Bachelor of Science in Psychology (780AA)

Course Duration 3 years full-time

About The Course
Psychology is the science of human behaviour, thoughts and feelings. Psychologists aim to describe, understand and predict behaviour. Psychology is a science, which means it uses scientific methods to answer questions. Students discover that modern psychology has its roots in medicine and evolutionary theory, which emphasises how humans and animals adapt to the environment. However, there are many different theoretical perspectives that psychology adopts to examine behaviour and mental processes.

Careers
A psychology degree can take graduates into many different careers. Many graduates become a psychologist in one of the specialist areas of psychology. Alternatively, some use their understanding of human behaviour in other professions that deal with people, such as human resources, media, policy, research, health and welfare.

Importantly, research shows that many employers are not seeking graduates with a degree in a specific discipline. Rather they are looking for graduates with specific qualities such as interpersonal skills that bridge cultural differences, analytical and problem solving skills and the ability to reason and think critically. A psychology degree will give you these skills and make you very marketable as a future employee.

Assumed Knowledge
It is assumed that all applicants have a level of English adequate for studying at university. Studies in mathematics and biology are recommended.

Professional Recognition
In order to be employed as a psychologist it is necessary to complete a fourth year (either as an Honours degree or a Post Graduate Diploma, both of which are offered at the University of Canberra and both are accredited by the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC) and approved by the Australian Psychological Society (APS). This allows graduates to begin professional practice training as an intern psychologist for eventual registration as a psychologist, and also to apply for Associate Membership of the Australian Psychological Society (APS). For full membership of the APS and/or membership of one of the specialist Colleges (e.g. the college of Clinical Psychologists) it is necessary to undertake 5 or 6 years of training, usually taken as a Masters degree. The University of Canberra offers a Master of Clinical Psychology for students wishing to undertake the full 6 years of study in psychology.

The Bachelor degree course is accredited by the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC) and approved by the Australian Psychological Society (APS).

Double degrees and Honours
Students have the opportunity of undertaking four-year double degrees with Arts, Coaching Science and Management, and a five year double degree with Law. This degree can be undertaken in combination with an Undergraduate Diploma in Languages. A one-year Honours program is available for outstanding students.
Course Content
The course includes studies in all areas of psychology, including learning, cognition, personality, intelligence, developmental, social, psychopathology, perception, biological bases of behaviour, individual differences and statistics. In addition to the psychology core of the degree students choose another major study area to complement their studies in psychology.

Typical Course Structure

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Semester 1</th>
<th>Semester 2</th>
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| 1    | 4309 Psychology 101  
Open elective  
Open elective  
Major          | 4310 Psychology 102  
6611 Introduction to Psychological Research  
Open elective  
Major          |
| 2    | 7118 Experimental Psychology  
7121 Developmental Psychology  
Major  
Major          | 7122 Personality and Individual Differences  
7120 Physiological Psychology  
Major  
Major          |
| 3    | 7126 Survey Research & Design in Psychology  
7123 Cognitive Psychology  
Major          | 7127 Learning  
7124 Motivation and Emotion  
7125 Social Psychology  
Major          |

Alternative entry pathways
The University of Canberra offers alternative entry pathways to students who do not meet entry requirements. The University of Canberra College is an alternative pathway to a University of Canberra degree. The preparation programs offered by the UC College are designed to prepare students for University study. In UC-START you can start studying subjects from your chosen degree program and then obtain credit for these once you begin the degree. Other University Preparation courses include UC-CONNECT and UC-PREP. For more information about the University of Canberra College visit the website: [www.canberra.edu.au/college](http://www.canberra.edu.au/college) or contact them on (02) 6201 2961.

The Access Scheme assists recent school-leavers whose education during Years 11 and 12 has been disadvantaged in some way and who, consequently, may not gain entrance to their preferred course. See the UAC guide for more information.

How do I apply?
Applications for most University of Canberra undergraduate courses are handled through the NSW and ACT Universities Admissions Centre (UAC). UAC publishes a Guide each year, which includes detailed instructions on how to apply. The normal period for applications is August-September each year.

Universities Admissions Centre: [www.uac.edu.au](http://www.uac.edu.au)

Course Enquiries
For advice on aspects of the course please contact HealthStudentLiaison@canberra.edu.au