


Honours in Psychology 2025 Applicants

Presented by
Dr Bruce Burns
Honours Coordinator
School of Psychology


sydney.edu.au/science/study/undergraduate-courses/honours-in-science.html#psych



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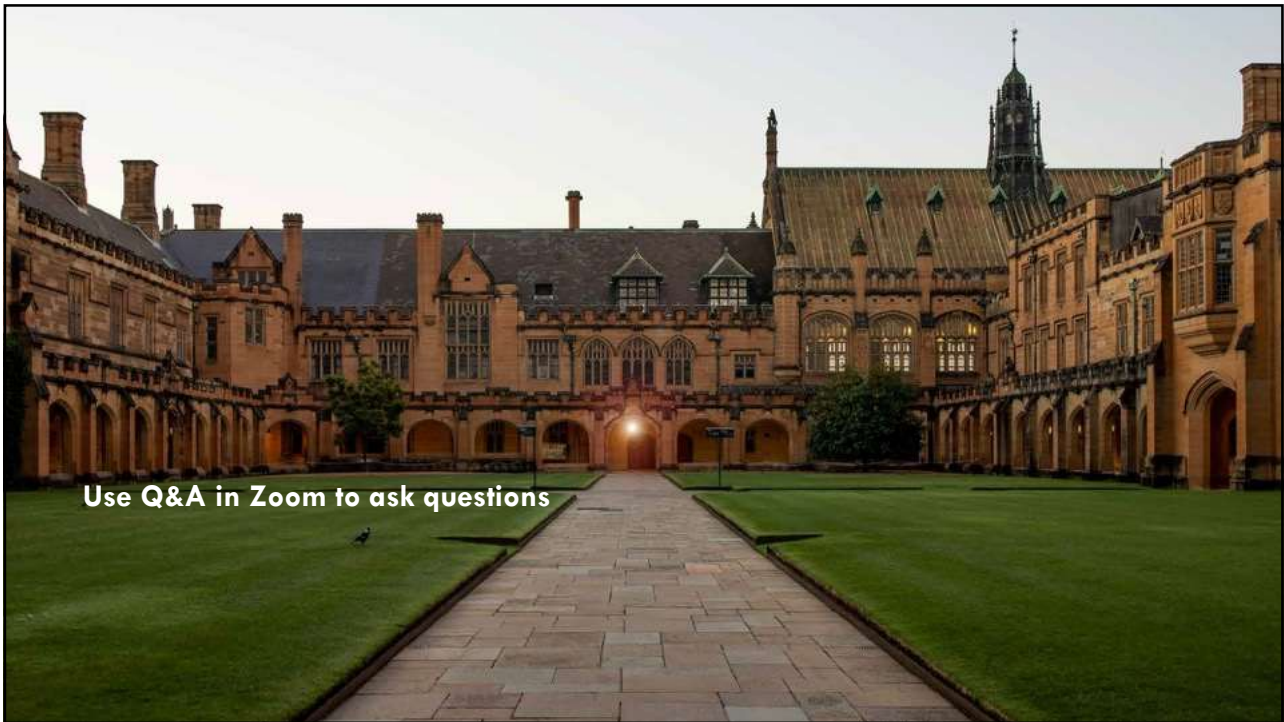
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We recognise and pay respect to the Elders and communities – past, present, and emerging – of the lands that the University of Sydney's campuses stand on. For thousands of years they have shared and exchanged knowledges across innumerable generations for the benefit of all.



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Why do Honours in Psychology?

- To be eligible for registration as a psychologist
- To meet requirements for entry into postgraduate professional courses (e.g., Master of Clinical Psychology)
- To meet requirements for entry into postgraduate research courses (e.g., PhD)
- To broaden employment opportunities
 - Transferrable skills (e.g., time management, research skills, project management and delivery)
- To bring together the knowledge and skills you have gained in psychology

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What is involved in Honours in Psychology?

- One year of full-time study
- There is **no** mid-year intake

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What is involved in Honours in Psychology?

What?	When?	Worth...
Empirical Thesis	Semesters 1 and 2	50%
Advanced Seminar 1	Semester 1	12.5%
Advanced Seminar 2	Semester 1	12.5%
Advanced Psychometrics	Semester 1	12.5%
Foundations of Professional Psychology	Intensive August	12.5%

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What is involved in Honours in Psychology?

