# Honours 2019

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# Outline

- Why do Honours?

- Current program

- New program: Research Stream and Work Integrated Stream

- Work and Research in Applied Psychology: Dr. Matthews

- Survey

- Entry requirements, enrollment and application procedure

- Summary

- Questions

# What is Honours?

# Why do Honours

- If interested in research, an Honours degree will make you eligible to apply for a PhD level program

- If you wish to become a practicing psychologist you need a 4-year accredited sequence
  - At the end of this program you will have meet the qualification requirements for provisional registration as a psychologist
  - You can either seek supervised practice to achieve full registration or complete a relevant Masters/Doctorate level program

# Why do Honours (at UQ)

- Ranked 27th best Psychology School/Dept in the world in the 2016 QS World University rankings

- UQ School of Psychology is one of the strongest research departments in Australia

- We are active researchers covering a broad and diverse range of areas

- One of the few 4th year programs in the country with a work-integrated learning component

- UQ provides excellent opportunities for postgraduate research and professional training (PhD, professional doctorate & masters)

# Why do Honours (at UQ)

- 4th Year/Honours year builds on the APAC accredited three-year sequence to:

  – Provide an integrated & comprehensive education in psychology;

  – Introduce applied aspects of psychology;

  – Permit advanced study in a range of fields in psychology;

  – Provide experience and training in aspects of advanced research.

- The program aims to foster the transition from the undergraduate program to the areas of postgraduate specialisation. This does not, however, include training in an area of specialisation itself.

**Honours is extremely intensive and requires a large commitment.**

# Current Programs

# Current Programs

- **2 groups within cohort (determined by GPA only)**
  - PSYC4071 students complete an individual thesis (#8 units)
  - PSYC4092 students complete a group thesis (#8 units)
  - Honours students from BPsycSc, BA, & BSc programs (UQ & other Unis)

- **All students have access to the same courses and are not differentiated by instructors or tutors ***with 1 exception (WRAP)**

- **All end up with Honours**

# Program of study: Full-time

**Complete a total of #16 units, comprising**

- 8 units Thesis:
  - PSYC4092 – individual thesis
  - PSYC4071 – group thesis (n=~20 students per group)
- 5 units compulsory courses
  - PSYC4050 Statistics (#2 units, Sem 1)
  - PSYC4060 Ethics (#1 units, Sem 1)
  - PSYC4121 Scientist Practitioner (#2 units, Sem 2)
- 3 units electives
  - 1 x 2 unit elective course
  - 1 x 1 unit "seminar" course

# New Program

# New Program

In 2019 we are introducing a new structure to the Honours program.

The main changes include:

- Introduction of a work integrated learning course

- A change in the way students are assigned to individual/team thesis

- A change to the thesis length

- Change in the supervisory arrangements

# Why change?

- Career options/experience

- Focus on Preferences vs. GPA

- Improve thesis experience for all

# Process: How the new program was developed

- Hons working party

  - Australia wide review

  - Previous survey conducted

- Hons transition team

- Head of School

- T&L Committee

- Professional Courses Committee

- Current 3rd years

- Academic Committee

# New program of study: Full-time

**All**
**Research Stream Only**
**Work-Integrated Stream**

| Psych 4th year (Honours) | PSYC4050 | Psychological Research Methodology IV | 2 | Core All |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | PSYC4060 | Ethical Considerations for Psychologists | 1 | Core All |
| Students undertake one thesis unit only | PSYC4071 | Individual Research Thesis | 8 | Core |
| | PSYC4091 | Team Supervised Thesis* | 6 | Core |
| | PSYC4121 | The Scientist-Practitioner Model | 2 | Core All |
| | PSYC4221 | Work and Research in Applied Psychology | 2 | Core *Group thesis students only |
| All students undertake one elective | | | | |
| | PSYC4### | Elective | 2 | Elective |
| All students undertake one seminar | | | | |
| | PSYC4### | Seminar | 1 | Elective |

**- Ideally stream determined via preference***
**- Neither stream favoured for professional courses (everyone can get a H1)**

# Thesis

- Individual Thesis: 7000-8000 words (8 units)

- Team Thesis: 5000-6000 words (6 units)

- Reflects difference in intensity/depth of research projects

- Marked separately

# Individual Thesis Examples

- "Harnessing Our Hidden Wisdom: Making Use of Crowds in Fingerprint Identification"

- "The Barrier Reef: Can information framing make it Great again?"

