

PSYCHOLOGY

www.sci.waikato.ac.nz/study/subjects/psychology

Psychology is about understanding the behaviour and cognitive processes of people and animals in their physical, social and organisational environment. As a behavioural science, psychology examines the way behaviour is learned and can be changed. As a social science, it focuses on individuals within the context of families, organisations and other groups, communities, cultures and societies. As a biological science, it studies the senses (hearing, vision, touch) and how the brain and physiological systems relate to behaviour. As a cognitive science, psychology studies perception, attention, memory, thinking and language understanding. The study of development, personality, learning and motivation are also part of psychology. At Waikato, psychology can be studied in a science, a social sciences or an arts degree.

CONTACTS FOR THE SCHOOL OF PSYCHOLOGY

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Degrees

Psychology is available as a major subject for the Bachelor of Science (BSc), Bachelor of Arts (BA), and Bachelor of Social Sciences (BSocSc) degrees. Students who wish to complete a BSocSc or BA degree should consult the *Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences Handbook* for details.

Major

General Structure of a Psychology Major for the BSc degree

100 LEVEL	PSYC102 15 points	PSYC103 15 points		100 Level – Prerequisites: PSYC102 Social and Developmental Psychology, PSYC103 General and Experimental Psychology. 200 Level – PSYC208 Psychological Research: Analysis, Design and Measurement, PSYC225 Behavioural Psychology and Learning, PSYC226 Perception and Attention, PSYC227 Physiological Psychology, and PSYC230 Cognitive Psychology.
	PSYC208 20 points	PSYC225 10 points	PSYC227 10 points	
200 LEVEL		PSYC226 10 points	PSYC230 10 points	300 Level – At least 60 points at 300 Level Psychology papers. Preferably chosen from: PSYC340 Applied Cognitive Psychology (10pts), PSYC341 Visual Neuroscience and its Applications (10pts), PSYC344 Physiology of Human Performance and Development (10pts), PSYC307 Research Methods, PSYC314 Behaviour Analysis, PSYC338 Abnormal Psychology (10pts).
	PSYC3XX 20 points	PSYC3XX 20 points	PSYC3XX 20 points	
300 LEVEL				

Note(s): Other 300 Level Psychology papers can also satisfy the 60 points requirement on programme approval.

Specialisations

Students may undertake the following specialisations for the BSc major in Psychology.

» Agribusiness	*
» Science International	page 157
» Te Pūtaiao me ngā take Māori	page 162

**Enrolment in this specialisation should be completed in consultation with both the Faculty of Science & Engineering and the Waikato Management School.*

Choosing Papers

Entry into Psychology Papers

There are no formal prerequisites for admission to 100 Level psychology papers. Individual papers may be taken, assuming any prerequisites listed are met.

Psychology Major

To complete a major in psychology in a BSc or BSc(Tech), students must complete 120 points above 100 Level in psychology papers including at least 60 points above 200 Level.

Recommended Preparatory Papers

It is recommended that you consider including an introductory writing paper such as ALED100 Writing for University Purposes as part of your degree. In addition, it is recommended that if you do not have mathematics in your background you should consider taking MATH168 Preparatory Mathematics.

100 Level – Papers are worth 15 points.

It is highly recommended that you complete both PSYC102 Social and Developmental Psychology, and PSYC103A General and Experimental Psychology.

Prerequisites

- » PSYC102B – Social and Developmental Psychology
- » PSYC103A – General and Experimental Psychology

200 Level – Papers are worth 20 points unless specified.

Compulsory papers

- » PSYC208B – Psychological Research: Analysis, Design and Measurement
- » PSYC225A – Behavioural Psychology and Learning (10 points)
- » PSYC226A – The Psychology of Perception (10 points)
- » PSYC227A – Physiological Psychology (10 points)
- » PSYC230B – Cognitive Psychology (10 points)

It is highly recommended that you complete all six 200 Level 10 point psychology papers. Make sure that you include prerequisite papers, including 100 Level papers needed for the following year of study.