- **Empirical Thesis** (the whole year)
- 9,000 to 12,000 words
- Design, conduct, analyse, and write up research developed under supervision
- Unlike anything you have done before – a large research project
- Develop an appreciation for the importance of the research process in psychology – an evidence-based discipline

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What is involved in Honours in Psychology?

- **Advanced Seminars** (× 2) (Semester 1)
 - Written assignment and usually a presentation/engagement component
- Seminar topics vary depending on staff availability

PSYC4123

- Emotion Regulation
- 'Not Guilty': The Sydney Exoneration Project
- Psycho-oncology: Adjusting to Life after Cancer
- Lost in Translation – Media Communication of Developmental Psych
- Close Relationships
- Paediatric Neuropsychology
- Development of Thinking in Childhood and Adolescence

PSYC4124

- Neurodiversity with a Focus on the Senses
- The Psychology of Uncertainty
- Exploring the Influence of Expectations on Perception and Attention
- Animal Cognition
- Behavioural Neuroscience
- Cognitive Neuroscience of Food Perception and Decision Making
- What are the Role of DNNs for Psychological Research and Theory?

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What is involved in Honours in Psychology?

- **Advanced Psychometrics (Semester 1)**
 - Advanced statistics and research design
 - Psychometrics
 - Choice of workshops

- **Foundations of Professional Practice (August intensive period)**
 - Ethics
 - Communication and Interviewing Skills
 - Psychometric Assessment
 - Culturally-Informed Practice

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What is involved in Honours in Psychology?

Semester 1 (sample)

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
9					
10					Advanced Psychometrics Lecture
11					
12				Advanced Psychometrics Tutorial	
1					
2	Advanced Seminar #1		Advanced Seminar #2		
3		Advanced Psychometrics Lecture			
4					
5					

- Pre-semester induction/ethics workshop
- Advanced Psychometrics Tutorials run for 7-8 weeks
- Advanced Seminars run for 10 weeks

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What is involved in Honours in Psychology?

Semester 2 (sample)

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
9					
10					
11					
12					
1					
2					
3			Seminar or Workshop		
4	drop-in session				
5					

Foundations of Professional Psychology is run in the Intensive August session, starting in July (prior to the start of Semester 2) and finishing in early September.

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What makes a successful attempt at Honours in Psychology?

- Self-discipline
- Time management
- Collegiality
- Responsibility and integrity

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Honours in Psychology – People to know

Dr Bruce Burns:	Honours Coordinator
Dr Jessica Lee:	Advanced Seminars Coordinator
Dr Mel Sharpe:	Empirical Thesis Coordinator
Ms Lily Tang:	Honours Education Support Officer psychology.honours@sydney.edu.au

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Honours in Psychology 2025

- Applying for Honours
 - Check that you are in an APAC-accredited degree
 - for post-2018 degrees, you need to have completed **the Psychology program**.
 - Students in a Faculty of Science degree (e.g., BSc, BLAS, GDP) must have a WAM > 65 to be eligible to apply; students in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences degrees (e.g., BA) must have a WAM > 70 to be eligible to apply; students in BPsych must have met their degree progression criteria.
 - Applicants are ranked based on their Honours Application Mark (HAM), which is calculated from the four Intermediate (2nd Year) Psychology units and the best four Senior (3rd Year) Psychology units, where the Senior (3rd Year) Psychology units are weighted twice as much. [N.B: HPSC3023, PSYC3888, and TSP/Dalyell units taken in place of PSYC units can count]
 - The top ~100 applicants are offered a place; the cut-off for rankings usually results in a threshold of ~75, but can vary year to year.
 - Only BPsych (4 year) students can defer their offer, whereas all other successful applicants would just need to re-apply in the subsequent year.

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Honours in Psychology 2025

Where do I find information?

The University's [Honours in Science](#) portal

(scroll down to find the section for Psychology)

<https://www.sydney.edu.au/science/study/undergraduate-courses/honours-in-science.html#psych>

What information should I note?