- "Covert spatial attention increases the gain of orientation-selective activity in the human visual system: An electrophysiological study using forward encoding modelling"

- "Motivational Consequences of Overestimating Your Future Emotions"

- "Neural Predictors of the Response to Transcranial Direct Current Stimulation"

# Team Thesis Examples

- Prof. Mark Horswill – Applied cognition

- Prof. Virginia Slaughter – Developmental psych

- A/Prof Alina Morawska – Clinical psych

- Dr. James Kirby – Clinical psych

- A/Prof Blake McKimmie – Applied social psych

**Each team will be ~20 and will also be assigned an TA/RA**

# WRAP

## Work and Research in Applied Psychology

Course Co-ordinator: Dr Natasha Matthews
n.matthews1@uq.edu.au

# Course Aims

*This course has been designed to provide fourth year students with the opportunity to gain an understanding of the **practical applications** of their psychology degree to employment. The course will include a **work integrated learning** component requiring students to undertake work experience placement within an organisation arranged by the School.*

# Overview of course structure

| On campus workshops | Work placement | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| 3 Hour workshop | . . . . | Pre-placement portfolio |
| 3 Hour workshop | Approx. 40hrs across semester (recommended 1 day per week) | . . . . Weekly reflections . . . . |
| 3 Hour workshop | . . . . | Post-placement portfolio |

- Compulsory for all work integrated stream students.
- Completed in semester 1 OR 2

