Postgraduate Diploma in Psychology (PY20)

Year offered: 2011
Admissions: Yes
CRICOS code: 034714G
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 only (no mid-year entry). Closing date for applications is 1 October of the previous year in which you are applying for entry
International Entry: February only (no mid-year entry). Closing date for applications is 1 October of the previous year in which you are applying for entry
Total credit points: 96
Standard credit points per full-time semester: 48
Standard credit points per part-time semester: 24
Course coordinator: Dr Renata Meuter
Campus: Kelvin Grove

Professional recognition
Successful completion of the Postgraduate Diploma in Psychology meets the academic requirements for provisional registration as a psychologist with the Psychology Board of Australia.

The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) requires that graduates demonstrate English language skills at IELTS level 7 or equivalent before being considered for professional registration. For further information visit the AHPRA website: http://www.ahpra.gov.au/Registration/Registration-Process/Registration-Requirements.aspx

Please refer to the Psychology Board of Australia website: http://www.psychologyboard.gov.au/Registration-Standards.aspx for additional information on the Board's Registration Standards.

Course structure
The course comprises eight 12 credit point units. Coursework includes the compulsory unit PYB407 Research and Professional Development Seminar; plus elective units, chosen from cognitive neuropsychology, developmental psychology, counselling psychology, or organisational psychology. In consultation with the Course Coordinator, students also choose one cognate elective at third-year level or above. The research component of the program entails one Research Methods unit and a thesis. PYB450 Research Thesis is undertaken in modules throughout the program. Initially students will complete an independent review of the literature and prepare an outline for a research proposal. This will then form the basis of a negotiated group project, for which students independently collect, write up and analyse agreed specific components of the data. All coursework units have three contact hours per week. The contact for research thesis units is as required by the supervisor.

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

Further Information
For more information about this course, please contact the School of Psychology and Counselling on +617 3138 4520 or email psyc.enquiries@qut.edu.au

Full-Time Course structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1, Semester 1</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PYB450-1 Research Thesis (Part 1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plus ONE research methods unit selected from the following options:</td>
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<tr>
<td>PYB401 Advanced Research Methods</td>
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<td>HLN405 Qualitative Research</td>
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<td>BSN412 Qualitative Research and Analytical Techniques</td>
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<td>Plus TWO advanced psychology units selected from the following options:</td>
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<tr>
<td>PYB402 Counselling Psychology</td>
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<td>PYB403 Cognitive Neuropsychology</td>
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<td>PYB404 Issues in Social Developmental Psychology</td>
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<td>PYB405 Advanced Organisational Psychology</td>
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<tr>
<th>Year 1 Semester 2</th>
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<tr>
<td>PYB407 Research and Professional Development Seminar</td>
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<tr>
<td>PYB450-2 Research Thesis (Part 2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>PYB450-3 Research Thesis (Part 3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plus ONE cognate elective, at 3rd year level or above, selected from a list approved by the Course Coordinator.</td>
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UNIT SYNOPSISES

BSN412 QUALITATIVE RESEARCH AND ANALYTICAL TECHNIQUES
This unit provides a detailed overview of qualitative research to support decision-making in business disciplines. The primary purpose of this unit is to develop a detailed understanding of the theoretical contexts in which field studies and qualitative research methods have developed and the techniques that define the approach. Students develop the ability to analyse, conduct, and evaluate qualitative research in discipline areas related to business. The unit provides a basic preparation for the development of a project, thesis or dissertation proposal based on the use of qualitative research.

Antirequisites: CON500  Credit points: 12  Contact hours: 3 per week  Campus: Gardens Point  Teaching period: 2011 SEM-1 and 2011 SEM-2

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: 2011 SEM-1 and 2011 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: 2011 SEM-1

PYB402 COUNSELLING PSYCHOLOGY
This unit introduces the field of counselling psychology, one of the specialised professional colleges within the Australian Psychological Society. The thematic focus is on the critical analysis, comparison, and evaluation of selected counselling orientations (for example, solution-focused therapy, narrative therapy, cognitive-behavioural therapy,
psychodynamic therapy, etc). Comparison of these approaches involves a consideration of major contemporary issues relating to the integration of theory, research and ethical practice.

**Assumed knowledge:** Previous studies in counselling units is assumed knowledge. Students with no previous counselling studies must consult the Course Coordinator.  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 3 per week  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove  
**Teaching period:** 2011 SEM-1

**PYB407 RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR**

This unit develops and extends students' understanding of research and practice issues in psychology. It covers current debates and controversies within psychology. Students are encouraged to formulate critical responses to these topics. Attention is also given to the issue of ethics in psychological research and practice. A case-based approach to the study of ethics is used, with reference to the APS Code of Ethics as well as Codes from similar international organisations. Where possible guest speakers, including researchers and practising psychologists, will be invited to participate in seminars to develop and expand students' understanding of broader issues in psychological research and practice.  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 3 per week  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove  
**Teaching period:** 2011 SEM-1 and 2011 SEM-2

**PYB403 COGNITIVE NEUROPSYCHOLOGY**

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. The student extends their knowledge of major neuroanatomical structures and their interconnections, with an emphasis on how this information is applied in the clinical setting. A number of neuropsychological disorders are also examined in terms of their diagnosis, assessment and treatment, as well as the psychosocial effects such deficits have on the patients.  
**Assumed knowledge:** Previous studies in cognition and/or physiological psychology is assumed knowledge. Students with no previous studies in this area must consult the Course Coordinator.  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 3 per week  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove  
**Teaching period:** 2011 SEM-1

**PYB404 ISSUES IN SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY**

This unit evaluates the contributions of social and developmental psychology to the understanding of human behaviour. The unit examines topics in social development, as they relate to families and individuals across the lifespan.  
**Assumed knowledge:** Previous studies in developmental psychology is assumed knowledge.  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 3 per week  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove  
**Teaching period:** 2011 SEM-1

**PYB405 ADVANCED ORGANISATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY**

Students explore the role of organisational psychologists as both internal and external consultants who are skilled psychological researchers. Special attention is given to the interaction between organisation systems, community needs, and human beings in differing cultural, political and economic environments.  
**Assumed knowledge:** Previous studies in industrial or organisational psychology is assumed knowledge. Students with no previous studies in this area must consult the Course Coordinator.  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 3 per week  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove  
**Teaching period:** 2011 SEM-1  

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PYB450 RESEARCH THESIS (PART 1)

This research project, listed as three separate 12 credit point units, is to be completed as a group empirical research project.  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove  
**Teaching period:** 2011 SEM-1 and 2011 SEM-2

PYB450 RESEARCH THESIS (PART 2)

This research project, listed as three separate 12 credit point units, is to be completed as a group empirical research project.  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove  
**Teaching period:** 2011 SEM-1 and 2011 SEM-2

PYB450 RESEARCH THESIS (PART 3)

This research project, listed as three separate 12 credit point units, is to be completed as a group empirical research project.  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove  
**Teaching period:** 2011 SEM-1 and 2011 SEM-2