

ISN Psychology
Institute for Social Neuroscience

Fourth Year (Honours) **Handbook**



isn.edu.au

 **ISn** | institute for social
psychology neuroscience

ISN Psychology

Institute for Social Neuroscience

Fourth Year (Honours)

Handbook

Bachelor of Psychology (Hons) BPsych (Hons) (ISN Psychology)/
Bachelor of Psychological Science (Hons) BPsychSc (Hons) (ISN Psychology)

Course CRISCOS Code: TBD

Registered Full-Time Duration: 1 Years' Full-Time Equivalent

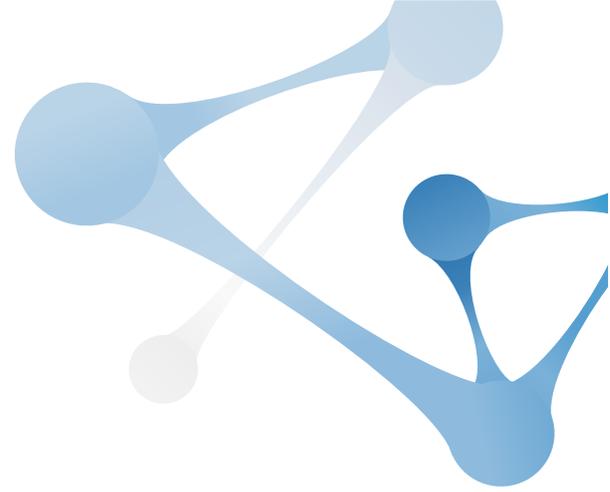
Total Credit Points: 100

Location: Level 6, 10 Martin Street, Heidelberg, Victoria
(Austin Precinct)

Table of Contents

- **Course Overview** _____ **2**
- **Course Entry Details** _____ **3**
- **Course Organisation** _____ **4**
- **Course Dates** _____ **8**
- **Further Information** _____ **9**

Course Overview



The Institute for Social Neuroscience aims to investigate the basis of character and temperament through the study of psychology, epigenetics, biochemistry, neuroscience and ecology and to apply these findings to improving the health of individuals and societies. The discipline of Psychology is evolving to incorporate more research from Neuroscience in clinical practice. Our offerings in Social Neuroscience and Neuroscience will prepare our students with the knowledge to be leaders in the emerging field of neuropsychology and open additional career paths.

Graduates of the honours degree are prepared for work in a number of settings through research, psychiatric hospitals, special schools, government, not-for-profit organisations, human resource management, market research and guidance or counselling for educational, vocational or personal problems. Registration as a psychologist with the Psychology Board of Australia and full membership of the Australian Psychological Society (APS) require at least two years' appropriate study or supervision beyond fourth year, such as a Master's or Doctorate degree. Students will complete a research thesis in 4th year that will develop skills in critical evaluation of research findings and evidence based evaluations of treatment and management options. This, in addition to further postgraduate studies and/or 2 years' supervision, will prepare graduates for a career as a psychologist. The honours component (4th year) corresponds to an AQF level 8 qualifications.

The Bachelor of Psychology (Hons) and the Bachelor of Psychological Science (Hons) is currently under review with the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC) for approval. The course will only commence in 2017 once APAC has finalised their initial assessment expected prior to the advertised semester commencement date.

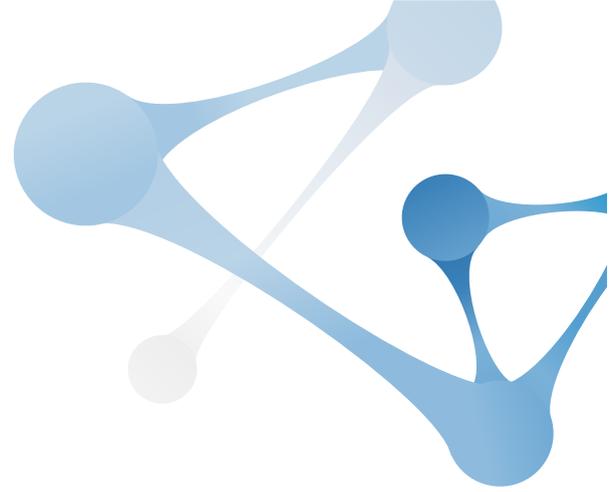
Professional Recognition

Graduates of the Bachelor of the honours program are eligible to apply for associate membership with the Australian Psychological Society (APS). Graduates who meet the two-year supervision criteria for practice in Australia, as outlined within the Australian Health Practitioners Regulation Agency (AHPRA) guidelines, can apply for full registration as a psychologist. In Australia, it is a requirement to complete two years supervised psychological practice after fourth year. This can be achieved through supervised work while working full time, through completion of a two-year professional master program in psychology, or a one-year professional postgraduate program and one year of supervised psychological practice. Graduates undertaking the additional two years' supervision for full registration as a psychologist in Australia must register with AHPRA as a provisional psychologist. ISN Psychology provides a Master of Psychology (Clinical) for eligible students.

