



Curtin University

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2019 **POSTGRADUATE**
COURSE GUIDE

PSYCHOLOGY

COURSEWORK AND RESEARCH DEGREES

Make tomorrow better.



healthsciences.curtin.edu.au



PSYCHOLOGY AT CURTIN

For more than 50 years, Curtin has been committed to excellence and innovation in psychology teaching and research.

FACILITIES

REAL-WORLD CLINICS

Our on-campus adult psychology and child psychology clinics, located at the Health and Wellness Centre, provide services to members of the public and allow students to learn in a clinical environment.

PSYCHOLOGY EXPERIMENTAL RESEARCH LABORATORIES (PERL-C)

Our PERL-C facilities provide technology-rich spaces for learning and research in psychology. The facilities provide you with access to the latest technology, enabling you to undertake a range of research activities.

You'll have the opportunity to complement survey and questionnaire-based research with behavioural measures and evaluations that can be analysed in the multiple computer labs. Other tools include soundproofed booths, consultation rooms, observation rooms, EEG equipment and eye-tracking equipment.

CURTIN NEUROSCIENCES RESEARCH LABORATORY

This facility assists a multi-disciplinary research team to investigate and research ageing, non-invasive brain stimulation, rehabilitation of movement and cognition, Parkinson's Disease, stroke and exercise. The team uses a range of experimental approaches and technologies to study the ways in which the human brain can change and how this affects behaviour and neuromuscular function.

WHY STUDY A POSTGRADUATE DEGREE AT CURTIN?

ACCESS NEW KNOWLEDGE AND DISCOVERIES

A Curtin health sciences degree can give you access to the latest knowledge and discoveries that will improve the standard of healthcare in Australia and make a real difference to people's lives, locally and globally.

MOVE UP THE CAREER LADDER

A postgraduate course can add new or specialist skills and knowledge to your repertoire. Our postgraduate coursework and research programs are diverse, ranging from life sciences and clinical sciences to population health sciences.

GET AN EDGE IN THE JOB MARKET

A postgraduate qualification may also help you stand out from other candidates in an increasingly competitive job market.

PROFESSIONALLY RECOGNISED

Many of our courses are accredited nationally and are internationally recognised, potentially allowing you to work in a number of countries around the world when you graduate.



Ranked in the top one per cent of universities worldwide in the Academic Ranking of World Universities 2017.



#3 in the Asia Pacific in the Nature Index 2016 Rising Stars supplement.



An international university, with campuses in Dubai, Malaysia, Singapore and Western Australia.



MASTER OF PSYCHOLOGY

This course will provide you with advanced training in either clinical or counselling psychology up to the sixth-year level through a combination of coursework, practical placements and research.

CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

This major will provide you with the knowledge, skills and experience you need to be eligible to start registration towards your future practice as an endorsed clinical psychologist.

You will be trained in evidence-based interventions to assess and manage a range of psychological issues and diagnosed clinical disorders such as anxiety and depression. You will also be trained in individual and group interventions.

COUNSELLING PSYCHOLOGY

Counselling psychologists use their knowledge and understanding of psychology, psychotherapy and mental health to treat a wide range of psychological issues and mental health disorders.

You will train in assessment, formulation, diagnosis and psychotherapy for individuals, couples, families and groups across the lifespan. This major integrates evidence based theory and experiential modes of education to develop practitioners who are able to intervene effectively with a wide range of psychological difficulties and disorders.

COURSE ESSENTIALS

CRICOS CODE	INTAKE	DURATION
006113J	Feb	2 years full-time
LOCATION	STUDY MODE	
Perth	Full-time, Part time	

International students: if you are studying in Australia on a student visa, you must study on-campus and full-time.

This course has an earlier application deadline: curtin.edu/hs-application-deadlines

ADMISSION CRITERIA

A four-year bachelor of psychology or equivalent completed within the last ten years, approved by the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council.

You will also be required to provide supplementary information with your application. For more information, visit curtin.edu/hs-admission-requirements

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

IELTS (Academic) overall band of 7.0 with a minimum of 7.0 in each band (or equivalent English test).

PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

Graduates of this course are eligible to register as psychologists and commence supervision to apply for endorsement as clinical psychologists or counselling psychologists with the Psychology Board of Australia.



"Coming from New Zealand, Curtin's psychology program is renowned for its innovative teaching and learning practices, state-of-the-art technologies, wide range of research opportunities and experienced and supportive staff."

"Having received such a high quality of education in my undergraduate course, I was sure that Curtin was the right choice for my postgraduate studies. In choosing Curtin, I was fortunate to be able to combine two degrees (master and PhD) into one course of study, saving me a total of one study year. I found that elements of both parts of the course complemented each other and gave me the opportunity to learn and critically appraise theoretical perspectives while simultaneously applying them in real-world settings."

Emma Logan
Doctor of Philosophy
(Counselling Psychology)

Disclaimer

Information in this publication is correct as at December 2017 but may be subject to change.

