MASTER OF PROFESSIONAL PSYCHOLOGY



Course Handbook 2025

Creating thriving minds for an evolving world

A Message From Professor Tony Paolini, President and CEO

As you embark on this exciting journey of higher education in the field of psychology, we'd be thrilled to have you join our community of passionate learners and educators.

State-of-the-art technology combined with our extensive facilities ensures that our student experience is accessible, engaging, and constantly evolving. Our broad psychology network and clinical facilities provide invaluable skill-based practical training. Our psychology courses are all approved by APAC. A testament to our commitment to maintaining the highest standards of education and practice.

As you consider taking the next step in your career and advancing your education with us, know that our dedicated staff is here to guide you every step of the way. We are excited about the opportunities that await you at ISN Psychology and look forward to witnessing your growth and achievements.

We respectfully acknowledge the traditional owners of the land in which ISN operates, the Wurundjeri People of the Kulin Nation, and pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.



Why Choose ISN Psychology?

We're a TEQSA approved Institute of Higher Education dedicated to fostering thriving minds in an evolving world. We're committed to advancing the field of psychology through comprehensive education, innovative research, and creating an academic experience that caters to the diverse needs of our students. We offer synchronous classes either live online or in person at our work integrated learning hubs in Melbourne and Sydney.

At ISN we believe that learning extends beyond the classroom.

Through our extensive clinical facilities and broader psychology network our students gain leading edge practical training and placements, equipping them with the skills they need to excel in their careers.

The ISN team includes experienced clinicians who have worked in a range of public and private settings, and educators who have held leadership roles in both academic and professional settings.

Comprehensive and Flexible

We utilise the latest technology and have extensive facilities to ensure a holistic learning experience. Intakes in semesters one and two. Full and part time sequences available.

Exceptional Clinical Facilities

Learn from registered psychologists and educators of unmatched skill and expertise. We boast a broad psychology network as well as ISN affiliated clinical facilities in Melbourne and Sydney that provide on site skill-based practical training.

APAC Accreditation

Discover, grow, and succeed in your career. Our courses are approved by APAC, ready to guide you on your journey to becoming an registered psychologist in Australia.

Master of Professional Psychology

The Master of Professional Psychology is an APAC accredited Level 3 (Professional Competencies) course designed to prepare students for the 6th Year internship.

The course is comprised of synchronous live lectures and workshops, practicum and an independent research project. Students in metropolitan Melbourne and Sydney attend in person classes in our work integrated learning hubs and in person practicum in our affiliated ISN Clinics including in Ivanhoe, Kew, Bundoora and Sydney. Students outside these areas may attend live online classes and complete practicum via telehealth (may be subject to quotas).

There is also an opportunity for eligible students to articulate into the Master of Psychology or Doctor of Psychology program upon completion of the first semester.

Entry Requirements

Domestic students with Australian citizenship or Permanent Residency rights can apply, ISN cannot currently accept applications for international students.

Successfully completed an APAC accredited four-year sequence of study or overseas qualification deemed equivalent by the Australian Psychological Society with a minimum weighted average WAM of credit average.

Applicants must be eligible for registration as a provision psychologist with the Psychology Board of Australia (PsyBA) which may have additional requirements including minimal English language standards. For more information please see psychologycouncil.org.au

Successful candidates will also need to meet additional entry requirements, which may be changed from time to time, including police checks, working with child checks, evidence of immunisation status and appropriate professional indemnity insurance cover.



Selection Process

- Applications can be made on the application form available on our <u>website</u>, providing accompanying transcripts, personal statement and CV, and referee reports submitted through the <u>Psychology Reference Portal</u>. Applicants who meet the minimum entry requirements will be ranked on the basis of academic merit, relevant work experience and/or training, and referee reports.
- Short-listed applicants will be invited to complete a psychological assessment and, in some cases, an interview to select candidates for the program.
- Please note this qualification may be subject to quotas and meeting the minimum requirements does not guarantee entry.



Career Pathways

The Master of Professional Psychology is an APAC accredited Level 3 (Professional Competencies) course designed to prepare students for the 6th Year internship. Graduates must complete an additional year of PsyBA approved supervised professional practice and successfully pass the National Psychology Exam in order to be eligible for general registration as a psychologist with AHPRA.

Tuition and Course Structure

The Master of Professional Psychology consists of one year full time study, or the part-time equivalent. The structure is based on two full-time semesters, each with a duration of 12 weeks. The coursework units utilise skills based workshops to support the development of professional competencies, blended with a practicum and an independent research project.

Practicum is delivered via our work integrated learning hubs, designed to integrate theory with practice skill training to prepare graduates for safe, quality psychological practice.

Tuition fees are payable upfront or through FEE HELP for eligible students. For more information about tuition fees please visit our website, <u>isn.edu.au</u> or contact us on (03) 9008 1600.

