Graduate Diploma in Psychology (PY08)

Year offered: 2011
Admissions: Yes
CRICOS code: 036434K
Course duration (full-time): 2 semesters
Course duration (part-time): 4 semesters (may not be available by evening study)
Domestic Fees (indicative): 2011: Full fee tuition $9,625 (indicative) per semester
International Fees (indicative): 2011: $10,625 (indicative) per semester
Domestic Entry: February (full-time and part-time) and July (part-time only)
International Entry: February
Total credit points: 96
Course coordinator: Enquiries to psyc.enquiries@qut.edu.au or phone 07 3138 4520
Campus: Kelvin Grove

International Student Entry
QUT advises that international students may only enrol in February in full-time studies.

Limits on grades of 3
A new policy concerning grades of 3 came into effect from 1 January 2009 (QUT MOPP C/5.2). With effect from this date grades of 3 are no longer considered a conceded or low pass but are classified as a fail grade. Any grades of 3 awarded prior to 1 January 2009 retain the conceded pass status and will be counted for graduation purposes up to the maximum number of grades of 3 permitted for your course. Grades of 3 incurred in units that commence after 1 January 2009 will not count towards your degree. Further information is available on the Student Services website.

Further Information
For more information about this course, please contact the School of Psychology and Counselling on +61 7 3138 4520 or email psyc.enquiries@qut.edu.au

Full-Time Course Structure

Year 1, Semester 1
PYB202 Social and Organisational Psychology
PYB210 Research Design and Data Analysis
PYB304 Physiological Psychology
PYB309 Individual Differences and Assessment

Year 1, Semester 2
PYB203 Developmental Psychology
PYB204 Perception and Cognition
PYB306 Psychopathology
Level 3 Psychology Elective*

Electives
PYB350 Advanced Statistical Analysis
*** PYB350 is compulsory for entry to 4th year programs in psychology (eg Bachelor of Behavioural Science (Honours Psychology) and Postgraduate Diploma in Psychology)
PYB302 Industrial and Organisational Psychology
PYB307 Health Psychology
PYB356 Counselling Theory and Practice 2
PYB358 Advanced Developmental Psychology
PYB359 Introduction to Family Therapy
PYB360 Interventions for Addictive Behaviours
PYB372 Traffic Psychology and Behaviour
PYB374 Applying Traffic Psychology
Electives are available in first or second semester but not both

Part-Time Course Structure

Year 1, Semester 1
PYB202 Social and Organisational Psychology
PYB210 Research Design and Data Analysis

Year 1, Semester 2
PYB203 Developmental Psychology
PYB204 Perception and Cognition
PYB306 Psychopathology
Level 3 Psychology Elective*

Level 3 Psychology Electives
PYB350 Advanced Statistical Analysis
*** PYB350 is compulsory for entry to 4th year programs in psychology (eg Bachelor of Behavioural Science (Honours Psychology) and Postgraduate Diploma in Psychology)
PYB302 Industrial and Organisational Psychology
PYB307 Health Psychology
Part-Time Course Structure - Mid-year intake

**Year 1, Semester 2**
PYB203 Developmental Psychology
PYB204 Perception and Cognition

**Year 2, Semester 1**
PYB202 Social and Organisational Psychology
PYB210 Research Design and Data Analysis

**Year 2, Semester 2**
PYB306 Psychopathology
Level 3 Psychology Elective*

**Year 3, Semester 1**
PYB304 Physiological Psychology
PYB309 Individual Differences and Assessment

**Level 3 Psychology Electives**
PYB350 Advanced Statistical Analysis
*** PYB350 is compulsory for entry to 4th year programs in psychology (eg Bachelor of Behavioural Science (Honours Psychology) and Postgraduate Diploma in Psychology)
PYB302 Industrial and Organisational Psychology
PYB307 Health Psychology
PYB356 Counselling Theory and Practice 2
PYB358 Advanced Developmental Psychology
PYB359 Introduction to Family Therapy
PYB360 Interventions for Addictive Behaviours
PYB372 Traffic Psychology and Behaviour
PYB374 Applying Traffic Psychology
Electives are available in first or second semester but not both

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**UNIT SYNOPSES**

**PYB202 SOCIAL AND ORGANISATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY**
People are social beings. Their thoughts, feelings and actions are influenced by the real, imagined or implied presence of others. To obtain greater insight into people’s behaviour, it is essential to investigate scientifically the relationship between the individual and the group. We will study the effects of the individual within the group and the group within the individual and also consider the influence of these processes in the organisational setting.