- the Honours Information Booklet
(current for 2024, but will be updated soon)
- the Honours Application Mark Calculator

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Honours

Second Year	Final Grade	Third Year	Final Grade	Third Year	Final Grade	Honours Application Mark
PSYC2X10 or PSYC2X11 or PSYC2X15		PSYC3010		First Best		
PSYC2012		PSYC3X11		Second Best		
PSYC2013 or PSYC2016		PSYC3012		Third Best		
PSYC2014 or PSYC2017		PSYC3X13		Fourth Best		
Second Year Average		PSYC3X14		Third Year Average		
		PSYC3015				
		PSYC3X16				
		PSYC3017				
		PSYC3018				
		PSYC3020				
		PSYC3888				
		HPSC3023				

Honours Application Mark Calculator
School of Psychology, University of Sydney

(1) Please **ONLY** enter your Final Mark into the cells highlighted in **YELLOW** - all other cells populate based on automatic formulae, please do not alter any other cell.

(2) You must have completed the four Second Year PSYC Units of Study. (N.B: if you were approved to complete any of these Units of Study on exchange, they will count towards the completion requirements for eligibility, but they will **NOT** be included in your Second Year Average calculation)

(3) You must have completed **AT LEAST** four Third Year PSYC Units of Study and one of these **MUST** be PSYC3010. (N.B: if you were approved to complete any of these Units of Study on exchange, they will count towards the completion requirements for eligibility, but they will **NOT** be included in your Third Year Average calculation)

(4) If you completed PSYC2X11, you **MUST** have also completed PSYC3018; however, if you completed PSYC2X10 or PSYC2X15, it was **NOT** compulsory to complete PSYC3018.

(5) All four of your Second Year PSYC Units of Study and the four **BEST** Third Year PSYC Units of Study will be included in the calculation of your Honours Application Mark - please note, the Third Year PSYC Units of Study are weighted twice as much as the Second Year PSYC Units of Study.

(6) If you completed TSP and/or Dallyell units in place of specific Third Year PSYC units, you can simply enter the mark you received for that unit in the cell for the Third Year PSYC unit that it replaced.

(7) PSYC4XXX units are not a part of the APAC-accredited Psychology program, and so are not counted in this calculation.

(8) If you are from the University of Sydney, your Honours Application Mark will be calculated using the formulae above. Please note, the number you see is indicative only and does **NOT** guarantee you a place in Honours in Psychology if it is above a previously known threshold.

(9) If you are **NOT** from the University of Sydney, you can still use this calculator as a guide, but please note that your Honours Application Mark will be calculated separately - it may depend on how your sequence of study aligns with ours and on which University you are coming from.

(10) If you have any questions, please contact Education Support (psychology.honours@sydney.edu.au).

The University of Sydney

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Honours in Psychology 2025

Where do I find information?

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(scroll down to find the section for Psychology)

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What information should I note?

- the Honours Information Booklet (current for 2024, but will be updated soon)
- the Honours Application Mark Calculator
- List of Prospective Supervisors and Topics (current for 2024, but will be updated soon)

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Honours in Psychology 2023

Prospective Supervisors, Prospective Topics, and Considerations / Restrictions

Please note, if a Supervisor has a profile available on the University website, it may be found here – <https://www.sydney.edu.au/science/schools/school-of-psychology/academic-staff.html>

