

UNDERGRADUATE PSYCHOLOGY



The University of Adelaide
School of Psychology

Cricos Provider No. 00123M

What is Psychology?

Psychology is the scientific study of the mind and behaviour. Psychologists study how people think, believe, speak, act, interact with others. Psychology includes everything that is involved in human thought and behaviour. It is about using scientific study to develop useful ways to understand thoughts and behaviours. Psychology suits people with a wide range of personalities and interests. It suits people who enjoy working alone as well as those who enjoy working with others.

Aims and Skills Acquired

Principal aims of our programs

- to provide tertiary-level education required to become a registered Psychologist
- to meet prerequisites for progression to a higher degree by research in the discipline

What is studied in Psychology?

The first year of the program seeks to provide an overview of psychology as a discipline and as a profession.

Later years build on this foundation and enable students to study in such areas as:

- biological bases of behaviour - brain
- cognition and language
- developmental psychology
- learning and memory
- mental health
- motivation and emotion
- personality and individual differences
- sensory perception
- social psychology.

Since psychology is an evidence-based discipline, students also have an opportunity to find out about the range of methodologies employed to collect and analyse data relevant to these various topics. In addition, students become acquainted with cultural and ethical issues that may impact on the practice of psychology.

In the fourth year (Honours year), students are invited to select a specialist area of psychology in which they would like to carry out research under the supervision of a member of the academic staff within the School of Psychology. Completion of the Honours year allows for partial registration with the South Australian Psychological Board.

A number of other courses offered by the University may be included in the first three years of a student's degree program to complement those making up the core of psychology courses required for the degree.

Pathways to studying Psychology

There are four different ways of studying Psychology at the University of Adelaide:

1. Bachelor of Psychology (Honours). This is a 4-year program that includes the Honours year.

SATAC code 324051

2. Bachelor of Psychological Science. This is a 3-year program with a possibility of an Honours year to follow.

SATAC code 394001

3. Majoring in Psychology via a 3-year degree program (eg. Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Commerce, Bachelor of Economics, Bachelor of Health Sciences, Bachelor of Mathematical & Computer Sciences, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Social Sciences), and like the Bachelor of Psychological Science option it has a possibility of an Honours year to follow.

4. The Graduate Diploma in Psychological Sciences is a program that has been designed for students who have an undergraduate degree that does not include Psychology or does not include Psychology courses beyond Level 1. This degree will provide students with the courses needed to apply for the Honours year.

Bachelor of Psychology (Honours)

The four-year Bachelor of Psychology (Honours) program is designed for students who are committed from the beginning of their tertiary education to enter professional practice, or to undertake further study at a postgraduate level. In the fourth year of study, students in psychology are invited to select a specialist area of psychology in which to carry out a supervised research project. Places are limited, and entry into this program is very competitive, requiring exemplary academic performance at Year 12 (matriculation) level.

A quota applies to the number of new students accepted into the program each year.

Study Plan for Bachelor of Psychology (Honours)

Level		
1	Psychology I Courses 6 units	Level I Elective Courses 18 units
2	Psychology II Courses 12 units	Level II Elective Courses 12 units
3	Psychology Level III Courses 18 units	Level III Elective Courses 6 units
4	Honours Psychology Courses & Research Thesis 24 units	

Bachelor of Psychological Science

This three year program is designed for students who are seeking to undertake a comprehensive program of study in psychology and related areas of learning. It should be noted that in order to gain partial registration with the Australian Psychological Society, students must undertake the fourth year Honours program. Students are eligible to apply to proceed to Honours at The University of Adelaide as well as other universities around the country that offer Honours programs accredited by the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council.