If you intend to continue to a professional career in psychology you should include PSYC228 Culture, Ethnicity and Psychology in your degree.

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300 Level – Papers are worth 20 points unless specified.

Choose 60 points from Level 300 psychology papers.

Listed below are some combinations of third-year papers for various areas in psychology. You are encouraged to consult academic staff for further recommendations.

To continue to graduate study in psychology (ie BSocSc(Hons), MSocSc, BSc(Hons), the Postgraduate Certificate/Diplomas or the Master of Applied Psychology) you must have passed PSYC307 Research Methods, and meet any other criteria for entry to those specific programmes (refer to the **Psychology Graduate Handbook**). You are also advised to read the Graduate Handbook for 300 Level prerequisites required for specific graduate papers.

Animal Behaviour

BSc students should take PSYC206 Animal Behaviour: Principles and Applications, PSYC314 Behaviour Analysis, PSYC390 Directed Study. Students should also take Biological Science papers, including BIOL333 Advanced Animal Behaviour, and its prerequisites. Students of the BSc or BSc(Tech) degrees may also take Animal Behaviour as a major subject (see page 24).

Applied Cognitive Science

PSYC307 Research Methods, PSYC340 Applied Cognitive Psychology, PSYC341 Visual Neuroscience and its Applications, PSYC344 Physiology of Human Performance and Development, and PSYC390 Directed Study.

Behaviour Analysis (including Applied Behaviour Analysis)

PSYC307 Research Methods, PSYC314 Behaviour Analysis, PSYC337 Psychological Measurement, and PSYC390 Directed Study. Which other psychology papers are relevant will depend on your area of interest.

Clinical Psychology

PSYC301 Community, Culture and Diversity, PSYC307 Research Methods, PSYC314 Behaviour Analysis, PSYC337 Psychological Measurement, and PSYC338 Abnormal Psychology are the papers required for entry to the Postgraduate Diploma in Clinical Psychology.

Applied Social and Community Psychology, and Organisational Psychology

If you are interested in these areas of Psychology you should consult the **Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences Handbook**, or academic staff for recommendations.

Note that Directed Study papers will not be counted towards the 120 points required for a major in psychology.

Timetable Clashes

Your selection of papers may depend on your timetable. You will not usually be permitted to take papers which have lecture clashes. Laboratory clashes can usually be resolved. You should initially contact the School if you have a laboratory clash.

Psychology Papers

Note(s): Papers marked * are considered Science papers for the BSc degree. Papers not marked with an * will contribute towards the points allowed outside Science.

100 Level Papers

PSYC102-12B (HAM) (TGA) – Social and Developmental Psychology*

15 Points

An overview of psychological research and development of the person as a social being and on the interaction between the individual person and the groups, communities and global society to which we all belong.

Required book(s): *PSYC102 Readings: available from Campus Copy, and book to be advised*
Assessment: *Internal assessment/examination ratio: 2 : 1*

PSYC103-11A (HAM) (TGA) – General and Experimental Psychology*

15 Points

The emphasis in this paper is on the individual human being and his or her functioning. This involves examining the processes of development; learning, perception and cognition; and an introduction to the underlying biological basis of behaviour. There is a basic statistics component. Later sections of the paper deal with more applied aspects such as psychological testing and clinical psychology.

Required book(s): *To be advised; Statistics and Laboratory Manual: available from Campus Copy*
Assessment: *Internal assessment/examination ratio: 3 : 1*

200 Level Papers

PSYC206-12B (HAM) – Animal Behaviour: Principles and Applications*

20 Points

This paper is for BSc or BSc(Tech) students only. (See PSYC304 for details).

