Bachelor of Applied Science (Honours) (HL52)

Year offered: 2010
Admissions: Yes
CRICOS code: 009041G
Course duration (full-time): 2 semesters
Course duration (part-time): 4 semesters
Domestic fees (indicative): 2010: CSP $2,655 (indicative) per semester
International Fees (indicative): 2010: $10,750 (indicative) per semester
Domestic Entry: February
International Entry: February
Total credit points: 96
Standard credit points per full-time semester: 48
Standard credit points per part-time semester: 24
Course coordinator: Prof Mary Courtney
Discipline coordinator: Dr Ian Stewart
Campus: Kelvin Grove

Overview
The Honours programs enable you to develop knowledge, problem-solving and conceptual skills at an advanced level. The programs provide you with education in the techniques and skills for later postgraduate research and enhance professional career progressions.

Entry requirements
Applicants should have completed QUT’s Bachelor of Applied Science/ Bachelor of Health Science in a relevant area or equivalent and have attained a grade point average (GPA) of at least 5 overall in the undergraduate degree.

Application should be made at the end of the final year of the pass degree or within 18 months of completing that degree.

If applicants do not satisfy the normal entry requirements but have demonstrated outstanding performance in only the final year of a degree, or their application is based on other factors including work experience or involvement in research, they may be admitted at the discretion of the Executive Dean.

Dissertation
The dissertation is one 48 credit point unit representing 50 per cent of the program. Preparation and presentation of the dissertation in completed under the guidance of a supervisor and is examined externally.

Electives
Students undertake two 12 credit point electives. At least one elective must be a research elective selected from the nominated list of research electives. The second elective may be selected from any honours or postgraduate program offered by the University, subject to prerequisite requirements and with the approval of the student’s mentor/ supervisor and the Course Coordinator. Normally the elective unit is chosen from within the student’s discipline area or from an area that complements or is relevant to the student’s study program. For further information on available units contact the Honours Coordinator.

International Student Entry
International students may enrol only in full-time studies.

Further Information
For more information about this course, please contact the Faculty by phone on +617 3138 3075 or email health.research@qut.edu.au

Full-Time Course structure

Year 1, Semester 1
HLP101 Advanced Discipline Readings
HLP103-1 Dissertation
Research elective
HLP103-2 Dissertation
OR
Elective

Year 1, Semester 2
HLP102 Research Seminars
HLP103-2 Dissertation
OR
Elective
HLP103-3 Dissertation
HLP103-4 Dissertation

Electives

Dissertation
The Dissertation is one unit valued at 48 credit points and represents 50 per cent of the Honours course. Work on the dissertation commences during semester 1 (full-time mode) or semester 2 (part-time mode) and is completed over the course of the program. Preparation and presentation of the Dissertation is completed under the guidance of a supervisor.

Part-Time Course structure
Year 1, Semester 1

Select one of the following units:

- HLN706 Advanced Quantitative Research Methods
- HLN405 Qualitative Research
- PUN105 Health Statistics
AND
One elective unit

Year 1, Semester 2

- HLP101 Advanced Discipline Readings
- HLP103 Dissertation

Year 2, Semester 1

- HLP103 Dissertation
- HLP103 Dissertation

Year 2, Semester 2

- HLP102 Research Seminars
- HLP103 Dissertation

Elective list

- HL51/ HH22, HL50, HL52 and HL55 Electives
- SWB401 Research Methods for Professional Practice
- SWN410 Logic of Social Inquiry
- HLN405 Qualitative Research
- HLN706 Advanced Quantitative Research Methods
- HLN710 Fundamentals of Epidemiology and Research Design
- HLN711 Advanced Qualitative Methods
- PUN105 Health Statistics
- PYB210 Research Design and Data Analysis
- PYB350 Advanced Statistical Analysis
- PYB401 Advanced Research Methods

Potential Careers:

Biotechnologist, Community Education Officer, Community Health Officer, Community Worker, Educator, Health Promotion Officer, Health Services Manager, Occupational Health and Safety Officer, Policy Officer, Public Health Officer, Research Assistant, Scientist, Statistician.

UNIT SYNOPSES

HLN405 QUALITATIVE RESEARCH
This unit addresses a range of qualitative methodologies and methods which represent alternative approaches to the application of the quantitative paradigm in health science research. The predominance of the natural sciences in nursing/health research has come into question in recent times and thus the unit introduces students to the origins of such challenges, to the knowledge bases of the alternative approaches to investigating the microsocial world of health/illness and to the relevant research methods. The unit comprises a series of lectures, seminar presentations and relevant readings.

Credit points: 12  Contact hours: 3 per week  Campus: Kelvin Grove and External  Teaching period: 2010 SEM-1 and 2010 SEM-2

HLN706 ADVANCED QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS
The content of this unit builds on the basic statistics background assumed of students. A unifying theme is the concept of sources of variation in collected data, how proper design of study and measurement instruments minimises some sources of variation (error), how analytical techniques account for other sources, and finally the issue of introduced error that cannot be accounted for, but must be addressed in discussion of results. Analytical strategies for modelling health data are compared, and practical experience focuses on the analysis and interpretation of various data sets.

Prerequisites: PUN105  Credit points: 12  Contact hours: 4 per week  Campus: Kelvin Grove  Teaching period: 2010 SEM-2

HLN710 FUNDAMENTALS OF EPIDEMIOLOGY AND RESEARCH DESIGN
This unit introduces you to the fundamentals of epidemiology and quantitative research design. It addresses the collection and interpretation of epidemiological data, introduces measures of disease occurrence and association, and contemporary issues of major importance in health. It provides you with essential skills for logical, scientific assessment of the health and medical literature. There will be a strong emphasis on applying concepts through critical reading of the literature and the development of a comprehensive research proposal as the main practical exercise of the unit.

