


Honours in Psychology 2025 Applicants

Presented by
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Honours Coordinator
School of Psychology

sydney.edu.au/science/study/undergraduate-courses/honours-in-science.html#psych




THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY

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We recognise and pay respect to the Elders and communities – past, present, and emerging – of the lands that the University of Sydney's campuses stand on. For thousands of years they have shared and exchanged knowledges across innumerable generations for the benefit of all.

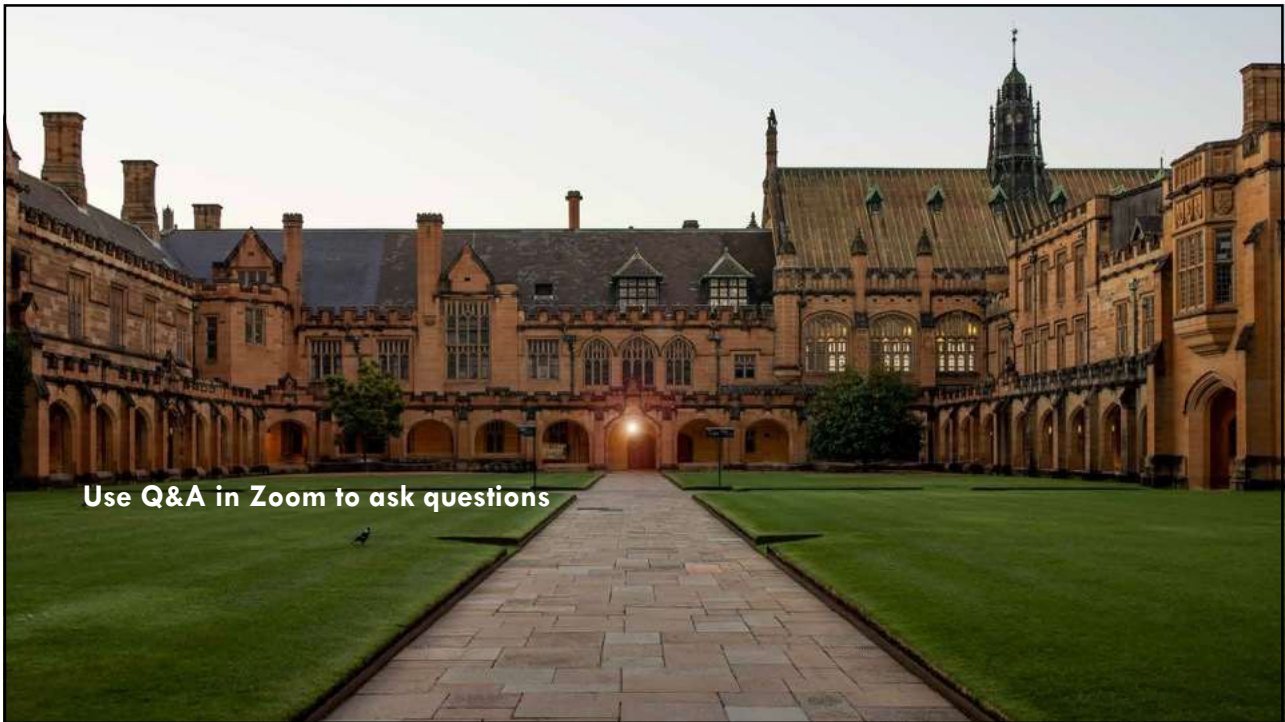


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Why do Honours in Psychology?

- To be eligible for registration as a psychologist
- To meet requirements for entry into postgraduate professional courses (e.g., Master of Clinical Psychology)
- To meet requirements for entry into postgraduate research courses (e.g., PhD)
- To broaden employment opportunities
 - Transferrable skills (e.g., time management, research skills, project management and delivery)
- To bring together the knowledge and skills you have gained in psychology

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What is involved in Honours in Psychology?

- One year of full-time study
- There is **no** mid-year intake

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What is involved in Honours in Psychology?

| What? | When? | Worth... |
|--|-------------------|----------|
| Empirical Thesis | Semesters 1 and 2 | 50% |
| Advanced Seminar 1 | Semester 1 | 12.5% |
| Advanced Seminar 2 | Semester 1 | 12.5% |
| Advanced Psychometrics | Semester 1 | 12.5% |
| Foundations of Professional Psychology | Intensive August | 12.5% |

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What is involved in Honours in Psychology?