Supervisor:	Topics			Considerations / Restrictions for Topics				
	(1)	(2)	(3)	Must be able to obtain a Working with Childrens Check	Must have a Driver's Licence	Must be able to attend in-person	Must be able to attend out-of-hours (e.g. sleep lab)	Must be able to work with animals
Prof David Alais	Multisensory perception	Active perception	Visual perception	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none
Prof Ben Anderson	Matural perception	Shape perception	Realism and computer graphics	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none
AProf Daniel Barmy	Cognitive flexibility	Working memory	Metacognition	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none
Prof Robert Baucke	Context effects in liking for tastes (rats or humans)	Rat models of bingeing	Cognition and taste aversion learning	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	(2)
AProf Michael Bowen	Dysregulated social motivation in substance use disorders	Irritability, agitation and aggression in transgenic models of high-risk autism genes	Novel therapeutics and therapeutic targets for disorders of the brain and mind	Applies to none	Applies to none	(1),(2),(3)	(1),(2),(3)	(1),(2),(3)
Dr Bruce Burns	Decision-making	Reasoning and problem-solving	Moral reasoning	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none
Dr Rachel Campbell	Psychoneurology	Quality of life in chronic disease	Fatigue and sleep disturbance	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none
AProf Thomas Carlson	Objectface recognition	Cognitive neuroscience	Visual cognition	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none
Prof Ben Colaguri	Understanding placebo effects	Inhibiting nocebo effects	Social transmission of symptoms	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none
Prof Mark Dadds	Child mental health	Parental discipline strategies	Family processes	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none
AProf Ian Dar-Nimrod	Gender identity (transgender)	Gender identity (cisgender individuals)	Medical decision-making in the context of cancer	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none
AProf Hanyang Dillon	Psychoneurology	Cancer survivorship and supportive care	Medical decision-making in the context of cancer	Applies to none	Applies to none	(2)	Applies to none	Applies to none
Dr Yi Du	Metacognition	Metacognition	Self-confidence	Applies to none	Applies to none	(1),(2),(3)	Applies to none	Applies to none
Prof Sally Gansbury	Gambling and addictions	Clinical psychology	Mental health	Applies to none	Applies to none	(1),(2),(3)	Applies to none	Applies to none
Dr Michal Goldwater	Child development cognitive and social-cognitive	Beliefs and decision-making	Concepts and creative thinking	(1)	Applies to none	(1)	Applies to none	Applies to none
Prof Justin Hains	Pediatric monitoring in risk	Associative learning in humans	Using fMRI to investigate response control	Applies to none	Applies to none	(1),(3)	Applies to none	(1)
Prof Alex Hinton	Position and motion perception	Visual cognition	Research on research (metacognition)	Applies to none	Applies to none	(1),(2)	Applies to none	Applies to none
Dr Christopher Hunt	Psychology of gambling	Treatment of problem gambling	Gender roles and stereotypes	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none
AProf Ian Johnston	Brain-remise interactions	Eating behaviour	Dog adoption	Applies to none	Applies to none	(1)	Applies to none	(1)
Prof Irena Juraska	Psychoneurology (rodents)	Adolescents and young adults with cancer	Medical communication and decision-making	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none
AProf Sabina Kleinman	Decision-making (individual offenders)	Self-beliefs/responses/self-handicapping	Impact of COVID-19	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none
AProf Fiona Kurler	Clinical profiles of dementia	Social cognition	Neurocognitive disorders	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none
Dr Rebecca Lussier Powell	Patient hospital experiences and decisions (qualitative study)	Women's health (e.g. fertility, communication and decisions)	Cancer survivors and family carers	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none
Dr Jessica Lee	Associative learning in humans	Generalization of fear conditioning	Risky caution	Applies to none	Applies to none	(2)	Applies to none	Applies to none
AProf Evan Lusey	Learning biases and beliefs and judgments	Implicit learning	Impulsivity and cognitive control	Applies to none	Applies to none	(1),(2),(3)	Applies to none	Applies to none
AProf Carolyn MacCann	Emotion regulation	Emotion regulation	Personality states and traits	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none
Dr Rachel Marcey	Deaf anxiety	COVID	Mental disorders	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none
Dr Caroline Moul	Psychopathy and CU traits	Social cognition	Associative learning and attention in psychopathology	(2)	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none
Prof Sharon Naamath	Healthy brain aging	Sleep	Dementia	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none
Dr Caleb Oates	Role of attention in learning and memory	Effective study strategies	Educational inequality	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none
Dr Helen Paterson	Eyeblink memory	Jury decision-making	Lie detection	Applies to none	Applies to none	(3)	Applies to none	Applies to none
Dr Daniel Pearson	Cognitive processes underlying attentional bias	Attentional bias and decision-making	Cognitive processes involved in addiction and compulsive behaviour	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none
Prof Oliver Piguet	Neuroimaging of dementia	Neuropsychology of aging	Language disorders	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none
Dr Rebecca Pielus	Social comparison	Romantic relationships	Weight stigma	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none
Dr Reuben Riecke	Visual perception	Sensory neuroscience (EEG)	Cognitive neuroscience (EEG)	Applies to none	Applies to none	(1),(2),(3)	Applies to none	Applies to none
Prof Louise Sharpe	Attention bias in pain	Cognitive bias modification	Fear of disease progression	Applies to none	Applies to none	(1)	Applies to none	Applies to none
AProf Jaume Shaw	Psychoneurology	Health psychology	Medical communication/health literacy	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none
Dr Nile Tiliopoulos	Personality and personality disorders	Adult attachment	Psychological elements of faith	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none
Dr Jenna Todd	Cognitive bias	Pain	Anxiety	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none	Applies to none
Dr Dominic Tran	Response inhibition/impulse control	Diets, impulsivity, and neuropsychology	Cognitive neuroscience (fMRI)	Applies to none	Applies to none	(2),(3)	Applies to none	Applies to none
Dr Greta van Solde	Eyeblink memory	Jury decision-making in the legal system	Pilow stereotypes and outgroups/peers	Applies to none	Applies to none	(1)	Applies to none	Applies to none
Prof Frans Vanstran	Visual science	Human factors research		Applies to none	Applies to none	(1),(2)	Applies to none	Applies to none

