4th Year/Honours in Psychology

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4th Year/Honours 2016

Why do 4th Year/Honours in Psychology?

- For those interested in research, an Honours degree will make you eligible to apply for a PhD level program.
- If you wish to become a practicing psychologist you need a 4-year accredited sequence:
  - At the end of this program you will have meet the qualification requirements for provisional registration as a psychologist.
  - You can either seek supervised practice to achieve full registration or complete a relevant Masters level program.
Honours 2016

APAC Accredited 4 Year Psychology Degree with Honours

- Research PhD
  (3-4 Years)

- Professional Doctorate
  4 years

- Master of Clinical Psychology
  (2 Years)

- Master of Organisational Psychology
  (2 Years)

- Master of Applied Psychology
  (Health/Counselling/Sport)
  (2 Years)

- Master of Counselling
  (2 Years)

Academic/Research Career

- Registration as a Psychologist
  (May commence PhD after 1 year of Masters level study)

- Practice as a Counsellor
4th Year/Honours 2016

Why do 4th Year/Honours at UQ?

• Ranked 18\textsuperscript{th} best Psychology School/Dept in the world in the 2015 QS World University rankings

• Research training major component of 4th Year/Honours

• UQ School of Psychology is one of the strongest research departments in Australia.

• We are active researchers covering a broad and diverse range of areas

• UQ provides excellent opportunities for postgraduate research and professional training (PhD, professional doctorate & masters)
4th Year/Honours 2016
What is 4th Year/Honours like?

- 4th Year/Honours year builds on the APS accredited three-year sequence to:
  - Provide an integrated & comprehensive education in psychology;
  - Introduce applied aspects of psychology;
  - Permit advanced study in a range of fields in psychology;
  - Provide experience and training in aspects of advanced research.

- The program aims to foster the transition from the undergraduate program to the areas of postgraduate specialisation. This does not, however, include training in an area of specialisation itself.

- Regardless of stream (individual or group), 4th Year/Honours is extremely intensive and both streams require a large commitment.
# Thesis Differences

**Old Program (BPsySci):**
- Students assigned an honours class only in individual stream
- #8 thesis completed
- Very clear further study pathways

**New Program BPsySci (Hons):**
- All Students assigned an honours class
- #8 thesis completed
- Focussed for research intensive careers (but will be eligible for postgraduate pathways too)
- **Students can choose Individual or Group**
# Thesis Differences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>“Pass” group thesis</th>
<th>Group thesis</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Old program BPsySci:</strong></td>
<td><strong>New program BPsySci Hons:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Students given an equivalent to an honours class</td>
<td>- Students assigned an honours class</td>
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<tr>
<td>- #6 thesis completed</td>
<td>- #8 thesis completed</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Students eligible for postgraduate study</td>
<td>- Very clear further study pathways</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Under GPA 5.5 Group thesis only</td>
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4th Year/Honours entry

BPsySci Students
Entry Requirements

BPsySci

• Who have completed:

  • All degree requirements to third year of the BPsySc, and
  • #48 units of the program

• are automatically eligible for the fourth year

• You can only commence 4th Year/Honours in Semester 1.
Quick Note

- The information presented below is for students who will stay in the old program (BPsySci) and students who will change into the new program (BPsySci(hons)).

- We would strongly recommend anyone who is eligible for the group stream change to the new program (BPsySci(hons)). Individual stream students will not see much of a change.
Entry Requirements

BPsySc students

BPsySc entry post 2010

GPA calculated across core 2nd & 3rd year Psychology courses & 3 year psych electives to 16 units

BPsySc (Hons) entry post 2015

GPA calculated across all courses Years 1-3 (incl credit)
Entry Requirements

BPsySc students

Entry 2010 or later

GPA > 5.50*
4th Year/Honours
*Quota determines cut off

GPA < 5.50
Group Stream

Entry 2015 or later

GPA > 5.50*
Individual stream
*Quota determines cut off

GPA < 5.50
Group stream
Options

BPsySc students

- If you have completed #48 units of the program then you can withdraw and be awarded the Bachelor of Behavioural Science

- You should consider this option if you do not require 4\textsuperscript{th} Year/Honours in Psychology for your chosen career path

- Many postgraduate programs DO NOT require a 4-year/Honours degree for entry (eg: audiology, master of mental health, counselling, speech pathology, business)
How is the entry GPA calculated?

- By multiplying the number of units by the grade achieved for the course. Then add these results together and divide by the sum of units for all the courses

\[
\frac{(\text{Units} \times \text{Grade}) + (\text{Units} \times \text{Grade})}{(\text{SUM number of Units})}
\]

- Grades for repeated attempts at courses will be averaged for the GPA
Application Procedure, UQ students

BPsySci

Students will be emailed in September regarding their intention to progress.

Another email will be sent with offer of progression in December.

If you wish to exit with the BBBehSci, please let us know and we will advise of the process.
What happens then?

