Psychology explores the science of the mind and human nature. You will examine mental states and processes and how they affect human behaviour. RMIT’s psychology program applies research to actual situations to resolve real human problems.

As a psychology student you will gain strong theoretical and practical skills. The program is the basis for further study if you want to become a practising psychologist or use your study in other careers.

To register as a psychologist, you’ll need to complete the Bachelor of Applied Science (Psychology), the Bachelor of Applied Science (Psychology) (Honours) and the Master of Psychology (two years full-time), or equivalent programs recognised by the Australian Psychological Society.

Industry connections
The program involves a research project where you work one-on-one with staff on staff-initiated research projects.

You will also have the option of completing a 15-day industry placement.

Professional recognition
The psychology major in the Bachelor of Applied Science (Psychology) is a partial requirement for membership of the Australian Psychological Society (APS).

It is also a partial requirement for registration as a psychologist with the Psychology Board of Australia, subject to further study or clinical practice.

This program has been accredited with the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council until 2017.

Pathways
- Current Year 12 and non-Year 12 - successful completion of the Bachelor of Applied Science (Psychology) or the Bachelor of Social Science (Psychology), followed by the Bachelor of Applied Science (Psychology) (Honours).
- Degree graduate in another discipline - successful completion of the Graduate Diploma in Behavioural Science, followed by the Bachelor of Applied Science (Psychology) (Honours).
- Degree graduate with APS-accredited major-successful completion of the Bachelor of Applied Science (Psychology) (Honours). An Honours year in Psychology is available.

Career outlook
As a graduate of the psychology program, you can work in areas such as organisational management, health, sport, cross-cultural studies, counselling, HR, working with people with disabilities, research, training, market research and with further study, teaching.
Program structure

The psychology component of the degree is 25% of first year, 62.5% of second year and 62.5% of third year.

The remaining courses include occupational health and safety, nutrition and applied psychology, disability studies, health statistics, computer science and geography.

Year 1

You’ll study these foundation areas:
- biological bases of behaviour including brain-behaviour relationships, sensation, perception and consciousness
- theories of learning, memory and cognition (including theories of intelligence)
- theories of emotion, motivation and stress.

You will also study these principles of psychology:
- personality
- psychopathology
- social psychology.

Year 2

You’ll study biological psychology, cognitive psychology, developmental psychology, research methods in psychology and social psychology.

Year 3

The third year includes philosophy and methodology of psychology, psychological assessment and individual differences, psychology in society and organisations, psychopathology and models of intervention as well as a research project.

Australian Psychology Accreditation Council elective examples
- Cross-cultural and Organisational Psychology
- Forensic Psychology
- Psychology of Gender
- Health and Sport Psychology

Entrance requirements

Successful completion of an Australian Year 12 senior secondary certificate of education or equivalent.

Prerequisites

Current Year 12 prerequisites units 1 and 2 - Mathematics (any). Units 3 and 4 - a study score of at least 20 in one of Geography, Mathematics (any) or Science (any); and a study score of at least 25 in any English (except EAL) or at least 30 in English (EAL).

Additional information

Non-Year 12 applicants may submit additional information if they would like it to be considered. For semester 1 intake, this can be completed through the VTAC Personal Statement online. For semester 2 intake, this can be completed through the personal statement in the Apply Direct application.

Working With Children Check: Students must hold a valid Working With Children Check prior to undertaking the clinical components of this program.

Police Check: Students must present evidence of a successful National Police Records Check prior to undertaking the clinical components of this program.

This information is designed for Australian and New Zealand citizens and permanent residents of Australia.

Disclaimer: Every effort has been made to ensure the information contained in this publication is accurate and current at the date of printing. For the most up-to-date information, please refer to the RMIT University website before lodging your application. Visit www.rmit.edu.au


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