Antirequisites: HLN705, PUN743  Credit points: 12  Teaching period: 2010 SEM-1 and 2010 SEM-2

HLN711 ADVANCED QUALITATIVE METHODS
This unit offers you the opportunity to study, explore and understand a range of qualitative methods. The focus is on the development of rigorous qualitative research design and on planning and undertaking data collection, data analysis, interpretation and reporting of qualitative research. The aim
is to advance student knowledge and skills in relation to the methods of qualitative research and to foster essential skills in collecting, coding, analysing and reporting qualitative research.

**Credit points:** 12  
**Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-2

**HLP101 ADVANCED DISCIPLINE READINGS**  
This unit is a compulsory component of the Faculty of Health Honours programs. It provides the opportunity for students to identify and review the literature relevant to their selected research topic. A one day seminar in advanced information retrieval skills is included in the unit.

**Credit points:** 12  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove  
**Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-1 and 2010 SEM-2

**HLP102 RESEARCH SEMINARS**  
This unit is a compulsory component of the Faculty of Health Honours programs. Content includes the preparation and completion of a seminar presentation in a professional and scientific manner and attendance at scheduled seminars.

**Prerequisites:** HLP101  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove  
**Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-1 and 2010 SEM-2

**HLP103 DISSERTATION**  
This is a compulsory unit in the Faculty of Health Honours programs. It is broken into a number of components that are completed over successive semesters (as appropriate for full-time or part-time course structure). The dissertation study represents an independent piece of research completed with the guidance of a supervisor.

**Credit points:** 12  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove  
**Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-1 and 2010 SEM-2

**HLP103 DISSERTATION**  
This is a compulsory unit in the Faculty of Health Honours programs. It is broken into a number of components that are completed over successive semesters (as appropriate for full-time or part-time course structure). The dissertation study represents an independent piece of research completed with the guidance of a supervisor. A written report in the form of a dissertation proposal must be submitted by the end of Week 6 in the semester in which enrolment in the dissertation commences.

**Corequisite(s):** All other units in the program  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove

**PUN105 HEALTH STATISTICS**  
Beyond a common core of statistical concepts, each discipline area emphasises its own set of descriptive and inferential statistical methods and even terminology. The content of this unit emphasises both core and health specific statistical methods in the health sciences. Students are provided with substantial practical experience in the application and interpretation of the most common statistical methods to health data, and are also made aware of data management principles in preparation for analysis. There is a strong emphasis on applying concepts through critical reading and discussion of the literature and worked examples from a range of topic areas.

**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 3 per week  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove and External  
**Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-1

**PYB210 RESEARCH DESIGN AND DATA ANALYSIS**  
This unit takes an hypothesis testing approach to data analysis. This means that statistical analysis is treated as one step in a larger process which also includes formulating theoretically sound predictions, designing a suitable experiment to test the predictions, selecting the appropriate statistics to test the predictions, calculating and interpreting the required statistics, and reporting the outcomes in the correct way. This unit provides the student with the knowledge and skills required to do these tasks with respect to two types of prediction, differences between means and relationships between sets of scores.

**Prerequisites:** PYB110  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 3 per week  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove  
**Teaching period:** 2010 SEM-1
PYB350 ADVANCED STATISTICAL ANALYSIS
The unit provides students considering further study in psychology with a thorough grounding in analysis of variance techniques, an introduction to multiple regression, and the data analysis tools used in a broad range of research designs in the social sciences. The unit extends the introduction to analysis of variance and regression provided in PYB210, considering more complex designs involving two or more independent variables. The unit is both theoretical (including the use of conceptual formulae to analyse simple data sets by hand) and practical (analysing data sets using the SPSS statistical package), giving students a firm understanding of the principles underlying each analysis.

Prerequisites: PYB210  
Credit points: 12  
Contact hours: 3 per week  
Campus: Kelvin Grove  
Teaching period: 2010 SEM-2

PYB401 ADVANCED RESEARCH METHODS
This unit provides the student with a firm understanding of a range of multivariate procedures as well as the skills to apply each analysis appropriately. In addition this unit aims to prepare students as critical consumers of psychological research.

Assumed knowledge: Successful completion of a third year research methods unit is assumed knowledge.

Credit points: 12  
Contact hours: 3 per week  
Campus: Kelvin Grove  
Teaching period: 2010 SEM-1

SWB401 RESEARCH METHODS FOR PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE
This unit focuses attention on research methods specifically appropriate to the context of social work practice. Social service organisations are increasingly interested in methods for evaluating and authenticating program outcomes. Furthermore, professionals in these organisations need processes and procedures to analyse and address practice problems and contribute to the evaluation and development of models for service delivery. This unit equips you with knowledge and skills to investigate models of service and practice questions and to develop recommendations for change. A range of particular methods for developing, evaluating and improving models of social service and social care delivery will be examined. [SWB401 is incompatible with HHB401]

Prerequisites: SWB221 or HHB279  
Credit points: 12  
Teaching period: 2010 SEM-1

SWN410 LOGIC OF SOCIAL INQUIRY
This unit assists students to develop research questions and research designs appropriate for postgraduate theses in the social sciences. Students are guided through tasks such as developing research questions; identifying the purpose and contribution of their work; applying research strategies and designs appropriate for theory construction and theory testing; and understanding qualitative and quantitative approaches to data selection, collection and analysis.

Credit points: 12  
Teaching period: 2010 SEM-1