

Future Students: <https://sydney.edu.au/contact-us.html> (click 'Prospective or current students')