Prerequisite(s): *15 points from 100 Level Biological Sciences*
Restriction(s): *PSYC304*
Assessment: *Internal assessment/examination ratio: 3 : 1*

PSYC208-12B (HAM) (TGA) – Psychological Research: Analysis, Design and Measurement*

20 Points

As a science, psychology involves certain standard research procedures so that a particular piece of research will provide an unambiguous result. In common with other social sciences, psychology has developed research methods different to those of the physical sciences. Anyone who wishes to read and understand research reports in psychology must be aware of typical research designs and statistical techniques common to such designs. The paper covers both data analysis and research methods.

Prerequisite(s): *PSYC103*
Required book(s): *Aron et al Statistics for Psychology 5th ed (Prentice-Hall); Smith and Davis The Psychologist as a Detective 5th ed (Pearson/Prentice-Hall); PSYC208 Readings, PSYC208 Demonstration Manual: available from Campus Copy*
Assessment: *Internal assessment/examination ratio: 3 : 1*

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PSYC225-12A (HAM) (TGA) – Behavioural Psychology and Learning*

10 Points

This paper extends further the study of learning and behaviour given in the 100 Level paper PSYC103 and will prepare you for the 300 Level paper PSYC314. You will learn the basic assumptions of the philosophy of behaviourism, the basic principles of behaviour analysis, and how those principles can be applied to the issues of clinical and community importance. You will be expected to complete a series of laboratory practicals, ie prepare lab reports.

Prerequisite(s): PSYC103

Assessment: Internal assessment/examination ratio: 1 : 2 or 2 : 1

PSYC226-12A (HAM) (TGA) – The Psychology of Perception*

10 Points

You will be introduced to the problems and methods involved in the study of perceptual and cognitive processes. The aim is to make you "more observant of your environment, more aware of your own perceptions, and more appreciative of the miraculous process that transforms energy falling on receptors into the richness of experience" (Goldstein, *Sensation and Perception*).

Prerequisite(s): PSYC103

Required book(s): E.B. Goldstein *Sensation and Perception 8th ed* (Wadsworth)

Assessment: Internal assessment/examination ratio: 1 : 0

PSYC227-12A (HAM) (TGA) – Physiological Psychology*

10 Points

This paper explores how physiological processes of the nervous system can interact with behaviour, and as important, how behaviour, cognition, and environment may exert their influence on bodily systems.

Required book(s): Carlson *Foundations of Physiological Psychology 5th ed* (Allyn & Bacon)

Assessment: Internal assessment/examination ratio: 1 : 1

PSYC228-12A (HAM) (TGA) – Culture, Ethnicity and Psychology

10 Points

This paper explores a psychological understanding of culture and ethnicity. Topics include Aotearoa/ New Zealand in the global context, the Treaty of Waitangi, cultural concepts in the Māori world, kaupapa Māori and cross-cultural research, cross-cultural interaction styles, discrimination, networking in diverse communities, and ethical issues in Māori-focused research.

Prerequisite(s): PSYC102

Assessment: Internal assessment/examination ratio: 2 : 1

PSYC229-12B (HAM) (TGA) – Contemporary Issues and Social Psychology

10 Points

Social issues can be considered using both foundational and emerging theories of psychology that focus on social behaviour. This paper examines key theories in social psychology in relation to issues in contemporary society.

Prerequisite(s): PSYC102

Required book(s): To be advised; **PSYC229 Readings**: available from Campus Copy

Assessment: Internal assessment/examination ratio: 3 : 2

PSYC230-12B (HAM) (TGA) – Cognitive Psychology**10 Points*

This paper will introduce you to issues, theories, and research in the study of human cognition, and give you an understanding of the mental processes underlying memory, thinking and language use.

Prerequisite(s): PSYC103

Required book(s): Willingham *Cognition: The Thinking Animal* 3rd ed (Prentice-Hall)

Assessment: Internal assessment/examination ratio: 1 : 0

300 Level Papers**HDCO340-12A (HAM) – Perspectives on Counselling***20 Points*

An examination of the philosophical, psychological and sociological principles that underpin the aims and methods of the helping professions in general, and counselling in particular.