Additional Course Expenses

Students will be required to pay a student service fee that covers the cost of all textbooks, use of facilities, and I.T. support services. All lecture and tutorial materials will be available online and copying/scanning facilities are available, at a cost, for students on campus. Details of student services fees are available on our website and additional details regarding further materials will be provided during orientation week.

Course Entry Details



Students applying for the Bachelor of Psychology (Hons) or a Bachelor of Psychological Science (Hons) Degree are required to meet the following English language requirements: A study score of at least 25 in any English subject (Except EAL) or at least 30 in English (EAL).

In addition to English language requirement students must meet the following VCE Units 3 and 4 prerequisites: a study score of at least 20 in one Biology, Chemistry, Geography, Mathematics, Psychology or Physics; Unit 1 and 2 Mathematics preferred but not essential for entry. Non-year 12 applicants must complete and submit a Personal Statement online if they wish other information to be considered during the application process.

Admission to the Honours stream (4th year) requires a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 70% in the first 3 years of an APAC accredited psychology degree. Students enrolled in the Bachelor of Psychology (Hons), who do not achieve the minimum GPA for entry into 4th year (Hons), but achieve pass marks in all units in the first 3, will be exited with the 3-year Bachelor of Psychological Science degree.

In addition, as per APAC standards, successful completion of an APAC-accredited three-year sequence of study in psychology within the last 10 years is required prior to entry into an Honours program.

Important Dates

Early April	Applications close
Early to mid-April	Interviews are conducted (sequence courses)
Mid-April	Offers sent to successful candidates
1 May	Commencement of first semester

*important dates are subject to APAC approval and may change.

Credit for Recognised Prior Learning

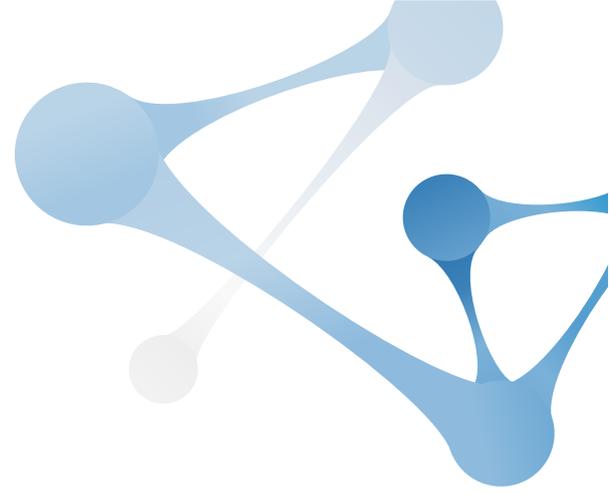
ISN will provide credit for any units undertaken as part of an Australian Psychological Accreditation Council (APAC) accredited sequence applicable to the current course being undertaken, as indicated in our Academic policies and procedures manual, and as referred to in the current APAC standards 5.1.9-5.1.11. A copy of the APAC guidelines can be found at the following address:

<https://www.psychologycouncil.org.au/standards-and-guidelines/>

Pathway to Further Study

Graduates may qualify for entry to some Graduate Certificates, Graduate Diplomas, Master by Coursework degrees, and Master or Doctorate by Research. Graduates exiting with a Bachelor of Psychological Science (1st 3rd year sequence, without honours/fourth year) may qualify for entry into a Bachelor Degree with honours at an external institute or may be granted entry after further relevant work experience.

Course Organisation



Course Structure

The honours year consists of one year full-time, or the part-time equivalent, study undertaken during the last year (or two) of undergraduate study. The course structure is based on two full-time semesters (each of 12 weeks' duration), with four units taught in semester one and two units taught in semester two. The degree comprises of six core units of which two will focus on the completion of a major research project/thesis. All students will present their final research project during a retreat at a conference facility. To qualify for the awarding of the degree of Bachelor of Psychology (Honours) a candidate shall accrue an aggregate of at least 400 credit points, including satisfactory completion of the core units. To qualify for the awarding of the degree of Bachelor of Psychological Science (Hons) a candidate shall accrue an aggregate of at least 100 credit points, over the one-year duration of the course, and pass all core units.

Semester 1

ISN401 Lifespan Development and Psychopathology

Lifespan Development and Psychopathology is a systematic analysis of the major areas of psychopathology. Students will learn key stages and related developmental theories across the whole of life, the philosophical and methodological issues associated with the area of developmental psychopathology. Students will show an understanding of the onset and course of the major areas of psychopathology within a developmental and cultural context, as well as work on a particular case of developmental psychopathology, demonstrating the major approaches in terms of diagnosis and prognosis within a bio-psychosocial framework.