- **Empirical Thesis** (the whole year)
- 9,000 to 12,000 words
- Design, conduct, analyse, and write up research developed under supervision
- Unlike anything you have done before – a large research project
- Develop an appreciation for the importance of the research process in psychology – an evidence-based discipline

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What is involved in Honours in Psychology?

- **Advanced Seminars** (× 2) (Semester 1)
 - Written assignment and usually a presentation/engagement component
- Seminar topics vary depending on staff availability

PSYC4123

- Emotion Regulation
- 'Not Guilty': The Sydney Exoneration Project
- Psycho-oncology: Adjusting to Life after Cancer
- Lost in Translation – Media Communication of Developmental Psych
- Close Relationships
- Paediatric Neuropsychology
- Development of Thinking in Childhood and Adolescence

PSYC4124

- Neurodiversity with a Focus on the Senses
- The Psychology of Uncertainty
- Exploring the Influence of Expectations on Perception and Attention
- Animal Cognition
- Behavioural Neuroscience
- Cognitive Neuroscience of Food Perception and Decision Making
- What are the Role of DNNs for Psychological Research and Theory?

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What is involved in Honours in Psychology?

- **Advanced Psychometrics (Semester 1)**
 - Advanced statistics and research design
 - Psychometrics
 - Choice of workshops
- **Foundations of Professional Practice (August intensive period)**
 - Ethics
 - Communication and Interviewing Skills
 - Psychometric Assessment
 - Culturally-Informed Practice

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What is involved in Honours in Psychology?

Semester 1 (sample)

| | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thurs | Fri |
|----|---------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 9 | | | | | |
| 10 | | | | | Advanced Psychometrics Lecture |
| 11 | | | | | |
| 12 | | | | Advanced Psychometrics Tutorial | |
| 1 | | | | | |
| 2 | Advanced Seminar #1 | | Advanced Seminar #2 | | |
| 3 | | Advanced Psychometrics Lecture | | | |
| 4 | | | | | |
| 5 | | | | | |

- Pre-semester induction/ethics workshop
- Advanced Psychometrics Tutorials run for 7-8 weeks
- Advanced Seminars run for 10 weeks

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What is involved in Honours in Psychology?

Semester 2 (sample)

| | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thurs | Fri |
|----|-----------------|------|---------------------------|-------|-----|
| 9 | | | | | |
| 10 | | | | | |
| 11 | | | | | |
| 12 | | | | | |
| 1 | | | | | |
| 2 | | | | | |
| 3 | | | Seminar or Workshop | | |
| 4 | drop-in session | | | | |
| 5 | | | | | |

Foundations of Professional Psychology is run in the Intensive August session, starting in July (prior to the start of Semester 2) and finishing in early September.

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What makes a successful attempt at Honours in Psychology?

- Self-discipline
- Time management
- Collegiality
- Responsibility and integrity

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Honours in Psychology – People to know

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Dr Bruce Burns: | Honours Coordinator |
| Dr Jessica Lee: | Advanced Seminars Coordinator |
| Dr Mel Sharpe: | Empirical Thesis Coordinator |
| Ms Lily Tang: | Honours Education Support Officer psychology.honours@sydney.edu.au |

Honours in Psychology 2025

- Applying for Honours
 - Check that you are in an APAC-accredited degree
 - for post-2018 degrees, you need to have completed **the Psychology program**.
 - Students in a Faculty of Science degree (e.g., BSc, BLAS, GDP) must have a WAM > 65 to be eligible to apply; students in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences degrees (e.g., BA) must have a WAM > 70 to be eligible to apply; students in BPsych must have met their degree progression criteria.
 - Applicants are ranked based on their Honours Application Mark (HAM), which is calculated from the four Intermediate (2nd Year) Psychology units and the best four Senior (3rd Year) Psychology units, where the Senior (3rd Year) Psychology units are weighted twice as much. [N.B: HPSC3023, PSYC3888, and TSP/Dalyell units taken in place of PSYC units can count]
 - The top ~100 applicants are offered a place; the cut-off for rankings usually results in a threshold of ~75, but can vary year to year.
 - Only BPsych (4 year) students can defer their offer, whereas all other successful applicants would just need to re-apply in the subsequent year.

Honours in Psychology 2025

Where do I find information?

The University's [Honours in Science](#) portal

(scroll down to find the section for Psychology)

<https://www.sydney.edu.au/science/study/undergraduate-courses/honours-in-science.html#psych>

What information should I note?