In particular, the University reserves the right to change the content and/or method of assessment, to change or alter tuition fees of any unit of study, to withdraw any unit of study or program which it offers, to impose limitations on enrolment in any unit or program, and/or to vary arrangements for any program. This material does not purport to constitute legal or professional advice. Curtin accepts no responsibility for and makes no representations, whether express or implied, as to the accuracy or reliability in any respect of any material in this publication. Except to the extent mandated otherwise by legislation, Curtin University does not accept responsibility for the consequences of any reliance which may be placed on this material by any person.

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This publication is available in alternative formats on request.

International students

International students studying in Australia on a student visa can only study full-time and there are also specific entry requirements that must be met. As some information contained in this publication may not be applicable to international students, see international.curtin.edu.au for further information. Australian citizens, permanent residents and international students studying outside Australia may have the choice of full-time, part-time and external study, depending on course availability and in-country requirements.

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Published by Curtin University 2018.
CRICOS Provider code 00301J
ADV103254



MASTER OF PSYCHOLOGY (PROFESSIONAL)

This one-year degree provides advanced professional training in psychology.

The course will equip you with education and training in the professional practice of psychology and is designed to integrate coursework, research and placement components with an emphasis on experiential learning. You will be provided with a rewarding and relevant learning experience throughout the course.

Throughout the program, linkages are made specifically for you to develop a detailed understanding of the relationships between psychological theory, the scientific evidence base for these theories, and the clinical applications of both theory and research. The skills you develop will enable you to operate from a scientist-practitioner perspective, with well-developed knowledge of psychological assessment, case formulation, treatment planning and intervention strategies.

COURSE ESSENTIALS

CRICOS CODE	INTAKE	DURATION
N/A	Feb	1 year full-time
LOCATION	STUDY MODE	
Perth	Full-time	

Please note: This course is only available to Australian and New Zealand students.

This course has an earlier application deadline: curtin.edu/hs-application-deadlines

ADMISSION CRITERIA

A four-year undergraduate Australian Psychology Accreditation Council-accredited psychology degree, completed within the last 10 years. Entry is competitive and shortlisted candidates will be interviewed.

You will also be required to provide supplementary information with your application. For for information, visit curtin.edu/hs-admission-requirements

PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

This course has been granted accreditation with conditions by the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council.



“The practical elements of this course have been phenomenal. We have been supported and taught how to administer psychological assessments, perform mental status examinations and implement a wide range of counselling skills. After refining these skills, we have been able to put them into practice by undertaking a practicum, which has dramatically increased our competency and confidence in the field.”

Zachary Baldock
Master of Psychology (Professional)



RESEARCH DEGREES

Curtin has a thriving community of postdoctoral researchers and postgraduate students who are intensely involved in world-class research in a number of research areas.

Our researchers collaborate nationally and internationally and are affiliated with several research groups, which reflect our areas of strength in psychology.

Our areas of research include:

- brain, behaviour and mental health
- community psychology
- health psychology and behaviour medicine
- language and speech sciences
- learning, attitudes, cognition and eBehaviour.

We offer the following masters and research courses:

- Master of Philosophy (Psychology)
- Doctor of Philosophy
- Doctor of Philosophy (Clinical Psychology)
- Doctor of Philosophy (Counselling Psychology).

ALL FIRED UP: BRAIN TRAINING FOR ANXIETY AND DEPRESSION

Historically, mental health conditions such as anxiety and depression have been managed with a combination of therapeutic interventions and/or medications, however Curtin academic Dr Patrick Clarke is taking a new and innovative approach to understanding the causes and treatment of these debilitating illnesses.

Dr Clarke is the first person to investigate how a combination of neurostimulation and computer-based cognitive training exercises, which target and change the neural activity of the brain, may be applied to the treatment of anxiety and depression.

Dr Clarke believes the anxious or depressed brain can be trained to be more resilient. He uses computer-based cognitive exercises to retrain an individual’s thought patterns so they process information from their environment differently, and ultimately develop a more positive and resilient perspective. This approach is known as cognitive bias modification.

“Cognitive biases are essentially like unhelpful cognitive ‘reflexes’ that skew the information we take in toward more negative and dangerous aspects of the world. This can include processes like attending to more negative over positive information, or interpreting ambiguous information in a negative way,” says Dr Clarke.

“The goal of cognitive bias modification is to alter these automatic reflexes to discourage negative information processing through repeatedly

completing set tasks. For example, an individual might complete a task that encourages them to repeatedly attend to more positive, over negative, information. By redirecting patterns of cognition away from negative information, the aim is to reduce emotional vulnerability, such as reducing stress in social situations, or specific problems that these biases are believed to exacerbate, such as insomnia symptoms.”

Combining neurostimulation with brain training as a treatment for anxiety and depression is still in its infancy, however the results from Dr Clarke’s research are encouraging. His current focus is on building evidence about the efficacy of these treatments for mental health conditions, and their potential for broader application.





