



**APAC Accreditation Assessment Summary Report**

<b>Higher Education Provider</b>	<b>Bond University</b>
<b>Date of determination</b>	<b>24 October 2016</b>
<b>Standards version</b>	<b>June 2010 ver 10</b>
<b>Programs of Study Assessed for Accreditation</b>	<b>Three year:</b> Bachelor of Psychological Science  <b>4<sup>th</sup> year:</b> Bachelor of Psychological Science (Honours) Graduate Diploma of Psychological Science  <b>5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> years:</b> Master of Psychology (Clinical) Master of Psychology (Forensic)

This is a summary of the outcomes of an APAC accreditation assessment of the School of Psychology at Bond University and its programs of study. This summary highlights selected key features of the assessment. Comprehensive analysis of the assessment is contained in the full APAC Assessment Team report.

During the course of the visit the team met with various Bond University staff, including the Vice-chancellor, Prof Tim Bailsford, the Executive Dean of the Faculty of Society and Design, Prof Raoul Mortley, and the Head of the School of Psychology Associate Prof Mark Edwards. The team also met with the staff of the School, the administrative and technical staff who serve the School and undergraduate, honours and postgraduate students. In addition, the team had the advantage of a well prepared School, with very well presented documentation.

All the *Standards* relating to the AOU including degree nomenclature, staffing and resources were met.

The undergraduate sequence is an accelerated program in which six semesters are, or can be, completed in two years. A systematic education in psychology is provided during this intensive program. All core knowledge as delineated under Standard 2.1.7 is covered, as is the content required under the Graduate Attributes 2 to 6. Assessment is varied appropriately and included essays, laboratory reports and oral presentations in addition to formal examinations.

In a comprehensive examination of its assessment process, the School undertook a benchmarking process for seven of their undergraduate units against another university. These results were in the

documentation available to the APAC team and show reasonable correspondence between the two institutions with regard to their assessment processes.

The sequence meets the APAC *Accreditation Standards* in terms of structure, content and assessment.

There are two fourth year programs, a Bachelor of Psychological Science (Honours) and a Graduate Diploma in Psychology. The two courses are essentially identical, and comprise 100% psychology with a 37.5% thesis, and 62.5% course work. The courses can be done full time, in which case they must be completed in two consecutive semesters, or part-time, in which case they must be completed in four consecutive semesters. The course content is also identical and involves a thorough background in research methods and ethics.

All of the *Standards* for the 4<sup>th</sup> year courses were met.

Bond offers postgraduate specialist professional coursework programs in Clinical Psychology and Forensic Psychology. These are two year fulltime programs of six semesters. The intake across the two programs is approximately 20 students (Clinical 14 and Forensic 6), although when there are insufficient appropriate applicants for the Forensic program then the places are offered to Clinical students

In total there is a 6.51 and 1.98 EFT staff teaching contribution to the Clinical and Forensic programs respectively, and with a current enrolment of 32 Clinical and 6 Forensic students, the student: staff ratio is 4.91:1 (Clinical) and 4.04:1 (Forensic) which meets standard 5.1.2.

The equipment, facilities and rooms available for the teaching and research needs of the programs are appropriate, including access to the library, test library, laboratory space and computers/IT. The test library has an appropriate annual budget and is appropriately stocked to meet course needs. The Psychology Clinic is a well-equipped space, including consulting rooms with facilities for observation and video-recording, a reception area, and a large room (student office) which is also currently used for group work.

Standard 5.1.17 requires that every student must have a log book that details the nature and hours of all placements or other practicums undertaken, as well as details of supervision and the nature of client work undertaken. Students currently maintain a complete record of supervision and of client related and face-to-face client hours. This material was not presented as a single log book. These were presented as separate documents and it was not clear that these also included logging of all placement activities (e.g., activities that are not directly client related such as department meetings, organisational projects). It seems possible that students are spending more time on placement than is formally documented in the logbook.

It is suggested that the log book be revised to enable all required aspects of the documentation to be integrated and consolidated in a single document, to facilitate tracking and auditing.

The Psychology Clinic is used for the first two placements (internships) for both programs. Students and placement supervisors were very positive about these placements. The third and fourth placements (externships) are overseen by the Clinic Director and are undertaken in suitable organisations external to the university. Placement supervision for externships is provided by a member of staff of the university where appropriate supervision is not available in the external organisation.

Unlike the clinical psychology students, the forensic psychology students do not take any of the three psychopathology and therapy units that relate to adults and children prior to doing their first placement. Instead they have only a single unit focused on forensic psychopathology. This appears to result in the students feeling underprepared for the first placement in the clinic where they have to deal with a general population. It is suggested that the School consider this issue.

The supervisors indicated that the quality of the forensic psychology students has improved in recent years and that academically they are good. It was mentioned that, in the context of forensic psychology, some were a bit naïve and that it may be an idea for some of the earlier placements to involve more observational experience in forensic settings.

