



# Psychology Honours year – Internal Applicants

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## Who is the intended audience of this document?

This information is intended for internal applicants to the UNSW Honours year in Psychology – UNSW students who will complete an APAC-accredited undergraduate three-year (or bridging) sequence<sup>1</sup> in psychology at UNSW at any point during 2024.

All other applicants (including UNSW graduates who completed in 2023 or earlier) are considered external applicants. External applicants should refer [here](#) for information about how to apply.

## What is the Honours year?

The purpose of the Honours year in Psychology is to enable students who have performed well at undergraduate level to deepen their knowledge of approaches, perspectives and traditions in psychology and undertake a significant research project. Honours is a means for connecting undergraduate study with supervised independent research by consolidating and extending work completed in the undergraduate program and providing an academic foundation for students continuing on to a Masters by coursework, a Masters by research, or a PhD.

Honours is a one-year, full-time program available for commencement in Term 1 only. The program cannot be taken part-time or by distance<sup>2</sup> and mid-year entry is not possible. It is an [APAC-accredited](#) four-

Students may undertake the Honours year in a variety of ways, as outlined below (program codes in square brackets). Honours content is identical regardless of the program code. Dual degree students should consult with their [Program Authority](#) about the recommended program structure (i.e., when the Honours year can/should be taken, as dictated by the program structure).

Embedded fourth year of a single degree program

Bachelor of Psychology (Honours) [3632]

Bachelor of Advanced Science (Honours) [3962]

Embedded fourth (or later) year of a dual degree program

Bachelor of Psychology (Honours) / Bachelor of Laws [4721]

Bachelor of Advanced Science (Honours) / non-Science Bachelor [various, incl. 3593, 3931]

A one-year, stand-alone program

Bachelor of Psychological Science (Honours) [4518]



statistical methods for analysing data from non-experimental designs, and experimental designs with multiple dependent measures.

Together, these two courses provide a solid foundation for analysing data for different types of Honours projects. PSYC3371 is listed as a Level 3 List A PSYC elective, but can be taken as a List B elective.

*Graduate Diploma in Psychology*

Complete, by the end of Session 6, all 60 UOC of the program

*Single Bachelor degree with an APAC-accredited psychology major (embedded or non-embedded Hons)*

Complete, by the end of Term 3, the pass component of their program (typically 144 UOC, referred to as Stages 1 to 3)

- o Embedded Honours students who

psychology courses completed at another university (e.g., via credit transfer, cross-institutional study, exchange or study abroad)  
non-psychology free electives or courses counted as General Education.



The Honours year begins before results for Summer Term are released, and this is a key reason that students do not plan to complete their final pre-Honours course of their program in Summer.

Should a student be offered a place in the Honours year, but fail their Summer enrolment, they will be discontinued from the Honours year, their supervisor will lose a student and it will be too late to re-adjust the supervisor allocation across the cohort.

Students who appear to have no choice but to complete their final pre-Honours course in Summer are advised to contact the School via the [Ask a Question webform](#) before applying for Honours.

### **How to apply for the Honours year**

Applications open on 1 August and close on 15 November. Late applications will not be considered.

Please review the application guidelines on the [School's website](#) and apply accordingly.

### **Supervisor allocation**

Students do not choose their own supervisor, rather they submit a numbered list of preferences from the School's available supervisors. Similarly, supervisors do not choose their own students.

Students nominate their supervisor preferences via the online [Intention to Undertake Honours form](#). Preferences must be informed by the "Supervisors and Research Areas" document available on the [School's website](#). The document may be edited after initial publication, so students should ensure they are viewing the most up-to-date version directly from the website (rather than from internet search results, or files saved at an earlier date).

Allocating students to supervisors is a complex process that considers a number of factors, such as:

- supervisor availability
- School resources
- students' academic strengths
- students' preference nominations

Supervisors are typically allocated between one and three Honours students. As the admission process is competitive, it may be that you cannot be matched with any of your 10 preferences; you should not *expect* to be supervised by any particular member of staff.

### **Guarantee of admission**

No. An offer in one year does not guarantee admission in any subsequent year.

Category A (as defined by the [Faculty of Science](#))

Should a successful applicant decide to decline their place in the Honours year they may re-apply for any subsequent year but will be assessed as an external applicant. Eligibility requirements for external

applicants are not the same as for internal applicants. Places for external applicants, if any, are subject to the availability of appropriate research and supervision resources and will be assessed on the basis of academic merit. Information about applying as an external applicant can be found [here](#).

Category B (as defined by the [Faculty of Science](#))

Eligible single degree students are expected to undertake Honours directly after completion of the pass components (Stages 1 to 3) of their embedded degree. Eligible dual degree students may or may not undertake Honours (if eligible) *immediately* after completion of Stages 1 to 3 of their Science component, depending on their program structure and advice from their [Program Authority](#).

Eligible students that complete their pass component/s and wish to take leave immediately before the Honours year must transfer to the relevant pass degree<sup>3</sup> in order to graduate. They would then apply for the stand-alone, one-year Bachelor of Psychological Science (Honours) program