

Important Information for ALL USQ Psychology Major Students

Welcome to the Psychology program at USQ. Enrolling in a degree program can be a little daunting, especially if you are enrolling for the very first time. This letter will hopefully ease some of the burden because I intend to tell people who are coming to USQ for the very first time what to enrol in.

If you are enrolling full time, the standard workload each year is 8 courses, 4 in Semester 1 and 4 in Semester 2. If you are enrolling part-time or by distance education, the standard workload is 2 courses in each semester. You can also enrol in selected courses in semester 3, although these are only offered externally.

A full overview of the psychology program can be found in the Bachelor of Science (BSCI) section of the USQ Handbook which can be found on the USQ website. Take some time out to become familiar with the USQ Handbook and in particular with the BSc majoring in psychology. It tells you about the structure of the program, the courses you will need to take, when the courses are offered, and when you should enroll in them. Please note that students in the BSc (Psychology) are not permitted to enroll in a course without having completed the prerequisites. We do make an exception when you are in your last year of your degree and may need to take a course concurrently with its prerequisite.

If you peruse the Handbook on the web and find the section that deals with the Psychology Major, you will see that for the first year it recommends that you take the one psychology course in semester 1 and two psychology courses in semester 2. (Note that four of the recommended courses are offered in semester 3 if you need to change your enrolment in semester 1 or 2 and catch up some courses at the end of the year).

| Recommended enrolment pattern for first year | | |
|---|--|---|
| Semester 1 | Semester 2 | Semester 3 |
| PSY1010 Foundation Psychology A | PSY1020 Foundation Psychology B | PSY1010 Foundation Psychology A (External only) |
| CMS1000 Communication and Scholarship | PSY1030 Cross-Cultural & Indigenous Psychology | PSY1030 Cross-cultural & Indigenous Psychology (External only) |
| CSC1402 Foundation Computing | STA2300 Data Analysis | STA2300 Data Analysis (External only) |
| Non-psychology elective | CSC1402 Foundation Computing OR CMS1000 Communication and Scholarship OR Non-psychology elective | CMS1000 Communication and Scholarship (External only) |

If you are **starting** in semester 2 or semester 3, then you should probably enrol in the two psychology courses listed in the second or third columns as well as either CMS100 or CSC1402. If you intend to progress to the second level Psychology courses in semester 1, 2009, you will need to complete PSY1010, PSY1020, and PSY1030 before then. All semester 3 courses are only available in External mode.

For those who do not have any exemptions, you need to choose which elective courses to study. These electives come from programs outside psychology and can be chosen from almost any area across all faculties. To choose electives, look at the Option Studies section of the Handbook (<http://www.usq.edu.au/handbook/current/optstudies.html>).

Although the maximum time for completion of the BSc is 8 years (and only two years for the GDPS), if you are awarded exemptions, this maximum time will be less. For example, if you are enrolled in the BSc

(Psychology) major, the following table can be used to assist you to work out how long you will be allowed to complete your degree.

| <i>Number of Exemptions Granted</i> | <i>Maximum Time to Complete Program</i> |
|--|--|
| 4 exemptions | 6 years and 2 semesters |
| 5 exemptions | 6 years and 1 semester |
| 6 exemptions | 6 years |
| 7 exemptions | 5 years and 2 semesters |
| 8 exemptions | 5 years and 1 semester |
| 9 exemptions | 5 years |
| 10 exemptions | 4 years and 2 semesters |
| 11 exemptions | 4 years and 1 semester |
| 12 exemptions | 4 years |
| 13 exemptions | 3 years and 2 semesters |
| 14 exemptions | 3 years and 1 semester |
| 15 exemptions | 3 years |
| 16 exemptions | 2 years and 2 semesters |

In deciding which electives to take, you might like to give some consideration to possible jobs in the future. If you look at the program structure (details are provided at the end of this document), you can see that students can take up to 8 non-psychology electives. This is to enable students to complete a significant number of courses from another discipline, even a second major, to enhance your employment prospects. While you presumably want to become psychologists, you can enhance your job prospects in the future by choosing a set of elective units that complement your psychology studies. If you go to the Departmental web page at <http://psych.sci.usq.edu.au>, you will find a section on careers. The information there may help you decide which electives to take as your first and second electives.