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Honours in Psychology 2025

Where do I find information?

The University's [Honours in Science](#) portal

(scroll down to find the section for Psychology)

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What information should I note?

- the Honours Information Booklet
(current for 2024, but will be updated soon)
- the Honours Application Mark Calculator
- List of Prospective Supervisors and Topics
(current for 2024, but will be updated soon)
- the link to the School Application
- the link to the University Application

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Honours in Psychology 2025



School of Psychology

First Name:

Last Name:

Email:

Were you, or are you, a student of the University of Sydney for the program on which you are basing your application for Honours in Psychology?

Yes

No



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Honours in Psychology 2025 – Two-Step Application Process

School Application

- regardless of your degree or internal/external status, everyone must complete the School Application
- The School Application will likely open in December and close in January

University Application

- the receipt you get from the School Application must be attached to your University Application in the section that asks for *Evidence of contacting a supervisor*; for this reason, you cannot complete the University Application first
- N.B:
 - internal BPsych (4 year) students do not have to complete the University Application
 - all other applicants, both internal and external, must complete the University Application

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Determine the Honours course for you:

I am a USYD student

Which Honours is the best option for me?

Enrolled in, or previously completed an eligible **single bachelor degree**

Appended honours, e.g. Bachelor of Science (Honours)

Currently enrolled in a **4-year combined Bachelor of Advanced Studies**, on track to complete two majors, e.g. Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Advanced Studies

Combined Bachelor of Advanced Studies

(Note: some streams do not allow students to undertake honours in their second major, please confirm stream requirements in your handbook)

Currently enrolled in a **single bachelor degree, e.g. (Bachelor of Science)** and on track to complete **two majors**

Either:

- Transfer to a combined Bachelor of Advanced Studies (tuition fee changes may be applicable) OR;
- Apply for appended honours, e.g. Bachelor of Science (Honours)

I am a student from another university

Which Honours is the best option for me?

Who has completed an eligible bachelor degree

Appended honours, e.g. Bachelor of Science (Honours)


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Honours in Psychology

Timeline (indicative)	
Mid-December	School Application opens
Early January	School Application closes
Late-January	First round offers
Early-February	Deadline to accept/reject first round offer
Early-February	Second round offers (if applicable)
Mid-February	Deadline to accept/reject second round offer
Mid-February	Pre-semester Induction Honours Orientation

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Empirical Thesis Topics

- You will be asked to rank areas of research interest
 - these preferences are very important, as they are used to allocate students to supervisors
- Many possible areas available
 - check the School of Psychology website  Our Research
 - Experimental projects
 - Correlational projects
 - Qualitative projects
- Check the Prospective Supervisors and Topics (2025) document
- Projects may also be available outside the School, for example:
 - The Matilda Centre for Research in Mental Health and Substance Use
 - The Frontier Dementia Clinic at the Brain and Mind Centre
 - The Healthy Brain Ageing Clinic at the Charles Perkins Centre

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Honours in Psychology – What next?

- Check back with the location mentioned on the *Where do I find information?* slide
- Once the documents have been updated:
 - » read the Honours Information Booklet
- Once 15 December has passed:
 - » begin your School Application
- Once the School Application has been completed:
 - » begin your University Application

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Do I really need to do an Honours degree???

- Consider the Master of Philosophy in Psychology (MPhil)

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Honours in Psychology 2025

– Questions?

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Honours Team in Psychology

psychology.honours@sydney.edu.au

psychology.honours-coordinator@sydney.edu.au

psychology.empirical-coordinator@sydney.edu.au

sydney.edu.au/science/study/undergraduate-courses/honours-in-science.html#psych

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