- the Honours Information Booklet
(current for 2024, but will be updated soon)
- the Honours Application Mark Calculator

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Honours

| Second Year | Final Grade | Third Year | Final Grade | Third Year | Final Grade | Honours Application Mark |
|----------------------------------|-------------|------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------|--------------------------|
| PSYC2X10 or PSYC2X11 or PSYC2X15 | | PSYC3010 | | First Best | | |
| PSYC2012 | | PSYC3X11 | | Second Best | | |
| PSYC2013 or PSYC2016 | | PSYC3012 | | Third Best | | |
| PSYC2014 or PSYC2017 | | PSYC3X13 | | Fourth Best | | |
| | | PSYC3X14 | | | | |
| | | PSYC3015 | | | | |
| Second Year Average | | PSYC3X16 | | Third Year Average | | |
| | | PSYC3017 | | | | |
| | | PSYC3018 | | | | |
| | | PSYC3020 | | | | |
| | | PSYC3888 | | | | |
| | | HPSC3023 | | | | |

Honours Application Mark Calculator School of Psychology, University of Sydney

- (1) Please **ONLY** enter your Final Mark into the cells highlighted in **YELLOW** - all other cells populate based on automatic formulae, please do **not** alter any other cell.
- (2) You must have completed the four Second Year PSYC Units of Study. (N.B: if you were approved to complete any of these Units of Study on exchange, they will count towards the completion requirements for eligibility, but they will **NOT** be included in your Second Year Average calculation)
- (3) You must have completed **AT LEAST** four Third Year PSYC Units of Study and one of these **MUST** be PSYC3010. (N.B: if you were approved to complete any of these Units of Study on exchange, they will count towards the completion requirements for eligibility, but they will **NOT** be included in your Third Year Average calculation)
- (4) If you completed PSYC2X11, you **MUST** have also completed PSYC3018; however, if you completed PSYC2X10 or PSYC2X15, it was **NOT** compulsory to complete PSYC3018.
- (5) All four of your Second Year PSYC Units of Study and the four **BEST** Third Year PSYC Units of Study will be included in the calculation of your Honours Application Mark - please note, the Third Year PSYC Units of Study are weighted twice as much as the Second Year PSYC Units of Study.
- (6) If you completed TSP and/or Dalyell units in place of specific Third Year PSYC units, you can simply enter the mark you received for that unit in the cell for the Third Year PSYC unit that it replaced.
- (7) PSYC4XXX units are not a part of the APAC-accredited Psychology program, and so are not counted in this calculation.
- (8) If you are from the University of Sydney, your Honours Application Mark will be calculated using the formulae above. Please note, the number you see is indicative only and does **NOT** guarantee you a place in Honours in Psychology if it is above a previously known threshold.
- (9) If you are **NOT** from the University of Sydney, you can still use this calculator as a guide, but please note that your Honours Application Mark will be calculated separately - it may depend on how your sequence of study aligns with ours and on which University you are coming from.
- (10) If you have any questions, please contact Education Support (psychology.honours@sydney.edu.au).

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Honours in Psychology 2025

Where do I find information?

The University's [Honours in Science](#) portal

(scroll down to find the section for Psychology)

<https://www.sydney.edu.au/science/study/undergraduate-courses/honours-in-science.html#psych>

What information should I note?

- the Honours Information Booklet
(current for 2024, but will be updated soon)
- the Honours Application Mark Calculator
- List of Prospective Supervisors and Topics
(current for 2024, but will be updated soon)

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Honours in Psychology 2023

Prospective Supervisors, Prospective Topics, and Considerations / Restrictions

Please note, if a Supervisor has a profile available on the University website, it may be found here – <https://www.sydney.edu.au/science/schools/school-of-psychology/academic-staff.html>

