

Entry into the Fourth Year Program

The University of New England offers two fourth year programs in Psychology. These are the Honours program and the Postgraduate Diploma in Psychology. While both will offer an accredited fourth year in Psychology¹, the Honours program will qualify students for further postgraduate study (for example, PhD or Masters in Clinical Psychology), whereas the Postgraduate Diploma in Psychology will not. Higher grades are needed for honours.

Please note that there are limited places in each program. Competition for places may mean that higher grades than those specified below are required for entry into both our fourth year programs. This means that qualifying for entry does not guarantee a place in the program. That depends on your average grades over your degree.

The following list of minimum requirements refers to "units" that are worth six credit-points in weight. A six credit-point unit at UNE is one quarter of a full-time load for one semester. We refer to the number of "Credits", "Distinctions" and "Passes" required. The grading system at UNE is:

Pass:	50% - 64%	Distinction:	75% - 84%
Credit:	65% - 74%	High Distinction:	85% - 100%

Honours

Honours in Psychology can be studied either as the fourth year of an integrated BPsych(Hons) or as a separate honours year in the BA(Hons), BSocSc(Hons), or BSc(Hons).

Entry into the fourth year of the BPsych(Hons)

This is an integrated four year degree with progression requirements that students must satisfy in order to stay in the degree. Provided these are met, entry into the fourth year is guaranteed. The present requirements apply to students who **commenced their degree at UNE from 2005 onwards**, either as a transfer from another degree or as a commencing student. These minimum requirements are:

- Credit in PSYC101 or PSYC102 and a Pass in the other.
- Credit in PSYC202, plus two Distinctions and one Credit in PSYC units at the 200-level.
- Four Distinctions and two Credits in PSYC units at the 300-level, including PSYC302.

For students who commenced their BPsych(Hons) **prior to 2005** the progression requirements are:

- Credit in PSYC101 or PSYC102 and a Pass in the other.
- Credit in PESS202 or PSYC202, plus two Credits and one Pass in PSYC units at the 200-level.
- Six Credits in PSYC units at the 300-level, including PSYC302.

Entry into BA(Hons), BSocSc(Hons) and BSc(Hons) in Psychology

All applicants must have a degree, obtained within the last ten years, with an APAC-accredited three-year sequence in psychology which meets the minimum requirements specified below.

The **minimum requirements** are:

- PSYC101 and PSYC102.
- Credit in PSYC202 or PESS202, plus two Credits and one Pass in PSYC units at the 200-level. For students starting their degree in 2009 onwards, these units will be PSYC200, 202, 206 and 213.
- Three Distinctions and one Credit in PSYC units at the 300-level, including PSYC302. For students starting their degree in 2009 onwards, these units will be PSYC301, 302, 366 and

¹ The Australian Psychology Accreditation Council reviewed both programs in August 2008.

an additional 6 credit points in psychology at 300-level.

Postgraduate Diploma in Psychology

To qualify for entry into the Postgraduate Diploma in Psychology you need a degree, obtained within the last ten years, with an APAC-accredited three-year sequence which contains an average grade of Credit across the 200- and 300-level units in Psychology (including PSYC202). At UNE, this sequence is:

- PSYC101 and PSYC102.
- Four PSYC units at the 200-level, including PSYC202. For students starting their degree from 2009 onwards, these units will be PSYC200, 202, 206 and 213.
- Four PSYC units at the 300-level. One of these units must be PSYC302. For students starting their degree from 2009 onwards, these units will be PSYC301, 302, 366 and an additional 6 credit points in psychology at 300-level.

Once you meet the minimum criteria

There are limited places in both programs. Students who are already enrolled in the Bachelor of Psychology (Hons) integrated four year degree are guaranteed entry into the fourth year as long as they meet minimum progression requirements. Others must meet minimum entry requirements and will then be selected on the basis of grades. Competition for places may mean that higher grades than the minimum grades specified below are required for entry. This means that qualifying for entry does not guarantee a place in the program. That depends on your average grades in psychology over your degree. The average is computed from 200- and 300-level psychology units you have completed in your accredited major. Specifically, we will enter into the average (i) your 200-level research and statistics unit or equivalent, (ii) your 300-level research and statistics unit or equivalent, (iii) your other six most recent psychology units completed. If you have sat a unit twice, we will use only the most recent result. Students will be ranked on the basis of this average and the top applicants will be offered a place in the program. The most recent cut-off required for acceptance into honours was an average grade near a Distinction, and for acceptance into the Postgraduate Diploma in Psychology was an average grade between Credit and Distinction.

If your accredited major is more than ten years old

Where the accredited major in psychology is more than ten years old and meets the requirement of a Credit average, applicants are advised to update their qualification by re-sitting the third year of their major. They can do this by completing four units in PSYC at third year level (including PSYC302) in the Graduate Certificate in Arts.

Where the accredited major in psychology is more than ten years old and does not meet the requirement of a Credit average, applicants are advised to upgrade their qualification by completing a new accredited major in psychology in the Graduate Diploma of Social Science, described below, and meeting the minimum Credit average.

Bridging program into the fourth year (the Graduate Diploma in Social Science)

The Graduate Diploma in Social Science offers an entry path into our fourth year programs for students who have completed a degree in another discipline and wish to move into psychology. It can also be used as a vehicle for students to undertake more psychology units if they already have completed a degree in psychology. Qualification for entry via the Graduate Diploma does not guarantee a place. The same averaging principles and cut-off point that apply to degree-based entry also apply to the Diploma. Students in the Graduate Diploma in Social Science may be granted exemption for PSYC 101 and PSYC 102 depending on their background in psychology. Detailed information about using the Graduate Diploma in Social Science as a psychology bridging program is available at <http://www.une.edu.au/bcss/psychology/programs/GradDipSocSc-bridging.php>.