

PSYCHOLOGY & SOCIAL SCIENCES

The prerequisite to all Psychology & Social Sciences courses is completion of Year 12 (or equivalent) with English proficiency. Admission rules apply, visit www.acu.edu.au/courses



ERIN VAUGHAN
GRADUATE, BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK/BACHELOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

"I work as a social worker in the maternity and neonatology unit at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital, supporting new mothers during pregnancy and providing expertise in areas such as bereavement, domestic violence and child protection. ACU helped me get the job I always wanted – challenging but incredibly rewarding."

BACHELOR OF COUNSELLING

Campus: Brisbane, Melbourne
Duration: 3 yrs FT (or equivalent PT)

This course provides the theoretical and practical skills to enable graduates to engage effectively in counselling in a range of professional fields. The program offers you an opportunity to think critically, informed by your study and your own personal development, of the importance of counselling interventions in a complex and pluralistic society.

Accreditation

Students who complete the three-year Bachelor of Counselling degree will normally undertake a further year of study to complete the Postgraduate Diploma in Counselling. Bachelor of Counselling/Postgraduate Diploma in Counselling graduates may apply for membership with the Australian Association of Pastoral Counsellors through which they can obtain membership with the Psychotherapy and Counselling Federation of Australia.

Professional experience

Extensive clinical fieldwork placements and supervision are required for completion of the Bachelor of Counselling.

Career options

Graduates can pursue a range of careers, including community correctional officer, child safety officer, family resource worker, juvenile justice officer, youth worker, counsellor for Lifeline, school chaplain, teen challenge counsellor, church-based chaplain and pastoral care worker.

SAMPLE PROGRAM MAP - BACHELOR OF COUNSELLING

Year 1				
Semester 1	Introduction to Counselling and Micro-Skills	Ethical and Professional Issues in Counselling	Elective	Psychology A
Semester 2	Humanistic Theories and Interventions	Mediation and Dispute Resolution	Elective	Psychology B
Year 2				
Semester 1	Counselling Children and Adolescents	Religious and Spiritual Issues in Counselling	Elective	Lifespan Development
Semester 2	Organisations and Group Processes	Cognitive Behavioural Therapy	Elective	Abnormal Psychology
	Learning in the Community			
Year 3				
Semester 1	Family and Relationship Counselling	Addiction Counselling	Psychodynamic Counselling	Grief and Loss Counselling
Semester 2	Clinical fieldwork			

Note: Electives may be chosen from any units listed in the Schedule of Unit Offerings for the Bachelor of Arts, excluding Psychology units.

BACHELOR OF PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCE

Campus: Brisbane, Melbourne, Strathfield,

Duration: 3 yrs FT (or equivalent PT)

This course will provide you with the skills to pursue postgraduate study and a career as a professional psychologist. You will appreciate the principles and ethics of psychology and understand psychological assessment procedures.

Accreditation

This course is recognised by the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council as an accredited three-year undergraduate degree in psychology. If you complete the Honours program you will be eligible for probationary registration as a psychologist.

Career options

Graduates can pursue a range of careers within counselling, child development, community work, human services, and, following further study, a career as a professional psychologist.

Further study

Graduates may be eligible to apply for the Bachelor of Psychological Science (Honours) degree or the Postgraduate Diploma in Psychology.

SAMPLE PROGRAM MAP - BACHELOR OF PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCE

Year 1				
Semester 1	Psychology A	Theology or Philosophy unit	General elective	Introduction to Counselling & Micro Skills or Introduction to Family Studies*
Semester 2	Psychology B	Theology or Philosophy unit	Research Design and Statistics I	Humanistic Theories & Interventions or Family Studies*
Year 2				
Semester 1	Lifespan Development	Biological Psychology	Research Design and Statistics II	Ethical & Professional Issues in Counselling or Family Studies*
Semester 2	General elective	Learning & Perception	Abnormal Psychology	Mediation & Dispute Resolution or Family Studies*
	Learning in the Community			
Year 3				
Semester 1	Individual Differences & Assessment	Research Design & Statistics III	Psychology elective	General elective
Semester 2	Cognitive Psychology	Social Psychology	Psychology elective	General elective

* Offered in Melbourne only.