Both postgraduate programs meet all of the *APAC Accreditation Standards*, sections 5.1 and 5.3.

The accreditation outcomes are summarised in the attached Accreditation Summary Checklist.



## APAC Accreditation Summary Checklist

for use with APAC Standards June 2010 Version 10

Name of Higher Education Provider: Bond University

Date of Site Visit: 15 – 17 June 2016

### Accreditation of the AOU

Rules	Rule Number	Satisfied	Not Yet Satisfied	N/A
Section 5 – Accreditation Status	5.1-5.6	✓		

General Accreditation Standards	Standard Number	Satisfied	Not Yet Satisfied	N/A
The Psychology AOU	2.1.1-10	✓		
Multi-Campus Institutions	2.2.1-2			✓
Degree Nomenclature	2.3.1-13	✓		
Academic Staffing	2.4.1-11	✓		
Resources	2.5.1-12	✓		
Teaching and Materials: Managing the Learning Process	2.6.1-14	✓		
Special Arrangements for Offshore Teaching	2.6.15			✓

Undergraduate 3-Year Sequence Program of Study	Standard Number	Satisfied	Not Yet Satisfied	N/A
Length	3.1.1	✓		
Program of Study Structure	3.1.2-5	✓		
Program of Study Content	3.1.6-10	✓		
Assessment	3.1.11-16	✓		
Awarding of Credit or Advance Standing	3.1.17-19	✓		

Undergraduate Fourth Year Program of Study	Standard Number	Satisfied	Not Yet Satisfied	N/A
Entry Requirements	4.1.1	✓		
Length	4.1.2	✓		
Program of Study Structure	4.1.3	✓		
Program of Study Content	4.1.4-7	✓		
Research Methods and Professional and Research Ethics	4.1.8	✓		
Research Project	4.1.9-15	✓		
Assessment	4.1.16-22	✓		
Awarding of Credit or Advance Standing	4.1.23-25	✓		



<b>Fifth and Sixth Year Masters Program of Study - Clinical</b>	Standard Number	Satisfied	Not Yet Satisfied	N/A
Staffing	5.1.1-3	✓		
Advisory/Liaison and Quality Review Committee	5.1.4	✓		
Resources	5.1.5-8	✓		
Credit for Previous Study	5.1.9-11	✓		
Core Capabilities and Attributes – Knowledge of the Discipline	5.1.12(a)	✓		
Core Capabilities and Attributes – Ethical, Legal and Professional Matters	5.1.12(b)	✓		
Core Capabilities and Attributes – Psychological Assessment & Measurement	5.1.12(c)	✓		
Core Capabilities and Attributes – Intervention Strategies	5.1.12(d)	✓		
Core Capabilities and Attributes – Research and Evaluation	5.1.12(e)	✓		
Core Capabilities and Attributes – Communication and Interpersonal Relationships	5.1.12(f)	✓		
Core Capabilities Assessment	5.1.13-16	✓		
Log Book	5.1.17	✓		
Assessment	5.1.18-19	✓		
Entry Requirements	5.3.1-2	✓		
Length	5.3.3-4	✓		
Program of Study Structure	5.3.5-8	✓		
Coursework	5.3.9-10	✓		
Research	5.3.11-16	✓		
Practical Placements	5.3.17-30	✓		

<b>Fifth and Sixth Year Masters Program of Study – Forensic</b>	Standard Number	Satisfied	Not Yet Satisfied	N/A
Staffing	5.1.1-3	✓		
Advisory/Liaison and Quality Review Committee	5.1.4	✓		
Resources	5.1.5-8	✓		
Credit for Previous Study	5.1.9-11	✓		
Core Capabilities and Attributes – Knowledge of the Discipline	5.1.12(a)	✓		
Core Capabilities and Attributes – Ethical, Legal and Professional Matters	5.1.12(b)	✓		
Core Capabilities and Attributes – Psychological Assessment & Measurement	5.1.12(c)	✓		
Core Capabilities and Attributes – Intervention Strategies	5.1.12(d)	✓		
Core Capabilities and Attributes – Research and Evaluation	5.1.12(e)	✓		
Core Capabilities and Attributes – Communication and Interpersonal Relationships	5.1.12(f)	✓		



Core Capabilities Assessment	5.1.13-16	✓		
Log Book	5.1.17	✓		
Assessment	5.1.18-19	✓		
Entry Requirements	5.3.1-2	✓		
Length	5.3.3-4	✓		
Program of Study Structure	5.3.5-8	✓		
Coursework	5.3.9-10	✓		
Research	5.3.11-16	✓		
Practical Placements	5.3.17-30	✓		

**Authorised:**

Professor Simon Crowe  
**Chair**, Australian Psychology Accreditation Council

**Date:** 5 December 2016