PLEASE NOTE:

- Offers will be made via email to your student email address
- Make sure you check this account regularly during December, January & February
  - You can nominate a person to respond to the offer email on your behalf if you will be travelling overseas
- Transcripts are not necessary for UQ graduates
Notification dates

- An email will be sent out to all UQ applicants by 7/12/15 advising:
  - Of an offer into the:
    - Group stream
    - Individual stream
  - Ineligible to progress will not be contacted (eg have not completed third year).
Notification letter

- Keep the notification email and attachments!
- If you are beginning 4th Year/Honours in 2016, we will be in touch in early 2016 to notify you of:
  - A ‘meet the supervisors’ session (Last week of Jan 2016)
  - How to indicate your preferences for supervisors
  - A compulsory orientation session in O-Week (Feb 2016)
Enrolment

- University enrolment is via SI-net
  - Enrol in the individual courses
  - NOTE: #1 SEMINAR COURSES are not yet finalised for 2016
  - Enrolment for your seminar course will take place after you attend the O-week 4th year orientation session in Feb 2016
4th Year/Honours Enrolment
(BPsySci program)

Individual Stream

Compulsory
#8 Thesis
#2 Psychological Research Methodology IV
#2 The Scientist-Practitioner Model
#1 Ethical Considerations for Psychologists (pass/fail)

Electives
1 x #1 seminar (You may not take more than 1 seminar)
1 x #2 elective

Group Stream

Compulsory
#6 Thesis
#2 Psychological Research Methodology IV
#2 The Scientist-Practitioner Model
#1 Ethical Considerations for Psychologists (pass/fail)

Electives
1 x #1 seminar (You may not take more than 1 seminar)
2 x #2 electives
4th Year/Honours Enrolment
(BPsySci (Hons) program)

Individual Thesis

Compulsory
#8 Thesis
#2 Psychological Research Methodology IV
#2 The Scientist-Practitioner Model
#1 Ethical Considerations for Psychologists (pass/fail)

Electives
1 x #1 seminar (You may not take more than 1 seminar)
1 x #2 elective

Group Thesis

Compulsory
#8 Thesis
#2 Psychological Research Methodology IV
#2 The Scientist-Practitioner Model
#1 Ethical Considerations for Psychologists (pass/fail)

Electives
1 x #1 seminar (You may not take more than 1 seminar)
1 x #2 elective
Part-Time Enrolment

- If you enrol part-time:
  - There is no ‘evening only’ timetable. Part-time students are expected to attend classes scheduled between 8am-10pm Monday to Friday.
  - You must split your load fairly evenly over the 2 years
  - You must do PSYC4050 Psychological Research Methodology IV in year 1
  - Part-time students do the thesis and ethics (PSYC4060) concurrently in year 2 -- you may not spread the thesis over more than 1 year
  - Your results will be processed with the cohort of your finishing year
Seminar (#1 unit) Courses

- Enrolment limit in each is 20 – to allow an opportunity for debate and discussion!
  - Note that the structure and workload of the seminar courses is similar
  - The aim is to foster critical analysis and debate about theories and issues

- Enrolment will open via Si-net after the Orientation meeting in O-Week February 2016
- When the quota is reached no further enrolments will be permitted
Fourth Year Thesis

- Students in the group thesis undertake a group project for the 8# unit thesis.
- Students will attend a lecture series and tutorials for the PSYC4092 thesis.
- There is limited selection of group projects made available for students.
- Students submit an individual thesis based on the group project.
- Further information is provided in the compulsory 4\textsuperscript{th} year orientation in O-Week February 2016.
Individual Supervisor Preferences

- You are required to complete the supervisor preference form online between 25/01/16 and 31/01/16

- Do this through the Psychology web page: Prospective Students ⇒ 4th Year/Honours ⇒ Online Preference Form

- Supervisor information and the on-line form will only be available from 25/01/16.

- We will run a ‘meet the supervisor’ session during the last week of January 2016
Areas for Individual Supervision

• Applied/Professional Psychology
  • Clinical Psychology
  • Health Psychology
  • Organisational Psychology
  • Sport Psychology

• Cognition & Neuroscience
  • Cognitive Neuroscience
  • Perception
  • Social Behaviour
  • Cognitive Development
  • Human Factors
  • Memory & Attention

• Developmental Psychology
• Social Psychology
But it is complicated…

• Many supervisors supervise across areas...
Individual Supervisor Preferences

- The online form will ask you to select 6 supervisors (in order) that you’d like to work with.

- In addition, we will ask you to list 3 different broad area topics (Applied/Professional, Cognition & Neuroscience, Developmental, Social).

- We work through your 6 nominated individuals and then through your three broad areas and allocate as we can.

- Allocations are primarily GPA based (highest GPA, first pick).
Individual supervisor allocation

- We will also take into account requests by supervisors for students with whom they have worked in research experience courses (PSYC2991/2) or summer/winter research internships.
  - Note that RA work does not count
  - Of course we will not give you to a supervisor whom you have not requested (you have to list them as your first preference supervisor)

- Otherwise supervisors have no input into whom they get
Individual Supervisor Preferences

- Do not list the same person 6 times, or the same area 3 times (you’re likely to end up disappointed)

- If you have a lower GPA, you are more likely to get someone you want (or an area you want) if you are strategic – e.g.,
  - Pick less well known individuals who look interesting (and meet them beforehand to see if they are actually interesting)
Students will be given details of the projects available by week 1.
  - In previous years, there have been 3 different project areas.

They will then be asked to list their preferences and assigned to a group.
  - Normally we are able to accommodate most students’ preferences, but if needed we will use GPA to determine eligibility.
4th Year/Honours project supervision

- You will be notified of your allocated supervisor in O-Week February 2016
- Supervisors are not expected to engage in detailed discussion about thesis projects before Semester 1 2016
- Supervisors are carefully selected and have a background in Psychology and research
- Supervisors not already on our approved supervisors list are not allowed
Your responsibilities

- Check your email regularly and respond quickly
- Complete online supervisor preference form by the closing date in February 2016 (individual stream)
- Enrol as directed in your notification letter
- Attend 4th year orientation session
- If you decide to withdraw - Cancel your enrolment on Si-net AND let the School know
  - We will not be informed if you cancel your enrolment
Questions?

- Please feel free to ask general questions now or see us afterwards for individual queries.
Contacts

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