*"I want to use my degree to help people"*

**Overlapping skill sets: Measure, understand and change behaviour**

# Example placement locations

**Counselling skills/evaluation**

Character Care

**Environmental behaviour/ behaviour change**

Healthy waterways

**Youth mentoring/program evaluation**

YMCA

**Consultancy/Training**

Pragmatic thinking

# Example placement locations

Character Care

YMCA

Department of Transport and Main Roads

Aurizon

Qsuper

Office of the Chief Psychiatrist

UQ staff support

UQ HR

Powerlink

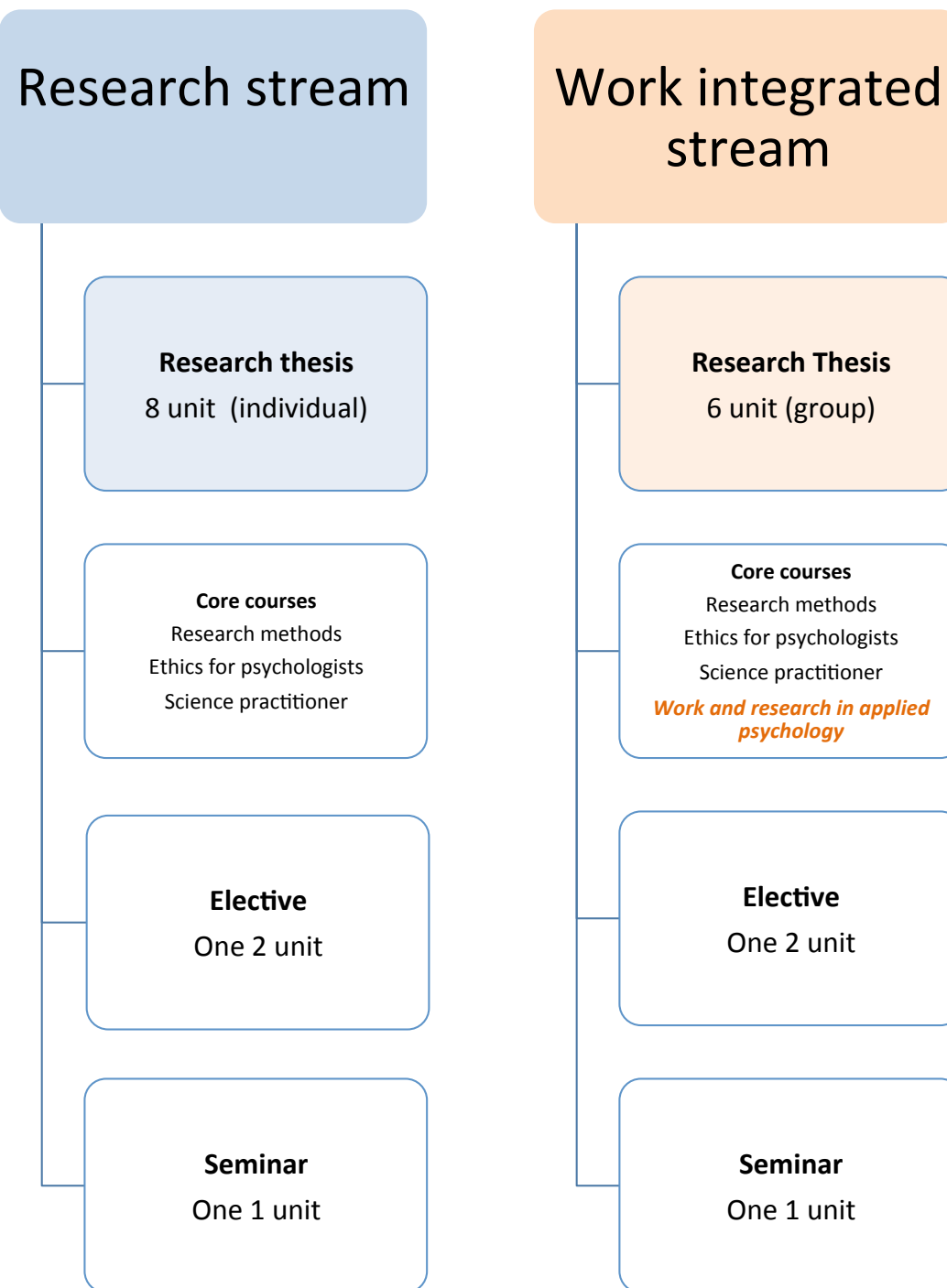Mater Research Institute

BeUpStanding

Behaviour Innovation

Pragmatic thinking

Decision Design

Neuropower

# Placement location preferences

- Student will receive a list of available placements (can self-source a placement)
- Students will enter placement preferences
- An interview may be required
- Students are matched on preference/ requirements (e.g. blue card) and if necessary on GPA
- PLEASE MONITOR YOUR UQ EMAIL TO ENSURE YOU DO NOT MISS THIS INFORMATION PRIOR TO THE START OF SEMESTER

# Research stream

## Work integrated stream

**Research thesis**
8 unit (individual)

**Research Thesis**
6 unit (group)

**Core courses**
Research methods
Ethics for psychologists
Science practitioner

**Core courses**
Research methods
Ethics for psychologists
Science practitioner
*Work and research in applied psychology*

**Elective**
One 2 unit

**Elective**
One 2 unit

**Seminar**
One 1 unit

**Seminar**
One 1 unit

# Entry requirements, enrolment and application procedure

# Entry Requirements

## BPsySc(Hons) students:

– All years 1-3 degree requirements completed (#48 units). No online application required. Entry GPA calculated from all courses (#48 units).

## BA/BSc Students

– Degree complete by the end of Semester 2 2018. GPA of at least a 5.0 required across second and third year psychology extended major courses. Online applications required by **31st October 2018**.

# Other options

- If you have completed #48 units of the program then you can withdraw and be awarded the BBehSci

- You should consider this option if you do not require 4th Year/Honours in Psychology for your chosen career path

- Many postgraduate programs DO NOT require a 4-year/Honours degree for entry (eg: audiology, master of mental health, counselling, speech pathology, business)

# GPA

- **Research vs. Work-integrated stream determined by preference....but GPA may have to be used if one is over subscribed**

- Multiply the number of units by the grade achieved for the course. Then add these results together and divide by the sum of units for all the courses

    **GPA = (Units x Grade) + (Units x Grade) / (SUM number of Units)**

- All years 1 -3 courses, including credit and electives, are used in the GPA calculation for BPsySc(Hons). For BA/BSc applicants, only second and third year psychology extended major courses are used.