Assessment Tasks: Exam (40% of the total mark), written assignment [1500 words] (40% of the total mark) and tutorial activities (20% of the total mark).

ISN402 Psychological Assessment

Psychological Assessment is an advanced assessment unit where students learn the major steps in psychological assessment including: context, interview, behavioural observation, formal testing, interpretation and creating a psychological report. Students will be introduced to the various types of assessment tools and become familiar with the general content domains of each type, and work through the parameters associated with test development and evaluation. Students must develop a general test of human performance, collect data and complete psychometric analysis on the results.

Assessment Tasks: Exam (40% of the total mark), written lab report [1500 words] (40% of the total mark) and tutorial activities (20% of the total mark).

ISN403 Research Methods

Research Methods introduces students to quantitative advanced research methods including: ANCOVA; MANOVA; discriminant function analysis; regressions and structural equation modelling; and data reduction via factor and cluster analysis. Qualitative research methodologies such as grounded theory, discourse analysis, ethnographies, feminist approach and other advanced techniques will be taught. Students will demonstrate the ability to use established data sets to complete various quantitative and qualitative analysis, and complete a mixed method analysis and complete a report integrating both data sets. Critical decision making and the understanding issues of statistics and design is required to ensure completion of appropriate qualitative and quantitative analyses.

Assessment Tasks: Exam (40% of the total mark), written lab report [1500 words] (40% of the total mark) and tutorial activities (20% of the total mark).

ISN404 Research Thesis 1

In conjunction with a thesis supervisor, students in **Research Thesis 1** will develop a research question and embed this research question within the current literature, develop testable hypotheses and propose an appropriate methodology (including participants, measures and procedures). Students will develop adequate statistical justification for complete data analysis of the thesis project, describe all possible ethical issues associated with psychological research and determine which ones apply to their thesis and how they will satisfy ethical requirements. Students must complete appropriate documentation for ethics and achieve ethical clearance of proposed research.

Assessment Tasks: Research Proposal [5000 words] (100% of the total mark). This will be broken down into a literature review, methodology report, proposed data analysis, consideration of ethical issues and submission for ethics approval.

Semester 2

ISN411 Contemporary Professional Psychology

Contemporary Professional Psychology presents the issues and role of professional psychologists in contemporary Australia. This unit defines the role of APHRA, professional frameworks and decision-making; professional competence, role of the regulatory board and the need for continuing professional development. Students will study theories associated with interviewing and basic counselling of diverse populations, develop their basic interviewing and counselling skills, and demonstrate basic interviewing and counselling skills on fellow students by presenting a videotaped session with a critical written analysis.

Assessment Tasks: Exam (40% of the total mark), video assessment and critical analysis [equivalent to 1500 words] (40% of the total mark) and tutorial activities (20% of the total mark).

ISN412 Research Thesis 2

Continuing from **Research Thesis 1**, in **Research Thesis 2** students will prepare and complete a Research thesis (totalling 10,000 words), including an abstract, an introduction of their topic within current research literature, complete a methods section that clearly outlines participants, and the psychometrics of the measures and the procedures used to collect data.

Students will collect and analyse data within the context of the psychological research project and report these findings in the research section of the thesis, complete an extensive discussion of research findings, a critical comparison with past literature, a critical analysis of the limitations of this research, and provide suggestions for future research and potential applications for the findings. Finally, students will prepare and present a 30-minute presentation of this research.

Assessment Tasks: Research Thesis [10000 words] (80% of the total mark), and Presentation [20 minutes talk] (20% of the total mark).

YEAR 4 / SEMESTER 1 (HONOURS)

COURSE STRUCTURE		HOURS PER WEEK	CREDIT
ISN401	Lifespan Development and Psychopathology	4.0 Formal/ 6.0 Self Study	12.5
ISN402	Psychological Assessment	4.0 Formal/ 6.0 Self Study	12.5
ISN403	Research Methods	4.0 Formal/ 6.0 Self Study	12.5
ISN404	Research Thesis 1	4.0 Formal/ 6.0 Self Study	12.5
			50.0

YEAR 4 / SEMESTER 2 (HONOURS)

COURSE STRUCTURE		HOURS PER WEEK	CREDIT
ISN411	Contemporary Professional Psychology	4.0 Formal/ 6.0 Self Study	12.5
ISN412	Research Thesis 2	1.0 Formal/ 9.0 Self Study	37.5
			50.0

Course Learning Outcomes

Graduates at this level will have advanced theoretical and technical knowledge in one or more disciplines or areas of practice. Graduates will be able to demonstrate a broad and coherent knowledge of psychology and an appreciation of the value of applying this knowledge as the basis for life-long learning. Graduates will further demonstrate the capacity to apply disciplinary knowledge to explain, predict, and shape human behaviour.

