

GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCES

The University of Adelaide

School of Psychology

CRICOS Provider Number 00123M



What is a Graduate Diploma in Psychological Sciences?

The Graduate Diploma in Psychological Sciences has been designed for students who have an undergraduate degree that does not include Psychology or does not include Psychology beyond Level I. It requires one year of full-time study, or a maximum of two years of part-time study.

It includes all the level II and level III psychology courses required by the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC) to enable students to apply for Honours Psychology at any accredited Australian University

Pre-requisites

The pre-requisites for Graduate Diploma are an undergraduate degree and Psychology IA and Psychology IB from the University of Adelaide, or equivalent from another tertiary institution (within 10 years). The grade that was obtained will need to be considered satisfactory by the selection committee. Students who do not have the pre-requisite Psychology studies are able to attend an intensive summer course, Introductory Psychology.

Introductory Psychology

Students who do not have the equivalent of Psychology IA and Psychology IB are able to study this subject through an intensive course over the summer semester, which runs from early January to mid February. While not officially a part of the Graduate Diploma in Psychological Science, it will be available only to students intending to enrol in the program. There are 3-4 contact hours each week, and the remainder of the time is spent in directed study and self-directed computer learning.

Program Structure

Full-time (1 year)

Semester 1

PSYCHOL 6020 Doing Research In Psychology: Research Design, Methods & Analysis.

PSYCHOL 6021 Foundations of Health & Lifespan Developmental Psychology

PSYCHOL 6028 Psychology, Ideas and Action

PSYCHOL 6026 Individual Differences, Personality & Assessment

Semester 2

PSYCHOL 6022 Foundations of Perception & Cognition

PSYCHOL 6023 Psychology in Society

PSYCHOL 6024 Doing Research In Psychology: Advanced Research Design, Methods & Analysis.

PSYCHOL 6025 Health & Lifespan Developmental Psychology

Part-time (2 years)

Students study level II psychology subjects (to the value of 12 units) in the first year and Level III psychology subjects (to the value of 12 units) in the second year

Admission

Domestic

Applicants who have successfully completed university level I Psychology within the last 10 years apply through SATAC (www.satac.edu.au) for the Graduate Diploma in Psychological Sciences using **SATAC code 3GD048**

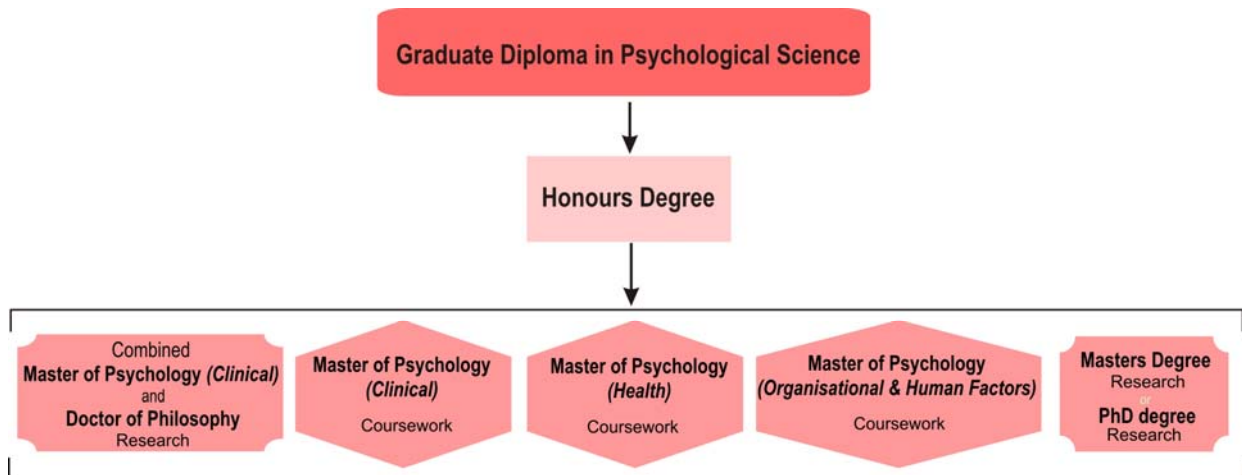
Applicants without level I Psychology need to apply for the Graduate Diploma in Psychological Sciences (with qualifying studies) using **SATAC code: 3GD060**

International

International applications for this program can be made through the International Office at The University of Adelaide www.international.adelaide.edu.au

Applicants must have the equivalent of a recognised three-year degree, in any discipline, from a tertiary institution.

Pathway Towards Registration as a Psychologist



Psychology after the Graduate Diploma

Completion of the Graduate Diploma allows the student to apply for Honours Psychology at most Australian Universities. Students should be aware that entry into Honours Psychology is competitive, and selection is based on academic merit. Honours Psychology is the basic academic requirement for registration as a Psychologist.

Topics covered in an Honours Program

To give you an idea of the range of topics covered in the Honours program, topics for 2009 were Critical Issues In Contemporary Psychology (compulsory), Research Methodology and Statistics, Social Psychology, Public Health Psychology, Psychological Assessment, Organisational Psychology, Adult Development & Ageing, Gender and Psychology, Current Topics in Human Intelligence Research, Foundations of Evidence Based Practice and Dissociable Systems in Cognition. It should be noted, however, that while there is considerable continuity in Honours programming from one year to the next, topics given may change from year to year.

Career Pathways

Completion of the Honours degree opens up a number of alternative career pathways.

- At present those with four years of university study in Psychology are, after an additional two years of approved, supervised practical experience, eligible to seek registration to practise as a Psychologist in South Australia.
- Application may be made for entry into various formal courses of professional preparation. A range of such courses are offered by various universities within Australia, but typically, as is the case within this School, they are of two years' duration and lead by coursework to a Master of Psychology degree and eligibility to seek professional registration. Once again there is competition for the limited number of places available in such programs.
- Honours graduates may also seek to enrol for a higher degree (PhD or Master) by research. These typically require two years of study for a Master degree and three to four years for a PhD. A range of scholarships are available for pursuing this option, of which the most common is the Australian Postgraduate Award. A First Class Honours degree is required to obtain one of these scholarships. Opportunities may also exist for the most elite students to complete a combined Master/PhD degree.

In recent years the employment prospects for psychologists have been good in comparison to many other university graduates and projections of future employment prospects continue to be comparatively optimistic.

Fees

Both the Graduate Diploma in Psychological Science and the Introductory Psychology course attract fees.

Domestic students: For study in 2010 the fee for Introductory Psychology will be \$2,500 and the Graduate Diploma in Psychological Sciences will be \$10,500. FEE-HELP is available for both of these programs.

International students: Please check with the International Office

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