- Grades for repeated attempts at courses will be averaged for the GPA

# Honours Entry Timeline

**BPsySc(Hons) students:**

- Students will be emailed by the end of **September** regarding their *intention to progress.* Ineligible students will not be contacted.

- Another email will be sent with offer of progression in **early December** and you will be asked to nominate preferred stream.

- *If you wish to exit with the BBehSci, please let us know and we will advise of the process (psychonours@psy.uq.edu.au)*

**For BA/BSc Students:**

- Applicants will be notified of the outcome in **early December.** You will be asked to nominate preferred stream.

# Communication

- Keep the offer letter and attachments!
- You must check your student email account regularly during **December, January & February**
- If you are beginning Honours in 2019, we will be in touch in early 2019 to notify you of:
  - 'Meet the Supervisors' session (Jan 2019)
  - How to indicate your preferences for supervisors (Research and Team)
  - A compulsory orientation session in O-Week
- NOTE: O Week starts 18th Feb 2019
- Sem 1 starts 25th Feb 2019

# Enrolment

- University enrolment is via SI-net
  - Enrol in the individual courses
  - NOTE: #1 SEMINAR COURSES are not yet finalised for 2019, so there will not be a full list
  - Enrolment for your seminar course will take place after you attend the O-week 4th year orientation session in Feb 2019

# Enrolment – Seminars (1 unit)

- Enrolment limit in each is 20 – to allow an opportunity for debate and discussion!
  - Note that the structure and workload of the seminar courses is similar
  - The aim is to foster critical analysis and debate about theories and issues


- Enrolment will open via Si-net after the Orientation meeting in O-Week February 2019
- When the quota is reached no further enrolments will be permitted

# Supervisor Preferences

- Information and the online preference form will be available in January 2019 (more details will be emailed with offer letters)

- We will run a 'meet the supervisor' session in January 2019

- It's important to check your student email account from December – February for offer and supervisor information

# Areas of Research Stream Supervision

- **Applied/Professional Psychology**
  - Clinical Psychology
  - Health Psychology
  - Organisational Psychology
  - Sport Psychology
- **Cognition & Neuroscience**
  - Cognitive Neuroscience
  - Perception
  - Social Behaviour
  - Cognitive Development
  - Human Factors
  - Memory & Attention
- **Developmental Psychology**
- **Social Psychology**
- **Take the time to read through the projects of multiple supervisors, you may be surprised**

# Research Stream Supervisor Preferences

- The online form will ask you to select 6 preferred supervisors (in order) that you'd like to work with.

- In addition, we will ask you to list 3 different broad area topics (Applied/Professional, Cognition & Neuroscience, Developmental, Social) in order of preference

- We work through your nominated individuals and then through your three broad areas and allocate as we can

# Research Stream Supervisor Allocation

- We will also take into account requests by supervisors for students with whom they have worked in research experience courses (PSYC2991/2992) or summer/winter research placements, or volunteer capacity.

- If we cannot match you via student + supervisor preference, allocations are primarily GPA based (highest GPA, second-third-etc selection)

# Work-Integrated Stream Supervisor Preferences

- Completed same time as research stream

- The online form will ask you to list preferences

- Students will be given details of the projects available by prior to Week 1.

- We hope to be able to accommodate most students' preferences, but if needed we will use GPA to determine eligibility.

# Honours Supervision

- Both streams: You will be notified prior to Week 1 of who your supervisor is.

- Supervisors are not expected to engage in detailed discussion about thesis projects before Semester 1 2019 – though you may contact them to get reading material

- Supervisors will be academics in the School of Psychology

# What you need to do

- Check your email regularly and respond quickly

- Complete online supervisor preference form by the due date in January (details to be sent to student email addresses)

- Enrol as directed in your notification email

- Attend 4th year orientation session

- If you decide to withdraw - Cancel your enrolment on SI-net **AND** let the School know

  - We will not be informed if you cancel your enrolment

# Summary

- New Program – Two streams

- Motivation for the change of programs

- Process for designing new streams

- **Determined by preference***

- **Neither stream is favoured for the postgraduate professional courses**

- Variety of Work Integrated settings

- Survey – have your say

- Entry requirements, enrollment and application procedure

# Questions