ISN Psychology honours graduates will:

- Demonstrate the capacity to design and conduct studies to address psychological questions across a variety of domains.
- Be able to describe the key principles underpinning the design, implementation and evaluation of programs of behaviour change and be able to demonstrate the capacity to utilise logic, evidence, and psychological science to evaluate claims about, and solve problems regarding human behaviour.
- Demonstrate appropriate professional values and knowledge of the code of ethics.
Have an understanding of the current Australian National Practice Standards for the Mental Health Workforce.
- Strong written and verbal communication skills and effective active listening and presentation skills.
- The ability to work autonomously and the ability to apply psychological principles to personal, social, organisational, and global issues.

Duration and Availability

The Bachelor of Psychology (Hons) is four years' full-time or equivalent part-time study.

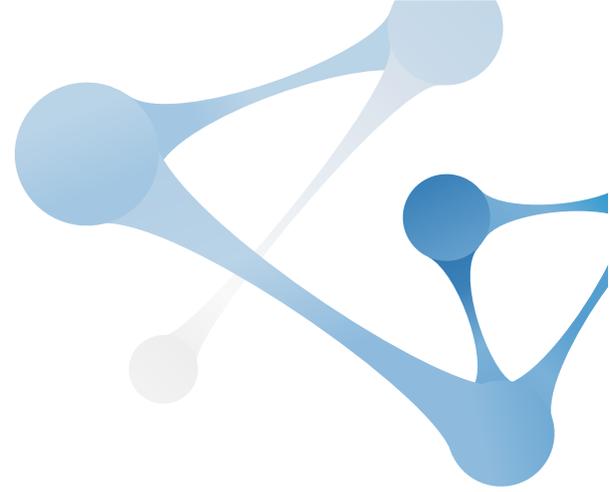
The Bachelor of Psychological Science (Hons) is one year full-time or equivalent part-time study. (Only available for non-ISN undergraduate students from other Universities or Private Institutes).

Location and delivery mode

YEAR	LOCATION	PERIOD	INTERNAL	EXTERNAL
2017	Florey Institute and ISN Psychology (Martin St.)	Semester 1	Y	N
2017	Florey Institute and ISN Psychology (Martin St.)	Semester 2	Y	N

The information displayed above refers to study periods and locations where the course is available for first time entry. Students are normally only offered or admitted to a course once.

Course Dates



Semester 1

1 May	Classes commence
26 June	Mid Semester break
28 July	End of Classes
7 August	Exam period
11 August	Semester break

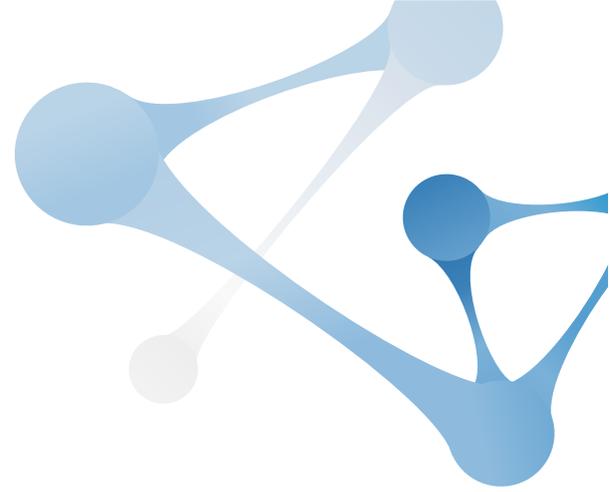
Semester 2

4 September	Classes commence
23 October	Mid Semester break
1 December	End of Classes
4 December	Exam Period
11 December	Semester End

*Course dates are subject to APAC accreditation and may change.

**2017 courses will be accelerated. All courses commencing in 2018 and onward will follow regular semester patterns.

Further Information



For further information in regards to academic policy and procedure please refer to ISN Psychology Policy and Procedure Manual.

If you need assistance or further course information, please contact our office:



Phone: (03) 9456 9188



Email: reception@isn.edu.au



Or visit: isn.edu.au

Course Structure Disclaimer

ISN Psychology reserves the right to modify or amend course content and structure to ensure appropriate and relevant learning outcomes. In instances where modifications are made to course content or structure current students will not be impacted and allowed to complete the course within the set timeframe and at no additional cost.

Disclaimer

The information contained in this handbook is correct at the time of publication, however may be subject to change.

ISN Psychology reserves the right to change the content of courses and units, including methods of assessment, and to make amendments to course fees. ISN Psychology has the right to set enrolment limitations and at their discretion have alternative provisions for course completion.



Phone: (03) 9456 9188
Email: reception@isn.edu.au
Or visit: isn.edu.au