Study Plan for Bachelor of Psychological Science

Level		
1	Psychology I Courses 6 units	Level I Elective Courses 18 units
2	Psychology II Courses 12 units	Level II Elective Courses 12 units
3	Psychology Level III Courses 18 units	Level III Elective Courses 6 units

Psychology as part of another degree program

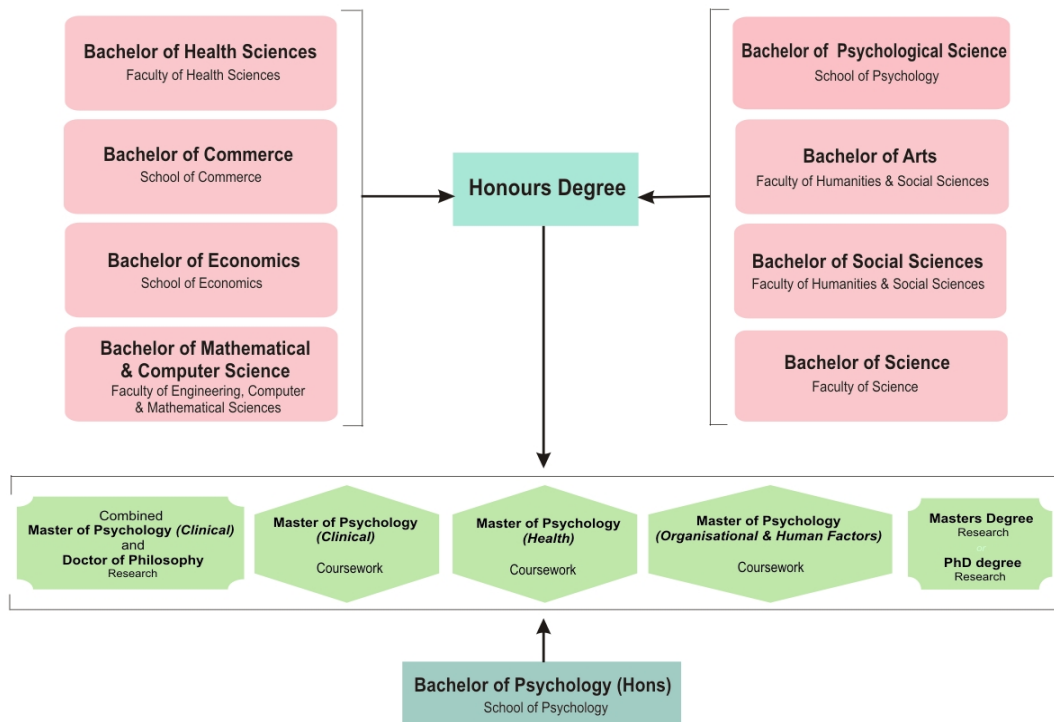
Psychology may be studied at The University of Adelaide as a major component of a number of other single degree programs (eg. BA, BCom, BEc, BHlthSc, BMa&CompSc, BSc, BSocSc) and double degree programs (eg. BSocSc/BHlthSc). Applicants who are unsure about whether to pursue Psychology as a career are advised to enrol in one of these programs. It is emphasised that all of the above degrees have been accredited by the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council. They offer applicants the opportunity to keep their options open through the study of other courses besides Psychology, and permit them to major in more than one discipline. A major in Psychology from The University of Adelaide means that students are eligible to apply to

proceed to Honours not only at this University, but also at other universities around the country that offer Honours programs accredited by the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council.

Study Plan for Psychology as part of another degree

Level	Psychology Courses	Level Courses
1	Psychology I Courses 6 units	Level I Courses 18 units
2	Psychology II Courses 12 units	Level II Courses 12 units
3	Psychology Level III Courses 12 units	Level III Courses 12 units

Pathways to Studying Psychology



Honours in Psychology

Honours is a one-year program of study for the Honours degree of B. Health Sciences. It is also part of the Bachelor of Psychology (Honours) program. It is available to candidates who have completed an undergraduate degree with a major in Psychology in Health Sciences, Arts, Social Sciences, Science, Commerce, Economics, or Mathematics and Computer Science.

Careers in Psychology

According to the Commonwealth Government Job Search Website employment growth for Psychologists to 2010-11 is STRONG. The range of jobs available to psychologists is also becoming increasingly varied. Further information can be found at <http://jobsearch.gov.au/joboutlook>.

How to become a Psychologist

In outline, registration requires:

- a University degree;
- four years of formal study in Psychology;

two further years, either in further study for a Master's degree in Psychology that provides advanced coverage of professionally-relevant material, field training placements and a research thesis, or in a program of preregistration training under the guidance of a registered psychologist.

CONTACT DETAILS

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