Full Time Year One

Semester One

	Unit Name	Credit Points	Tuition Fees
ISNP2201	Ethics and Professional Issues	10	\$4,016
ISNP2203	Psychopathology and Psychopharmacology	10	\$4,016
ISNP2204	Principles of Psychotherapy and Basic Counseling Skills	10	\$4,016
ISNP2205	Psychological Assessment	10	\$4,016
ISNP2206	Introduction to CBT	10	\$4,016

Semester Two

ISNP2202	Evidence Based Practice	10	\$4,016
ISNP2207	Practicum	20	\$4,648
ISNP2208	Research Project	20	\$4,016
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TOTAL AUD \$32,760

Recommended Part Time Sequence

Year	Semester 1	Semester 2
1	 ISNP2201 Ethics and Professional Issues ISNP2203 Psychopathology and Psychopharmacology ISNP2204 Principles of Psychotheremy 	 ISNP2202 Evidence Based Practice ISNP2205 Psychological Assessment
	3. ISNP2204 Principles of Psychotherapy and Basic Counseling Skills	
2	1. ISNP2208 Research Project	1. ISNP2207 Practicum
	2. ISNP2206 Introduction to CBT	

Begin Your Journey at ISN Psychology

Explore Our Year One Unit Descriptions

Unit outlines are subject to change and apply only to the first year of the course. Updated outlines will be provided at the start of the semester.

ISNP2201

Ethics and Professional Issues

Unit Description

In Ethics & Professional Issues students will become familiar with the requirements of State and Commonwealth acts relevant to psychological work, including relevant ethical codes and guidelines. They will learn how to apply the principles of these codes to their work and consider potential ethical dilemmas using an ethical decision-making model. The unit will also introduce students to other key concepts related to ethical and professional practice. These include: inter-professional learning, the use of technology (e-health) in psychological practice; the role of supervision, self-care, and reflective practice for maintaining professional competence; and cultural responsiveness and culturally safe professional practice in psychology.

ISNP2202

Evidence Based Practice

Unit Description

This unit will provide students with further understanding of the complexity of evaluating the quality of research, developing their critical thinking skills and understanding of statistical analyses and research methods, with a focus on applied practical interventions. The unit will provide learning and understanding around different psychological intervention approaches that are common in clinical practice, and consider the evidence-base supporting these treatments. The unit will also provide students with an understanding of how these skills around reviewing empirically based literature and testing can be implemented in psychological practice.



Psychopathology and Psychopharmacology

Unit Description

Psychopathology and Pharmacology familiarises students with the diagnosis and classification systems for psychological disorders in adults and young people. Ethical and cultural considerations will be embedded within this unit. Students will also become familiar with the major classes of medications used in the treatment of psychiatric disorders and the biological bases of these disorders. Students will learn the principles and practices involved in psychopharmacological treatments, their indications, contraindications, and adverse effects.



Principles of Psychotherapy and Basic Counseling Skills

Unit Description

Principles of Psychotherapy and Basic Counseling Skills will explore evidence-based, ethical and Culturally responsive psychotherapeutic engagement with clients, including the principles of basic counseling skills, clinical interviewing, mental status examination, case formulation, and supervision. Student competency will be assessed via simulated learning tasks and formal assessments, including role play activities and a self-reflection task.

Exploration of both theory and practical application will support students to strengthen their knowledge of and operationalise the scientist-practitioner model. Essential clinical skills of risk assessment and cultural responsiveness are also included in this unit.

ISNP2205

Psychological Assessment

Unit Description

Psychological Assessment familiarises students with the principles of test construction and the principles, practices, methods, and procedures relating to a broad range of assessment measures and reporting of results of across age ranges. Students will demonstrate the ability to select appropriate tests including consideration of reliability and validity, administration considerations interpretation and reporting results. Particular consideration will be given to the specific assessment needs of clients across a range of contexts including cultural responsiveness and inter-professional considerations.

ISNP2206

Introduction to CBT

Unit Description

Introduction to CBT introduces the main theories, concepts, techniques and application of cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) through formal teaching and private reading activities. Students will develop basic skills in applying CBT techniques appropriately for clinical intervention.



Practicum

Unit Description

Practicum is the professional practice component of the Master of Psychology Professional course. Students will undertake a combination of simulated and supervised practicum experience with regular feedback under the supervision of board approved psychologists.

Students will engage in a range of tasks, mainly with simulated clients, including triage, initial assessment interviews, ongoing therapeutic sessions, psychometric assessments, developing cultural awareness and responsiveness as well as collaborating with other professionals. Students are expected to fulfill a number of tasks including maintaining professional and ethical standards at all times, generate and maintain clinical case files, participate in regular supervision sessions, complete administrative tasks in a timely manner and perform psychological testing.

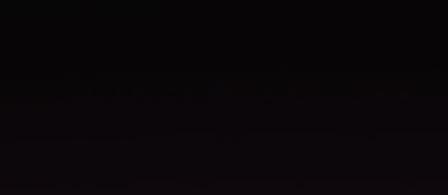
ISNP2208

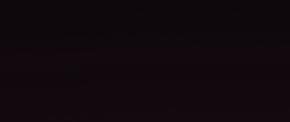
Research Project

Unit Description

This unit is the research component of the Master of Professional Psychology course. This unit will require students to write a report that answers a research question that is relevant to professional psychological practice using simulated data. In doing so, students will be required to analyse data using an appropriate statistical analysis method. This unit will mainly consist of self-directed learning and interaction with the unit coordinator(s) who will provide guidance.











Learning resources and Support

Please review the <u>Student Support page</u> for information about resources and support available to you.



Contact Us

(03) 9008 1600

🖂 registrar@isn.edu.au

isn.edu.au

Let's Get Social

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in linkedin.com/school/isn-psychology/