| Supervisor | Topics | | | Considerations / Restrictions for Topics | | | |
|-------------------------|--|---|--|--|------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| | (1) | (2) | (3) | Must be able to obtain a Working With Children Check | Must have a Driver's Licence | Must be able to attend out-of-hours (e.g. sleep lab) | Must be able to work with animals |
| Prof David Alais | Multisensory perception | Active perception | Visual perception | Applies to none | Applies to none | (1),(2),(3) | Applies to none |
| Prof Ben Anderson | Visual perception | Shape perception | Realism and computer graphics | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none |
| Prof Daniel Barmby | Cognitive flexibility | Working memory | Metacognition | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none |
| Prof Robert Baucke | Context effects in liking for tastes (rats or humans) | Rat models of bingeing | Cognition and taste aversion learning | Applies to none | Applies to none | (1),(2),(3) | Applies to none |
| APhD Michael Bowen | Dysregulated social motivation in substance use disorders | Intimacy, agitation and aggression in transgenic models of high-risk autism genes | Novel therapeutics and therapeutic targets for disorders of the brain and mind | Applies to none | Applies to none | (1),(2),(3) | (1),(2),(3) |
| Dr Bruce Burns | Decision-making | Reasoning and problem-solving | Moral reasoning | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none |
| Dr Rachel Campbell | Psychoneurology | Quality of life in chronic disease | Fatigue and sleep disturbance | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none |
| APhD Thomas Carlson | Objective recognition | Cognitive neuroscience | Visual cognition | Applies to none | Applies to none | (1),(2),(3) | Applies to none |
| Prof Ben Colaguri | Understanding placebo effects | Inhibiting nocebo effects | Social transmission of symptoms | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none |
| Prof Mark Dadds | Child mental health | Parental discipline strategies | Family processes | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none |
| APhD Ian Dar-Nimrod | Gender identity (transgender) | Gender identity (cisgender individuals) | Medical decision-making in the context of cancer | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none |
| APhD Hayanga Drillon | Psychoneurology | Cancer survivorship and supportive care | Intervention | Applies to none | Applies to none | (1),(2),(3) | Applies to none |
| Dr Yi Du | Macronutrition | Metabolism | Self-confidence | Applies to none | Applies to none | (1),(2),(3) | Applies to none |
| Prof Sally Gansbury | Gambling and addictions | Clinical psychology | Mental health | Applies to none | Applies to none | (1),(2),(3) | Applies to none |
| Dr Mosh Goldwater | Child development cognitive and social-cognitive | Beliefs and decision-making | Concepts and creative thinking | (1) | Applies to none | (1) | Applies to none |
| Prof Justin Hains | Pediatric endocrinology in rats | Associative learning in humans | Using fMRI to investigate response control | Applies to none | Applies to none | (1),(3) | Applies to none |
| Prof Alex Hinton | Position and motion perception | Visual cognition | Research on research (metacognition) | Applies to none | Applies to none | (1),(2) | Applies to none |
| Dr Christopher Hunt | Psychology of gambling | Treatment of problem gambling | Gender roles and stereotypes | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none |
| APhD Dr. Johnson | Brain-muscle interactions | Eating behaviour | Dog adoption | Applies to none | Applies to none | (1) | Applies to none |
| Prof Irina Jurekova | Psychoneurology (adults) | Adolescents and young adults with cancer | Medical communication and decisionmaking | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none |
| APhD Sabina Kellman | Decision-making (individual offenders) | Self-beliefs/expectations/handicapping | Impact of COVID-19 | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none |
| APhD Fiona Kurler | Clinical profiles of dementia | Social cognition | Neurocognitive disorders | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none |
| Dr Rachel Lussac Powell | Patient hospital experiences and decisions (qualitative study) | Women's health (e.g. fertility, communication and decisions) | Cancer survivors and family carers | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none |
| Dr Jessica Lee | Associative learning in humans | Generalisation of fear conditioning | Illusory causation | Applies to none | Applies to none | (2) | Applies to none |
| APhD Evan Lussac | Learning biases in beliefs and judgments | Implicit learning | Impulsivity and cognitive control | Applies to none | Applies to none | (1),(2),(3) | Applies to none |
| APhD Carolyn MacCann | Emotion regulation | Emotion regulation | Personality states and traits | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none |
| Dr Rachel Marcey | Sexual anxiety | COVID | Musical disorders | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none |
| Dr Caroline Moul | Psychopathy and CU traits | Social cognitive development | Associative learning and attention in psychopathology | (2) | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none |
| Prof Sharon Naamati | Healthy brain aging | Sleep | Dementia | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none |
| Dr Chloe Oates | Rate of attention in learning and memory | Effective study strategies | Educational integrity | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none |
| Dr Helen Pearson | Eyeblink memory | Jury decision-making | Likelihood | Applies to none | Applies to none | (3) | Applies to none |
| Dr Daniel Pearson | Cognitive processes underlying attentional bias | Attentional bias and decision-making | Cognitive processes involved in addiction and compulsive behaviour | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none |
| Prof Oliver Piguet | Neuroimaging of dementia | Neuropsychology of aging | Language disorders | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none |
| Dr Rebecca Pihus | Social comparison | Stimulus generalization | Weight stigma | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none |
| Dr Rebecca Rodeaux | Visual perception | Sensory neuroscience (EEG) | Cognitive neuroscience (EEG) | Applies to none | Applies to none | (1),(2),(3) | Applies to none |
| Prof Louise Sharpe | Attention bias in pain | Cognitive bias modification | Fear of disease progression | Applies to none | Applies to none | (1) | Applies to none |
| APhD Joanne Shaw | Psychoneurology | Health psychology | Medical communication/health literacy | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none |
| Dr Nile Tiliopoulos | Personality and personality disorders | Adult attachment | Psychological elements of faith | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none |
| Dr Jenna Todd | Cognitive bias | Plan | Anxiety | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none | Applies to none |
| Dr Dominic Tran | Response inhibition/impulse control | Dist. impulsivity and neuropsychology | Cognitive neuroscience (TMS) | Applies to none | Applies to none | (2),(3) | Applies to none |
| Dr Gifford van Oude | Eyeblink memory | Jury decision-making in the legal system | Pulse responses and extrajudicial aspects | Applies to none | Applies to none | (1) | Applies to none |
| Prof Frans Verbanen | Visual science | Human factors research | | Applies to none | Applies to none | (1),(2) | Applies to none |

