

# Bachelor of Science in Psychology (780AA)

## Major and Open Elective Units

The Bachelor of Science in Psychology (780AA) is a 72 credit point (cp) degree. In this degree you will do 13 compulsory Psychology units (39 cp). The remainder of your degree consists of a major and some open elective units. Many students are unsure of what constitutes a major, and which units are valid open elective units. This sheet provides some introductory information that will help you with these questions.

### Major

Your major is something *other than* Psychology and is made up of 6 units (18cp), 7 units (21cp) or 8 units (24cp). Not all majors are 8 units. Some of these units are level 1 units (1<sup>st</sup> year), some are level 2 (2<sup>nd</sup> year) and some are level 3 (3<sup>rd</sup> year). For your degree, you will need to do 2 level 1 units, 2 level 2 units and 2 level 3 units in your major. You can determine the “level” of a unit when you view the unit information on the UC website.

To choose a major, you need to go to the list of majors and minors on the UC website (<http://www.canberra.edu.au/courses/>) and click on “majors and minors”. You should choose something that interests you, and perhaps will be useful in your future career.

If you choose a 6-unit major, you will need to do 5 open electives (15cp). If you choose a 5-unit major, you will need to do 4 open electives (12 cp) and if you choose an 8-unit major, you will need to do 3 open electives (9cp).

### Open Electives

Open elective units are any 3 credit point unit in the university. They are different to, and not part of, your Psychology units or your major. They are level 1 units, but you can do level 2 or level 3 if you wish. You need to be aware that level 2 and level 3 units may have pre-requisites that you may not have completed. You can choose any unit you wish for your open elective as long as it is not a Psychology unit or part of your major.

### What to choose and does it affect your chances of getting into 4th year?

We do not mind what major or open electives you choose for your degree, and the results of those units are not used in determining places for 4th year. Entry to Honours or the Graduate Diploma (4th year) is based on the grade point average (GPA) of your **Psychology** units. Generally, you will need to achieve a credit average to gain entry to the Graduate Diploma, and a Distinction average to gain entry for Honours.

### Lastly

It is probably best to enrol in the units for your degree one semester at a time. So enrol in the current semester’s units and complete those before enrolling in the units for the later semesters.