Prerequisite(s): 40 points at 200 Level in Education Studies, Human Development, Professional Education or Psychology

Assessment: Internal assessment/examination ratio: 1 : 0

PSYC301-12B (HAM) (TGA) – Community, Culture and Diversity: Applied Social Psychology*20 Points*

Applied social and community psychologists cover a diverse set of research areas, theoretical stances and approaches to researching and addressing social issues. Additionally, there are connections between the topic areas studied by applied social and community psychologists and other social scientists. Thus, in applied settings, social psychologists often learn from and work with people from other disciplines. In this paper we explore different approaches to applied social and community psychologies and examine a selection of particular issues that are informed by major theoretical orientations. These include diversity, Tiriti O Waitangi, health, criminal justice, media, social power, poverty, and interventions.

Prerequisite(s): PSYC228 or PSYC229

Restriction(s): PSYC312, PSYC313, PSYC318, PSYC327, PSYC328

Required text(s): Hodgetts, D., Drew, N., Sonn, C., Stolte, O., Nikora, N. & Curtis, C.

Social Psychology and Everyday Life (Basingstoke: Palgrave/MacMillian) 2010

Assessment: Internal assessment/examination ratio: 7 : 3

PSYC304-12B (HAM) – Animal Behaviour: Principles and Applications**20 Points*

A review of experimental evidence on the determinants of animal behaviour and animal welfare, with special emphasis on domestic animals and practical aspects of animal handling and care. The paper uses farm companion, wild and other animals as illustrations, furnishing an understanding of how to care for and handle animals with due regard to their welfare. Domestic animal behaviour is considered in relation to practical problems in animal handling and New Zealand agriculture. Laboratory and fieldwork are required.

Prerequisite(s): PSYC103 or 15 points at 100 Level in Biological Sciences

Restriction(s): PSYC206

Assessment: Internal assessment/examination ratio: 3 : 1

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PSYC307-12A (HAM) – Research Methods*

20 Points

This paper examines research design, research methods and statistical methods additional to those covered in PSYC208. Topics include qualitative methods, single-subject designs and some multivariate analysis methods. Practicals involve training in computer-based data analysis. This paper is required for students who wish to proceed to graduate study in psychology.

Prerequisite(s): PSYC208

Assessment: Internal assessment/examination ratio: 1 : 0

PSYC310-12B (HAM) (TGA) – Psychology and Gender

10 Points

This paper examines the contribution of psychological research and theory to understanding issues of gender, sexual orientation, gender roles and gender relationships.

Equivalent(s): PSYC309

Assessment: Internal assessment/examination ratio: 2 : 1

PSYC314-12B (HAM) – Behaviour Analysis*

20 Points

This paper examines experimental, applied and conceptual/philosophical issues in learning and behaviour analysis. The content follows from PSYC225 and extends coverage of applied behaviour analysis, introduces behaviour therapies and provides the background required for studying learning and its applications to human and animal behaviour at graduate level. Emphasis is placed on linking the experimental and applied literatures to foster a scientist-practitioner approach to problem solving. There are required readings, two 2-hour lectures per week, and practicals involving brief experiments with humans as well as experience in shaping and altering the behaviour of an animal under laboratory conditions.

Prerequisite(s): PSYC223 or PSYC225 or equivalent

Required book(s): Baum **Understanding Behaviourism: Behaviour, Culture and Evolution** 2nd ed (Blackwell)

Assessment: Internal assessment/examination ratio: 2 : 1 or 1 : 2

PSYC317-12B (HAM) – Organisational Psychology

20 Points

This paper will introduce you to the psychology of work and organisational behaviour. Topics include job-relevant issues such as job design and work attitudes, career choice and personnel selection, training and performance appraisal, quality of work life and job stress. The paper also considers organisational processes such as leadership, communication, conflict management and organisational development. Emphasis is given to understanding and applying psychological theory and research.