We also offer a BSc double major in Psychology and Human Physiology which will be a major advantage in any careers involving promoting people's health and well-being and it will build a very sound foundation for postgraduate studies in Clinical and Health Psychology. This is an excellent example of how to combine your Psychology major with an area that will enable you to develop expertise that enhances your future career prospects. One constraint with this double major is that most of the Human Physiology courses are only offered oncampus. Other double majors that currently exist include Psychology + Human Resource Management, and a range of other disciplines from the Faculties of Arts, Business, and Sciences. A full list of double majors is shown below. If you select a second major, you must conform to the requirements of the major as specified in the USQ Handbook. Students also have the option to enrol in courses from another University through cross-institutional enrolment if there are specific courses that are not offered at USQ which you wish to take. However, doing this would mean that you would not have the second major listed on your degree.

The Australian Psychological Society web site (<http://www.psychology.org.au/>) is also a good place to start looking for information about careers. Click on the link "Study and careers" and then "Careers in Psychology". You will see that this page contains information about three topics: What do psychologists do? What are the employment prospects for psychologists? Where can I find more information about careers in psychology? If you browse to one of the links on that page ('Australian Careers' website), you will be able to see the employment prospects for psychologists in general.

For those of you who have studied at Uni before, I am guessing that University handbooks are familiar and that you can sort out what courses you need to be in if you have applied for and been granted exemptions. If I am wrong, don't hesitate to ask for assistance.

Students should also read the Psychology Program Information Booklet which is usually distributed with the first psychology course you enrol in each year. If you do not receive it, it can be found on the Psychology department's web site at <http://www.usq.edu.au/sciences/psychology/default.htm> in the section relating to the Areas of Study. Click on the link to Undergraduate Program Information booklet. If you can't find it, just send me an email.

Best wishes for a successful completion of your studies.



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Current List of Double Majors in the BSc (Psychology) Program

| Name | Academic Plan | Description |
|--|---------------|----------------------------|
| Psychology and Human Resource Management | 13810 | Psychology+HRM |
| Psychology and Management & Leadership | 15787 | Psychology+ManagLead |
| Psychology and Statistics | 15756 | Psychology+Stats |
| Psychology and Anthropology | 13806 | Psychology+Anthropol |
| Psychology and Administrative Management | 13807 | Psychology+AdminMgt |
| Psychology and History | 13808 | Psychology+History |
| Psychology and Visual Arts Prac | 13811 | Psychology+VArtsPrac |
| Psychology and Marketing | 13814 | Psychology+Marketing |
| Psychology and English Literature | 13816 | Psychology+EngLit |
| Psychology and Computing | 13817 | Psychology+Computing |
| Psychology and Human Physiology | 15844 | Psychology+HumanPhysiology |
| Psychology and Business Law | 15751 | Psychology+BusLaw |

Structure of the BSc (Psychology) major for NEW students (and those who commenced from 2006)

(<http://www.usq.edu.au/handbook/current/sci/BSCI.html>)

| Courses to be studied | Semester offered |
|---|-------------------------|
| Foundation courses | |
| STA2300 Data Analysis | 1,2,3 |
| CSC1402 Foundation Computing | 1,2,3 |
| CMS 1000 Communication & Scholarship | 1,2,3 |
| PSY1030 Cross-Cultural & Indigenous Psychology | 2,3 |
| Compulsory courses | |
| PSY1010 Foundation Psychology A | 1,3 |
| PSY1020 Foundation Psychology B | 2 |
| PSY2010 Social Processes of Behaviour | 1 |
| PSY2020 Motivation & Emotion | 1 |
| PSY2030 Developmental Psychology | 2 |
| PSY2040 Human Information Processing | 2 |
| PSY2100 Research Methods in Psychology A | 1 |
| PSY2110 Research Methods in Psychology B | 2 |
| PSY3010 Assessment of Behaviour | 1 |
| PSY3030 Abnormal Psychology | 1 |
| PSY3050 Counselling Psychology | 2 |
| PSY3110 Clinical Health Psychology | 2 |
| Psychology Electives (only choose these if you want to) | |
| PSY3040 Individual Differences | |
| PSY3080 Human Factors | |
| PSY3100 Advanced Research Methods and Statistics | |
| PSY3101 Career Assessment and Development | |
| PSY3120 History and Systems of Psychology | |
| PSY3250 Sport Psychology | |
| PSY3730 Industrial and Organisational Psychology | |
| Non-Psychology Electives (max of 8 Psych and Non-psych electives) | |

The year and semester these are offered can change. Please check the current handbook for further information.