Honours in Psychology 2025

Where do I find information?

The University's [Honours in Science](#) portal

(scroll down to find the section for Psychology)

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What information should I note?

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(current for 2024, but will be updated soon)
- the Honours Application Mark Calculator
- List of Prospective Supervisors and Topics
(current for 2024, but will be updated soon)
- the link to the School Application
- the link to the University Application

Honours in Psychology 2025



School of Psychology

First Name:

Last Name:

Email:

Were you, or are you, a student of the University of Sydney for the program on which you are basing your application for Honours in Psychology?

Yes

No

Honours in Psychology 2025 – Two-Step Application Process

School Application

- regardless of your degree or internal/external status, everyone must complete the School Application
- The School Application will likely open in December and close in January

University Application

- the receipt you get from the School Application must be attached to your University Application in the section that asks for *Evidence of contacting a supervisor*; for this reason, you cannot complete the University Application first
- N.B:
 - internal BPsych (4 year) students do not have to complete the University Application
 - all other applicants, both internal and external, must complete the University Application

Determine the Honours course for you:

I am a USYD student

Which Honours is the best option for me?

Enrolled in, or previously completed an eligible **single bachelor degree**

Appended honours, e.g. Bachelor of Science (Honours)

Currently enrolled in a **4-year combined Bachelor of Advanced Studies**, on track to complete two majors, e.g. Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Advanced Studies

Combined Bachelor of Advanced Studies

(Note: some streams do not allow students to undertake honours in their second major, please confirm stream requirements in your handbook)

Currently enrolled in a **single bachelor degree, e.g. (Bachelor of Science)** and on track to complete **two majors**

Either:

- Transfer to a combined Bachelor of Advanced Studies (tuition fee changes may be applicable) OR;
- Apply for appended honours, e.g. Bachelor of Science (Honours)

I am a student from another university

Which Honours is the best option for me?

Who has completed an eligible bachelor degree

Appended honours, e.g. Bachelor of Science (Honours)

Honours in Psychology

| Timeline (indicative) | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Mid-December | School Application opens |
| Early January | School Application closes |
| Late-January | First round offers |
| Early-February | Deadline to accept/reject first round offer |
| Early-February | Second round offers (if applicable) |
| Mid-February | Deadline to accept/reject second round offer |
| Mid-February | Pre-semester Induction Honours Orientation |

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Empirical Thesis Topics

- You will be asked to rank areas of research interest
 - these preferences are very important, as they are used to allocate students to supervisors
- Many possible areas available
 - check the School of Psychology website ➡ Our Research
 - Experimental projects
 - Correlational projects
 - Qualitative projects
- Check the Prospective Supervisors and Topics (2025) document
- Projects may also be available outside the School, for example:
 - The Matilda Centre for Research in Mental Health and Substance Use
 - The Frontier Dementia Clinic at the Brain and Mind Centre
 - The Healthy Brain Ageing Clinic at the Charles Perkins Centre

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Honours in Psychology – What next?

- Check back with the location mentioned on the *Where do I find information?* slide
- Once the documents have been updated:
 - » read the Honours Information Booklet
- Once 15 December has passed:
 - » begin your School Application
- Once the School Application has been completed:
 - » begin your University Application

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Do I really need to do an Honours degree???

- Consider the Master of Philosophy in Psychology (MPhil)

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Honours in Psychology 2025

– Questions?

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Honours Team in Psychology

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psychology.empirical-coordinator@sydney.edu.au

sydney.edu.au/science/study/undergraduate-courses/honours-in-science.html#psych

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