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

Campus: Brisbane, Melbourne

Duration: 3 yrs FT (or equivalent PT)

This course will provide you with theoretical insights and practical competencies to play a creative role in a variety of public and community-based settings. You will engage in dialogue between sociology and behavioural science and develop competence in the human services sector.

Career options

Graduates can pursue a range of careers, including community development worker, community planner, human resource manager, market researcher, policy maker, analyst or adviser in government departments, government, and social welfare.

Honours

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCE (HONOURS)

Campus: Brisbane, Melbourne

Duration: 1 yr FT (or equivalent PT)

The Honours course will give you the opportunity to study advanced units in sociology and engage in research.

All students complete a major in sociology and a minor chosen from Australian Studies, Counselling, Family Studies⁺, Politics⁺, Psychology, or Youth Work⁺.
+ Melbourne Campus only.

SAMPLE PROGRAM MAP - BACHELOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

Year 1				
Semester 1	Introduction to Sociology	Psychology A	Elective	Program core unit
Semester 2	Contemporary Society and Change	Psychology B	Research Design and Statistics 1	Program core unit
Year 2				
Semester 1	Sociology Theory and Practice	Lifespan Development	Psychology elective	Elective
Semester 2	Qualitative Sociological Research Methods	Abnormal Psychology	Elective	Social Issues and Policies
	Learning in the Community			
Year 3				
Semester 1	Quantitative Sociological Research Methods	Sociology elective	Elective	Psychology elective
Semester 2	Sociology Elective	Sociology elective	Elective	Psychology elective

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCE (PSYCHOLOGY)

Campus: Brisbane, Melbourne
Duration: 3 yrs FT (or equivalent PT)

This course is designed to introduce students to the study of the social and behavioural sciences. Graduates will develop a sense of the importance of community service and public debate relevant to social, psychological or pastoral concerns within Australia.

Accreditation and career progression as a psychologist

This course is recognised by the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC) as an accredited three-year undergraduate sequence in psychology. ACU offers two fourth-year APAC-accredited psychology programs if you want to become a professional psychologist. Students who go on to complete the Bachelor of Psychological Science (Honours) or Postgraduate Diploma in Psychology program will be eligible for provisional registration as a psychologist in any state or territory.

Career options

Graduates can pursue a range of careers within government departments, ministries and local government as evaluators, policy analysts or advisory officers.

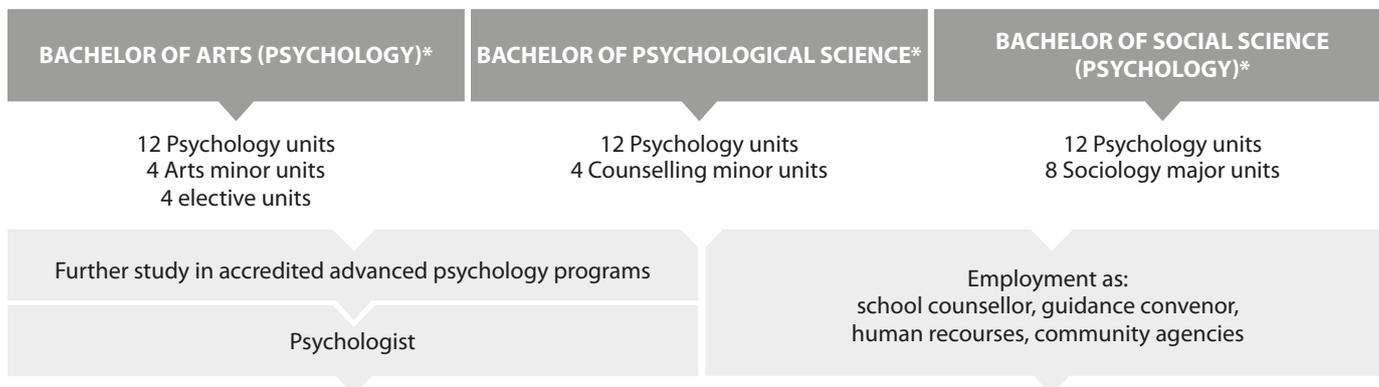
Honours

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCE (HONOURS)

Campus: Brisbane, Melbourne
Duration: 1 yr FT (or equivalent PT)

The Honours course will give you the opportunity to study advanced units in sociology and engage in research.