Structure of the BSc (Psychology) major for students who commenced prior to 2006

(<http://www.usq.edu.au/handbook/current/sci/BSCI.html>)

| Courses to be studied | Semester offered |
|--|--|
| Foundation courses | |
| STA2300 Data Analysis | 1,2,3 |
| CSC1402 Foundation Computing | 1,2,3 |
| CMS 1000 Communication & Scholarship | 1,2,3 |
| PSY1030 Cross-Cultural & Indigenous Psychology | 2,3 |
| Compulsory courses | |
| PSY1010 Foundation Psychology A | 1,3 |
| PSY1020 Foundation Psychology B | 2 |
| PSY2010 Social Processes of Behaviour | 1 |
| PSY2020 Motivation & Emotion | 1 |
| PSY2030 Developmental Psychology | 2 |
| PSY2040 Human Information Processing | 2 |
| PSY2100 Research Methods in Psychology A | 1 |
| PSY2110 Research Methods in Psychology B | 2 |
| PSY3010 Assessment of Behaviour | 1 |
| Psychology Electives (choose at least 3) | |
| PSY3030 Abnormal Psychology | The year and semester these are offered can change. Please check the current handbook for further information. |
| PSY3050 Counselling Psychology | |
| PSY3040 Individual Differences | |
| PSY3080 Human Factors | |
| PSY3100 Advanced Research Methods and Statistics | |
| PSY3101 Career Assessment and Development | |
| PSY3120 History and Systems of Psychology | |
| PSY3250 Sport Psychology | |
| PSY3730 Industrial and Organisational Psychology | |
| Non-Psychology Electives (max of 8) | |

Structure of the BSc (Psychology & Human Physiology) double major from 2007 for ALL students

(<http://www.usq.edu.au/handbook/current/sci/BSCI.html>)

| COURSES TO BE STUDIED |
|--|
| YEAR 1 |
| CSC1402 Foundation Computing CMS1000 Communication and Scholarship PSY1010 Foundation Psychology A BIO1101 Biology 1 BIO1203 Human Anatomy and Physiology PSY1020 Foundation Psychology B STA2300 Data Analysis PSY1030 Cross-Cultural & Indigenous Psychology |
| YEAR 2 |
| PSY2010 Social Processes of Behaviour PSY2020 Motivation and Emotion PSY2100 Research Methods in Psychology A BIO2203 Systems Physiology* PSY2030 Developmental Psychology PSY2040 Human Information Processing PSY2110 Research Methods in Psychology B BIO3333 Cardiorespiratory and Sports Physiology* |
| YEAR 3 |
| PSY3010 Assessment of Behaviour PSY3030 Abnormal Behaviour BIO3313 Pharmacology* Elective PSY3050 Counselling Psychology PSY3110 Clinical Health Psychology BIO3323 Endocrine and Neurophysiology* Elective |

Elective options must be selected from :

| |
|--|
| BIO2103 Biology 2 BIO2901 Current Topics in Biomedical Science* NSC3620 Physiology and Pathophysiology 1 NSC3630 Physiology and Pathophysiology 2 |
|--|

* only available in oncampus mode

Structure of the Graduate Diploma of Psychological Studies for NEW students (and those who commenced from 2006)

(<http://www.usq.edu.au/handbook/current/sci/GDPS.html>)

| Courses to be studied | Semester offered |
|--|-------------------------|
| Compulsory courses | |
| PSY2010 Social Processes of Behaviour | 1 |
| PSY2020 Motivation & Emotion | 1 |
| PSY2030 Developmental Psychology | 2 |
| PSY2040 Human Information Processing | 2 |
| PSY2100 Research Methods in Psychology A | 1 |
| PSY2110 Research Methods in Psychology B | 2 |
| PSY3010 Assessment of Behaviour | 1 |
| PSY3110 Clinical Health Psychology | 2 |