Prerequisite(s): One of PSYC102, HRMG241, HRMG341 or HRMG342

Required book(s): Woods, S.A. and West, M.A. (2010). **The psychology of work and organisations**. Hampshire (UK): Cengage Learning (Belmont, CA: Wadsworth) 2010

Assessment: Internal assessment/examination ratio: 3 : 1

PSYC319-12B (HAM) (TGA) – Psychological Perspectives on Child Development*10 Points*

This paper focuses on the psychological study of children's cognitive, emotional, and social development, with attention to the applications and implications of these findings in the New Zealand context.

Prerequisite(s): PSYC102 or PSYC103 or HDCO100

Assessment: Internal assessment/examination ratio: 1 : 2 or 2 : 1

PSYC337-12A (HAM) – Psychological Measurement**10 Points*

This paper covers basic issues in psychological measurement and observation applicable across a range of psychological specialities. In addition to measurement theory topics covered include the history of measurement, intelligence and its measurement, personality theories and the measurement of personality, behavioural and clinical assessment, measurement with disability, in all topic there is an emphasis on both measures and strategies appropriate for the New Zealand context and on cultural considerations.

Prerequisite(s): PSYC208 or equivalent paper

Required book(s): Cohen et al **Psychological Testing and Assessment: An Introduction to Tests and Measurement 7th ed** (McGraw Hill)

Assessment: Internal assessment/examination ratio: 1 : 2 or 2 : 1

PSYC338-12A (HAM) (TGA) – Abnormal Psychology**10 Points*

This paper deals with the classification and treatment of the major classes of psychopathology.

Prerequisite(s): PSYC102 or PSYC103 or equivalent

Required book(s): Kring, A.M., Johnson, S.L., Davison, G.C., and Neale, J.M. (2010). **Abnormal Psychology (11th Ed.)**. New York: John Wiley & Sons

Assessment: Internal assessment/examination ratio: 1 : 1

PSYC340-12A (HAM) – Applied Cognitive Psychology**10 Points*

This paper covers theories and research into human attention, memory, cognitive workload, situation awareness, decision-making, and their application to transportation, product design, information technologies, and forensic psychology.

Prerequisite(s): PSYC230

Equivalent(s): PSYC305

Assessment: Internal assessment/examination ratio: 1 : 0

PSYC341-12B (HAM) – Visual Neuroscience and its Applications**10 Points*

This paper examines some of the neural mechanisms underlying our sensations and perceptions (especially vision). At the completion of the course students will have acquired an understanding of the relationship between basic research findings and a broad range of applications.

Prerequisite(s): PSYC226

Equivalent(s): PSYC305

Assessment: Internal assessment/examination ratio: 1 : 0

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PSYC344-12A (HAM) – Physiology of Human Performance and Development*

10 Points

This paper offers a continuation of the material in physiological psychology covered in PSYC227, with more coverage on physiological aspects of cognitive and physical performance and development.

Prerequisite(s): PSYC227

Equivalent(s): PSYC305

Assessment: Internal assessment/examination ratio: 1 : 0

PSYC388-12A/B/S (HAM) – Directed Study

10 Points

Please refer to explanatory narrative under PSYC390.

Assessment: Internal assessment/examination ratio: 1 : 0

PSYC390-12A/B/S/Y (HAM) – Directed Study

20 Points

If you are interested in a particular area of study that is not covered by other psychology papers you may follow an individual course of study under the supervision of a lecturer, providing adequate supervision is available. You should obtain the lecturer's approval and signature on a directed study enrolment sheet (available from the School of Psychology office). You are advised to refer to the psychology staff photo board or the school's website (<http://psychology.waikato.ac.nz>) to find out more about the research interests of individual staff members.

Note(s): A 300 Level Directed Study may only be taken by students who have enrolled in or passed taught 300 Level psychology papers to the value of 60 points. A directed study cannot be included in the 60 points which make up a major in Psychology. Furthermore, 300 Level Directed Studies may not be used to raise your grade average for entry into the graduate programme.