

# Bachelor of Science in Psychology (780AA)

**Course Duration** 3 years full-time

**UAI**

2009 65.00

## 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 compliment their studies in psychology.

## Typical Course Structure

	Semester 1	Semester 2
Year 1	4309 Psychology 101 Open elective Open elective Major	4310 Psychology 102 6611 Introduction to Psychological Research Open elective Major
Year 2	7118 Experimental Psychology 7121 Developmental Psychology Major Major	7122 Personality and Individual Differences 7120 Physiological Psychology Major Major
Year 3	7126 Survey Research & Design in Psychology 7128 Psychopathology 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 the course convenor:  
Dr Thea Vanags (02) 6201 2569 [Thea.Vanags@canberra.edu.au](mailto:Thea.Vanags@canberra.edu.au)