**Prerequisites:** (PYB100 or PYB102 or PYB101) or (Admission into PY08)  
**Equivalents:** PYB205  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove  
**Teaching period:** 2011 SEM-1

**PYB203 DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY**
This unit provides an introduction to life span developmental psychology. It unit covers the major theories of life span development and includes biological, social and cognitive aspects of development from birth through to old age. It emphasises the interdependency of all aspects of development and the importance of the physical, family, socio-cultural and historical contexts within which development occurs. The unit aims to develop the student's understanding of general patterns of human development and of the ways in which the development of particular individuals and groups may vary from these general patterns.

**Prerequisites:** (PYB012 or PYB101 or PYB102 or PYB100) or (Admission into PY08)  
**Equivalents:** PYB303  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove  
**Teaching period:** 2011 SEM-1

**PYB204 PERCEPTION AND COGNITION**
Cognitive psychology is a major empirical and theoretical area of psychology which explores the processes and structures involved at each stage of information processing within the brain. The structures and processes involved in perception provide the brain with its basic information about both the external world and many of the current states of the individual. Higher level cognitive processes and structures provide the foundation upon which more complex aspects of behaviour are based. The unit is placed in second semester of second year so that students following the normal course structure have an adequate background in research design and data analysis.

**Prerequisites:** ((PYB100 or PYB101 or PYB102) and PYB110) or (Admission into PY08)  
**Equivalents:** PYB303  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove  
**Teaching period:** 2011 SEM-2
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 or Admission into PY08  Credit points: 12  Contact hours: 3 per week  Campus: Kelvin Grove  Teaching period: 2011 SEM-1

PYB302 INDUSTRIAL AND ORGANISATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY
Participation in the workplace is an integral component in the lives of most people. It is important therefore to understand the behaviour of people, individually and collectively, within the workplace. Industrial and organisational psychologists are concerned with advancing the knowledge of the relationship between people and work, and using this knowledge to promote the effective organisation of human resources.
Prerequisites: PYB205 or PYB202  Credit points: 12  Contact hours: 3 per week  Campus: Kelvin Grove  Teaching period: 2011 SEM-1

PYB304 PHYSIOLOGICAL PSYCHOLOGY
This unit aims to provide a broad introduction to the area of neuropsychology and discusses both the clinical and cognitive approaches in the field. Three broad areas are covered: neuroanatomy, neuropathology, the cognitive analysis of resulting deficits. Students learn about major neuroanatomical structures and their interconnections, with an emphasis on how this information is applied in the clinical setting. They also study a number of neuropsychological disorders in terms of their diagnosis, assessment and treatment, as well as the psychosocial effects such deficits have on the patients.
Prerequisites: (PYB102 or PYB101 or PYB100) or (Admission into PY08)  Assumed knowledge: Successful completion of all first and second year units is assumed knowledge.  Credit points: 12  Contact hours: 3 per week  Campus: Kelvin Grove  Teaching period: 2011 SEM-1

PYB306 PSYCHOPATHOLOGY
The unit provides an introduction to problems in psychological functioning and reviews research and theory relating to the major classes of mental disorder identified in DSM-IV, the diagnostic and classification manual most frequently employed in Australia and the United States. An integrated approach to the understanding of psychopathology is emphasised, highlighting the reciprocal influence of biological, psychological and social factors on behaviour.
Prerequisites: (PYB012 or PYB101 or PYB102 or PYB100) or (Admission into PY08)  Assumed knowledge: Successful completion of all first and second year units is assumed knowledge.  Credit points: 12  Contact hours: 3 per week  Campus: Kelvin Grove  Teaching period: 2011 SEM-2

PYB307 HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY
This unit examines the psychological dimension of physical illness, health, and health care. There is a strong focus on health psychology in an Australian context with particular emphasis on cross-cultural and indigenous health-related issues. The unit examines definitions of health and health psychology; the role of health psychology; the determinants of health behaviours (e.g., cognitive, attitudinal, motivational, personality, social, developmental); medical settings and patient behaviour; patient and practitioner communication; stress, illness, and coping; pain and pain management; chronic and terminal illness in childhood and adulthood.
Prerequisites: PYB100, PYB101 or PYB102  Assumed knowledge: Successful completion of all first and second year units is assumed knowledge.  Credit points: 12  Campus: Kelvin Grove  Teaching period: 2011 SEM-2

