

Honours in Psychology

Information Session for 1st year & 2nd year students

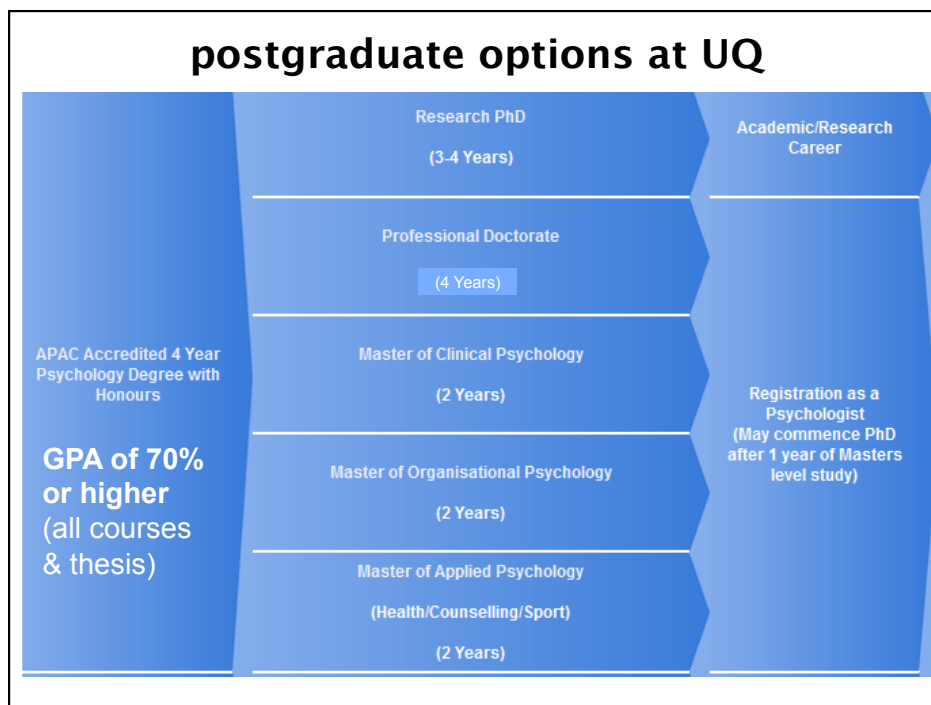
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why bother doing Honours?

- **to work as a psychologist**
 - clinical, counseling, health, organisational, sport/exercise...
 - individual/group practice or in an organisation
 - need 4 year degree for provisional registration
 - after 4th year: Masters program or supervised practice (2 yrs)
- **to work in research & evaluation (academic or applied)**
 - clinical, health, organisational, developmental, social, cognitive, neuroscience...
 - contexts: univs., gov' t, research institutes, policy institutes
 - need 4 year degree for research jobs (public or private sector)
 - need 4 year degree for research PhD programs



why do Honours at UQ?

- **largest School of Psychology in Australia**
 - broad range of staff expertise
 - broad range of thesis topics and elective courses
- **researchers at the forefront of discovery**
 - publications, grants, awards...
 - high-quality thesis supervision
- **excellent lecturers and tutors**
 - awards, publications, grants...
 - high-quality learning experiences
- **active professionals with real-world experience**
 - clinical work & industry consultancies
 - broad education regarding application and practice

what is Honours like at UQ?

- **broad aim: provide transition from UG to PG training**
- **goals of 4th year**
 - integrated & comprehensive general education in psychology
 - introduce applied aspects of psychology
 - provide advanced study in a range of fields in psychology
 - provide experience & training in advanced research
- **what you will do**
 - year-long thesis project
 - core courses: research methods, ethics, scientist/practitioner
 - elective course & seminar: range of options available
 - optional: attend research seminars and career workshops
- **entry only in Semester 1 of each year**
- **part-time enrollment: courses in Year 1, thesis in Year 2**

application requirements for Honours at UQ

- **must complete Years 1 → 3 of degree program**
 - #48 units of credit with grade of 4 or higher
- BPscSci**

 - all courses required for the program

BA & BSc

 - all courses in extended major
 - all other requirements
- **must meet minimum GPA for Honours (2010 entry or later)**
- BPscSci**