FEE INFORMATION

DOMESTIC STUDENTS

TUITION FEES

Your tuition fee is calculated and charged on a semester basis.

Indicative course fees for the 2018 commencement year are available at courses.curtin.edu.au. Indicative course fees for the 2019 commencement year will be available from September 2018.

For more information on individual unit (subject) fees, visit fees.curtin.edu.au/course_fees.cfm

STUDENT SERVICES AND AMENITIES FEE

Your Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF) supports a range of non-academic services and amenities at Curtin. For information on the cost and services covered by the SSAF, visit fees.curtin.edu.au/amenities.cfm

COMMONWEALTH SUPPORTED PLACE

A number of our postgraduate Health Sciences courses are commonwealth supported. A Commonwealth Supported Place (CSP) is subsidised by the Australian Government and is available to Australian and New Zealand applicants only. For more information about CSPs and whether you are eligible, visit studyassist.gov.au

EMPLOYER-PAID STUDY

Your employer may be able to help you with the cost of postgraduate study. Many employers have developed formal employee education assistance policies in which education costs may be shared.

FEE-HELP

If you are an Australian citizen or hold a permanent humanitarian visa, you have the option of applying for FEE-HELP – a loan to help pay for part or all of your tuition fees. For more information, visit fees.curtin.edu.au/feeHELP.cfm

TAX BENEFITS

You may be entitled to an income tax deduction for tuition fees and related expenses if there is a direct connection between your course and your current work. For more information, please consult the Australian Tax Office at ato.gov.au

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Tuition fees are based on a normal full-time workload of 100 credits per semester (200 credits per year) unless otherwise stated. If you study more than 100 credits per semester, you will have a higher annual tuition fee. The tuition fee is calculated in Australian dollars and is charged on a semester basis. Course and individual unit (subject) fees are listed at fees.curtin.edu.au/course_fees.cfm

Please note: all listed fees are subject to annual increases.

OFFER LETTER (100 CREDITS) FEE

As an international student, you need to pay the fees for your first study period (one semester or 100 credits) before arriving in Australia in order to receive a confirmation of enrolment. The fee quoted on the international offer letter is only an approximation and may differ slightly in accordance with the units you choose to study upon your enrolment.

INDICATIVE ESSENTIAL INCIDENTAL FEES

Some courses require compulsory additional payment for retainable materials and course-related fees, known as essential incidental fees.

Some individual units may have optional fees for course materials and other course-related items.

REFUND AGREEMENT

The categories under which the University Fees Centre will assess an application for refund are laid out in the University's International Student Refund Agreement. The agreement is supplied to you with your Letter of Offer and can also be accessed online at fees.curtin.edu.au/refunds.cfm, where you can also view the most up-to-date information as the policy is subject to change.



HOW TO APPLY AND SCHOLARSHIPS

COURSEWORK DEGREES

To make applying to Curtin as easy as possible, we have put together online guides and services to help you.

DOMESTIC STUDENTS

You are a domestic student if you are:

- an Australian citizen or Australian dual citizen
- a permanent resident of Australia
- a holder of an Australian permanent humanitarian visa
- a New Zealand citizen.

To apply now or for more information, visit curtin.edu/pg-apply

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

You are an international student if you are required to hold a student visa to study in Australia. This includes temporary residents, and non-residents of Australia and New Zealand.

To apply now and for more information, visit curtin.edu/int-apply

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

Curtin requires all students to demonstrate proficiency in English. You will meet the English language proficiency requirements by demonstrated completion of at least one year full-time of an undergraduate or postgraduate coursework degree at recognised universities in Canada, New Zealand, Republic of Ireland, Singapore, South Africa, United Kingdom or United States of America.

Alternatively, you can demonstrate your English language proficiency via other tests, such as the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) or Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL).

For further information on the postgraduate English language proficiency requirements, visit curtin.edu/pg-english

RESEARCH STUDENTS

To find a thesis supervisor and for information on how to apply for both domestic and international students, visit howtoapply.curtin.edu.au/research

Alternatively, you can contact our Graduate Research School for more information:

Tel: +61 8 9266 3337

Email: GRS.FutureStudents@curtin.edu.au

Web: curtin.edu/postgrad-research

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Students enrolling in the Master of Psychology (Clinical Psychology), Master of Psychology (Counselling Psychology), Master of Psychology (Professional), Doctor of Psychology (Clinical Psychology) and Doctor of Psychology (Counselling Psychology) must apply separately for provisional registration with the Psychology Board of Australia.

Health sciences students who will be working with children aged from newborn to 17 need to have a Working With Children Check. Your course coordinator will advise you when this is required. Courses that include supervised practice in a clinical setting require screening for and vaccination against a range of infectious diseases before beginning placement. A recognised first aid certificate and a criminal record screening are also necessary.

curtin.edu/hs-fieldwork-requirements

SCHOLARSHIPS

You may be able to apply for a scholarship to support your study. To find out more and sign up to the scholarships email alert, visit scholarships.curtin.edu.au



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