PYB309 INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES AND ASSESSMENT
Individuals differ on a broad range of characteristics that are influenced by many factors including culture, sex, intelligence, personality, life experiences and values. There are a number of ways, within the discipline of psychology, to conceptualise and explain these differences. In this unit we introduce the major theories that underpin explanations of individual differences and the ways in which those who hold to different perspectives seek to measure the various constructs. Important properties of measurement tools such as reliability and validity will also be covered as well as the utility and applicability of various measures.
Prerequisites: (PYB100 or PYB101 or PYB102) or (Admission into PY08)  Assumed knowledge: Successful completion of all first and second year units is assumed knowledge.  Credit points: 12  Campus: Kelvin Grove  Teaching period: 2011 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:** 2011 SEM-2

**PYB356 COUNSELLING THEORY AND PRACTICE 2**

This unit focuses on the common facilitative factors within a counselling process paying attention to the person of the therapist and the counselling relationship. In order to respond appropriately and therapeutically to the needs of their clients, counsellors must have a clear understanding of the social and interactive processes which occur. Consideration of verbal, non-verbal, social, emotional, gender, psychological and social dimensions enables counsellors to develop effective, functional and client-focused relationships and to control biases, needs and possible exploitive practices.

**Prerequisites:** PYB208  **Credit points:** 12  **Contact hours:** 3 per week  **Campus:** Kelvin Grove  **Teaching period:** 2011 SEM-1

**PYB358 ADVANCED DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY**

In this unit, the focus is on child development, with an emphasis on the infant and the child up to adolescence. Students review images of children and the unfolding of their cognitive abilities within the cadre of theories of cognitive development. Among the areas studied are the nature and development of memory, the development of numerical thinking, and children's ability to understand another's view of the world. In addition to these topics a substantial part of the unit is concerned with the acquisition (both normal and atypical) of language, including the acquisition of language in the bilingual child.

**Prerequisites:** PYB203  **Credit points:** 12  **Contact hours:** 3 per week  **Campus:** Kelvin Grove

**PYB359 INTRODUCTION TO FAMILY THERAPY**

Family therapy, based on a systemic or relationship understanding of human problems, has been one of the most significant influences in the fields of counselling and psychology in recent times. With the increasing emphasis on the family as a focus for social policy, support services, research, and intervention, it is important for counsellors and psychologists to have some familiarity with the basic concepts and skills of this broad approach. This unit focuses on providing basic skills and concepts from one particular approach which will be called 'Constructive Therapy', combining aspects of solution-focused therapy, possibility

**Prerequisites:** PYB208  **Credit points:** 12  **Contact hours:** 3 per week  **Campus:** Kelvin Grove  **Teaching period:** 2011 SEM-2

**PYB360 INTERVENTIONS FOR ADDICTIVE BEHAVIOURS**

Addictive behaviours, in the form of alcohol-dependence, substance abuse and gambling, are recognised as major problems nationally and internationally. This unit focuses predominantly on psychological aspects of addictive behaviours. To establish a framework for learning, classes initially review issues relating to psychological models of addiction and methods of studying addictive behaviours. Issues pertaining to the symptomatology, etiology and assessment of addictive behaviours, as well as the theoretical underpinnings of a range of therapeutic interventions are also discussed. This unit encourages critical thinking and analysis with the aim of enhancing students’ understanding of the complex issues relating to management of addictive behaviours.

**Prerequisites:** PYB159 or PYB158 or PYB260 or NSB223  **Credit points:** 12  **Contact hours:** 1 week intensive between semesters 1 & 2  **Campus:** Kelvin Grove  **Teaching period:** 2011 SEM-2

**PYB372 TRAFFIC PSYCHOLOGY AND BEHAVIOUR**

This unit reviews the wide range of factors that influence the behaviour of road users, particularly those that contribute to the incidence of road crashes or exacerbate their severity. It considers all types of road users, including motor vehicle drivers and passengers, motorcycle riders, cyclists and pedestrians. The student examines a range of theoretical models which have been used to explain the behaviour of road users.

**Assumed knowledge:** Successful completion of all first and second year units is assumed knowledge.  **Credit points:** 12  **Contact hours:** 3 per week  **Campus:** Kelvin Grove  **Teaching period:** 2011 SEM-1

**PYB374 APPLYING TRAFFIC PSYCHOLOGY**

This unit reviews the various strategies and programs designed to modify road user behaviour. Effective and ineffective approaches are compared, in order to identify the key characteristics of successful programs. While this is a stand-alone unit, it extends many of the theoretical and practical issues covered in PYB372 -Understanding Road User Behaviour.

**Assumed knowledge:** Successful completion of all first and second year units is assumed knowledge.  **Credit points:** 12  **Contact hours:** 3 per week  **Campus:** Kelvin Grove  **Teaching period:** 2011 SEM-2