



Honours in psychology

Bachelor of Applied Science (Psychology) (Honours) H452

Bachelor of Arts (Psychology) (Honours) H451

Bachelor of Science (Psychology) (Honours) H450

Honours is a year of specialised study taken after the completion of an undergraduate degree such as Deakin's Bachelor of Applied Science (Psychology). Honours in psychology provides you with the knowledge and research skills required to undertake a research degree, advanced professional training, or to seek employment as a provisional psychologist.

Why do honours at Deakin?

- The Faculty of Health, Medicine, Nursing and Behavioural Sciences is Deakin University's leading research faculty.
- The School of Psychology has high performing researchers who are internationally recognised in their respective fields.
- Our staff are well connected with clinics and industry, and can provide you with a range of relevant and applied research projects.
- Our staff have many years of supervision experience and are enthusiastic in encouraging research degrees.

What will you get out of it?

After completing honours in psychology at Deakin you will:

- be more competitive in the job market
- have a thorough understanding of the ethics of, and approaches to, human research
- have skills in planning, implementing, analysing and communicating the results of research
- have a thorough understanding of the methods and principles of psychological assessment
- have the counselling skills required to conduct effective interviews and promote healthy behaviour change
- be well prepared to undertake a range of specialist postgraduate psychology courses, as well as research degrees.

Course duration and location

These courses are offered on campus at the Melbourne Campus at Burwood and the Geelong Waterfront Campus, and are usually completed in one year of full-time study. Part-time places may be available subject to approval by the course coordinator. Part-time students must complete the coursework component in their first year of study and thesis in the second year.

Career opportunities

After successfully completing a psychology honours program you will be well prepared for employment in a wide range of areas relevant to human wellbeing, such as social work, youth work, careers counselling, work/life counselling, developmental psychology, research psychology, or mental health rehabilitation.

Depending on your chosen area and level of further study, you will be able to work in a variety of settings, including specialist areas of psychology practice, such as; clinical, forensic, organisational, educational, health, sport and many others. The contexts in which you work may include private practice, hospitals, business organisations, schools, universities, government agencies, community sporting groups and various research groups.

Professional recognition: Completion of a psychology honours program provides you with a fourth year of psychology study that is accredited by the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council and satisfies the requirements for registration as a provisional psychologist by the Psychology Board of Australia (PBA).

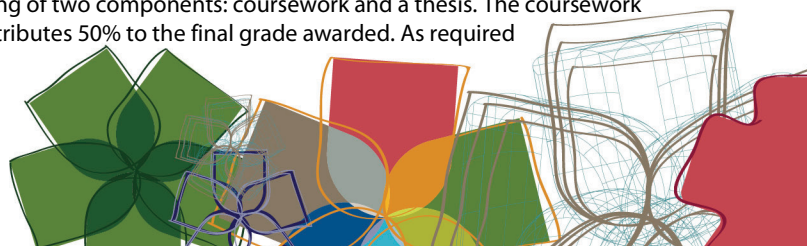
Salaries: Graduate salaries start between \$45 000 and \$80 000 plus, depending on your experience and chosen work area.

Registration as a psychologist

The current requirements for registration as a psychologist include the completion of four years of academic study of psychology in a course recognised by the PBA. The academic program usually consists of an approved three-year undergraduate psychology sequence, followed by an approved fourth year of study (such as Deakin's Graduate Diploma of Psychology or honours in psychology) after which students may apply for associate membership of the Australian Psychological Society and seek provisional registration with PBA. In order to gain full registration, provisional psychologists must then complete either two years of supervised practice, or a minimum of two years of postgraduate study, which may include: Master of Psychology, Doctor of Psychology or a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD).

Course outline

The Honours program is an eight-credit-point program consisting of two components: coursework and a thesis. The coursework component consists of lectures, seminars and tutorials and contributes 50% to the final grade awarded. As required by the accreditation guidelines of the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council, the coursework component covers:



- research methods
- ethics and conceptual issues in the science and practice of psychology
- issues in psychological assessment
- counselling and interpersonal skills.

The thesis contributes 50% to the final grade awarded and is a report of an individual research project based on an original piece of empirical research; that is, research that involves the collection and analysis of data. Your research will be individually supervised and may include a range of data types, collection settings and methodologies. The thesis is submitted in two parts: a literature review (4000 words) and a report on the empirical component (5000 words).

Unit details

Core units

HPS425 Honours in Psychology Part A HPS427 Honours in Psychology Part C
 HPS426 Honours in Psychology Part B HPS428 Honours in Psychology Part D

For information about the units, including unit descriptions, please visit www.deakin.edu.au/handbook.

Supervision

Staff in the School of Psychology are involved in a range of research activities that both reflect and inform the teaching program and their involvement with community organisations. Our staff have many years of supervision experience and are enthusiastic in encouraging research degrees. For a comprehensive list of supervisors and their research interests visit www.deakin.edu.au/hmnbs/research/supervision.

Our research groups

- Australian Centre on Quality of Life
- Centre for Health through Action on Social Exclusion (CHASE)
- Centre for Mental Health and Wellbeing
- Employment and Social Exclusion (EASE) Research Group

For information about these research groups, please visit www.deakin.edu.au/hmnbs/psychology/research.

Our research partners

The Faculty of Health, Medicine, Nursing and Behavioural Sciences values its research partnerships with key organisations in the field of psychology. Current partnerships include: Australian Childhood Foundation, Australian Unity, Deakin University and Department of Human Services (Barwon – South Western Region) Partnership, Eastern Health, Jesuit Social Services, Kidsafe, Mental Illness Fellowship, MS Society Victoria, Odyssey House Victoria, ORYGEN Youth Health, Southern Health, Uniting Aged Care, Youth Substance Abuse Service, Victoria Police, Victorian Health Promotion Foundation (VicHealth), Department of Human Services, Victorian Centre for Excellence on Depression and Related Disorders (beyondblue), Parks Victoria, Helen McPherson Smith Trust, WISE Employment, ACE National Network, Coles Myer, Telstra Foundation, Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Justice.

Application details

Applications: Applications must be submitted online at www.deakin.edu.au/future-students.

Admission requirements: Applicants must have completed an extended major in psychology at Deakin University (or equivalent), which comprises an approved sequence of study consisting of a minimum of ten credit points of psychology: two at level 1, at least four at level 2, and at least four at level 3. The extended major must include HPS201 Research Methods in Psychology A, HPS301 Research Methods in Psychology B and HPS309 Psychological Testing and Measurement or equivalent. Normally to be eligible for admission, a candidate for honours will have at least a distinction average over the best level 3 psychology units as well as a minimum mid-credit result in HPS301 Research Methods in Psychology B or equivalent. There is a quota on places in the psychology honours program and meeting the above criteria does not guarantee acceptance into honours in psychology.

Fees: Commonwealth Supported Places (CSP) are available for this course in addition to a number of international fee-paying places. For information on tuition fees visit www.deakin.edu.au/future-students/fees, and for information about CSP and HECS-HELP visit www.goingtouni.gov.au.

Scholarships: Deakin offers a variety of scholarships to help support students financially during their studies. For more information about scholarships at Deakin visit www.deakin.edu.au/scholarships.

Further information

Health – Student and Academic Services
 Phone 03 9251 7777
hmnbs-support@deakin.edu.au
www.deakin.edu.au/future-students