PSYCHOLOGY AT ACU



* Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC) accredited

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK

Campus: Brisbane, Canberra, Strathfield
Duration: 2 yrs FT (or equivalent PT)
 (After completion of at least two-thirds of a recognised bachelor's degree, which includes foundational studies in psychology and sociology or equivalent)

This course will provide you with an education in social work informed by a critical understanding of social science disciplines and orientated to best professional values and practices. You will understand social processes and human behaviour and be committed

to empowering vulnerable members of society to change the conditions in which they live.

Accreditation

This nationally recognised award was developed in close consultation with the Australian Association of Social Workers (AASW). Graduates of the course are eligible for membership of the AASW.

Career options

Graduates can pursue a range of careers within community organisations, government and welfare agencies,

human services, policy formation, social administration, and program planning.

Honours

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK (HONOURS)

Campus: Brisbane, Canberra, Strathfield
Duration: 2 yrs FT (or equivalent PT)

The Honours course will equip you with an advanced knowledge of social work theory. You will also develop skills in research design and methods, as well as undertaking research into social work.

SAMPLE PROGRAM MAP - BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK

This is an advanced entry program requiring students to have a minimum of two years of prior tertiary study.

Year 3				
Semester 1	Introduction to Social Work	Social Work Research	Theoretical Frameworks for Social Work Practice	Social Work Practice with Individuals and Groups 1
Semester 2	Social Work Field Education 1	Social Work Practice with Children, Young People and Families	Social Work and the Law	
Year 4				
Semester 1	Public Policy for Social Workers	Individual and Community Risk and Resilience	Social Work Practice with Communities	Social Work Practice with Individuals and Groups 2
Semester 2	Social Work Field Education 2	Social Work and Mental Health	Organisational Practice	

Note: Students may also be interested in the Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Social Work (see page 33).

BACHELOR OF YOUTH WORK

Campus: Melbourne

Duration: 3 yrs FT (or equivalent PT)

This course was developed in response to community need for highly trained and skilled youth workers to meet the demands of young people. You will acquire theoretical insights and practical competencies that will prepare you to meet the diverse challenges and demands of young people in a range of public and community-based settings.

As a professional, you will be committed to ethical practice and serving the common good. You will develop effective prevention and intervention strategies to understand the issues confronting young people and youth workers.

Professional experience

In your first year, you will be required to visit agencies and observe first-hand the characteristics of youth work. In your second and third years, you will actively work with young people within an agency.

Career options

Graduates can pursue a range of careers within community support services, policy development, charities, Christian organisations, community centres, corrective institutions, hospitals, schools and youth agencies.

SAMPLE PROGRAM MAP - BACHELOR OF YOUTH WORK

Year 1				
Semester 1	History of Young People	Program core unit	Introduction to Sociology	Elective
Semester 2	Wellbeing and Young People	Ethical Principals and Practice of Youth Work	Sociology major	Working with Youth Agencies and Organisations
Year 2				
Semester 1	Researching Young People	Building Relationships and Supporting Young People	Sociology major	Elective
Semester 2	Case Management in Youth Work	Program core unit	Sociology major	Youth Work Placement
	Learning in the Community			
Year 3				
Semester 1	Youth Work in Community Settings	Sociology major	Sociology major	Interface with Youth
Semester 2	Youth Policy	Elective	Sociology major	Sociology major

Note: Electives are chosen from the units offered in the Bachelor of Social Science and Bachelor of Arts.

Dual degrees

BACHELOR OF ARTS/ BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK

Campus: Brisbane, Strathfield

Duration: 4 yrs FT (or equivalent PT)

This dual degree will provide you with an education that is informed and enriched by a critical understanding of the liberal arts while being orientated to the professional values and practice of the profession of social work.

Accreditation

Graduates of the program are eligible for membership of the Australian Association of Social Workers.

Career options

Graduates can pursue a range of careers in social work, administration and policy development, community organisations, community services, corrective services,

health and rehabilitation, policy and political science, social action, administration and social service.