 - GPA > 5.5 for Honours
 - final cutoff depends on supervision constraints
 - pass stream option

BA & BSc

 - GPA > 5.5 for Honours
 - final cutoff depends on supervision constraints

what counts in the GPA: BPsychSci (entry since 2011)

- **all 2nd year core courses**
 - **PSYC2010:** Psychological Research Methodology II
 - **PSYC2020:** Neuroscience for Psychologists
 - **PSYC2030:** Developmental Psychology
 - **PSYC2040:** Social & Organisational Psychology
 - **PSYC2050:** Learning & Cognition
 - **PSYC2063:** Psychological Approaches to Complex Problems
- **all 3rd year core courses**
 - **PSYC3010:** Psychological Research Methodology III
 - **PSYC3020:** Measurement in Psychology
 - **PSYC3034:** Topics in Applied Psychology
 - **PSYC3042:** Psychological Research: Interpretation & Evaluation
 - **PSYC3102:** Psychopathology
- **three 3rd year psychology electives from at least two areas**
 - **areas:** applied/prof, social, cognition, biological, developmental

what counts in the GPA: BA & BSc (entry since 2011)

- **all 2nd year core courses**
 - **PSYC2010:** Psychological Research Methodology II
 - **PSYC2020:** Neuroscience for Psychologists
 - **PSYC2030:** Developmental Psychology
 - **PSYC2040:** Social & Organisational Psychology
 - **PSYC2050:** Learning & Cognition
- **all 3rd year core courses**
 - **PSYC3010:** Psychological Research Methodology III
 - **PSYC3020:** Measurement in Psychology
 - **PSYC3102:** Psychopathology
- **three 3rd year psychology electives from at least two areas**
 - **areas:** applied/prof, social, cognition, biological, developmental
 - **PSYC3042** is strongly encouraged in place of 1 elective
 - **if 4+ psychology electives:** we use the 3 best marks from 2 areas

how GPA is calculated

- **use the grade earned for each relevant course**
 - i.e., 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
 - percentage marks are not used
- **steps in calculating GPA:**
 - for each course: multiply number of units by grade achieved
 - calculate total grade: sum all results from previous step
 - calculate total # of units: sum of units for all your courses
 - divide total grade by total number of units
$$\frac{(\text{Units} \times \text{Grade}) + (\text{Units} \times \text{Grade}) \text{ etc. etc.}}{(\text{SUM number of Units})}$$
- **grades for repeated attempts at courses will be averaged when calculating GPA**
 - if a grade is recorded on mySInet, it will be counted

what you can do without Honours

- **3 year BBehSci (for BPsychSci) or BA or BSc extended major**
 - 3 year accredited psychology degree
 - not a pathway to registration as a psychologist
- **can focus on a related helping field**
 - counseling, social work, occupational therapy...
 - 3 year degree provides pathway to post-graduate work (check application requirements for different programs)
- **can focus on a career path outside of psychology**
 - what you learn in psychology can be applied to other fields!
 - general methodology & statistics skills
 - theories and research on particular topics / issues
 - 3 year Bachelors degree may be sufficient *or* additional training may be required

career paths related to psychology

- Human Resource Management
- Work Force Selection and Training
- Mediation
- Market Research
- Advertising
- Government Policy & Planning
 - Health, Disability Services, Corrections, Education, Department of Families, Australian Bureau of Statistics
- Test Development and Evaluation
- Residential Care Work
- Technology: Product Development and Evaluation
- Fund-raising for Non-Profit Organisations

what next?

- **stay on track academically**
 - make sure you take all the right courses
 - work out what you need to do to get 6s and 7s
 - get help to deal with obstacles (academic, personal, financial...)
 - if facing chronic issues, consider taking a break
- **think about the kind of work you want to do (next 3-5 years)**
 - what have you enjoyed most in your studies?
 - what type of questions / issues do you want to focus on?
- **find out more about different careers and occupations**
 - attend School workshops, info sessions, seminars...
 - see the School website: Current Students → Undergraduate → Work
 - see Career Hub @ Student Services: www.uq.edu.au/careers
 - get work experience in the area(s) you are interested in (see above websites for some advice to get you started)