



APAC Accreditation Assessment Summary Report

Higher Education Provider	Deakin University, School of Psychology		
Date of determination	18 September 2015		
Standards version	June 2010 ver 10		
Programs of Study Assessed for Accreditation	Qualification Title	Campus	Mode of Delivery
	Bachelor of Psychological Science H344	Burwood, Geelong Waurm Ponds, Warrnambool	On and Off Campus
	Bachelor of Criminology/ Bachelor of Psychological Science D390	Burwood, Geelong Waurm Ponds	On Campus
	Bachelor of Nursing/ Bachelor of Psychological Science D387	Burwood, Geelong Waterfront	On Campus
	Bachelor of Health Science H300	Burwood, Geelong Waurm Ponds, Warrnambool	On Campus
	Bachelor of Arts (Psychology) A301	Burwood, Geelong Waurm Ponds, Warrnambool	On Campus
	Bachelor of Health Science/Bachelor of Arts D391	Burwood	On Campus
	Graduate Diploma of Psychology (Pre Practice) H664	Burwood, Geelong Waurm Ponds	On and Off Campus (4 th yr component on campus only)

	Bachelor of Psychology (Honours) H345	Burwood, Geelong Waurn Ponds, Geelong Waterfront, Warrnambool	On and Off Campus (4 th yr sequence on campus only)
	Bachelor of Psychological Science (Honours) H452	Burwood, Geelong Waterfront	On and Off Campus
	Bachelor of Arts (Psychology) (Honours) H451	Burwood, Geelong Waterfront	On and Off Campus
	Graduate Diploma of Psychology H650	Burwood, Geelong Waterfront	On and Off Campus
	Master of Psychology (Clinical) H750	Burwood, Geelong Waterfront	On Campus
	Master of Psychology (Organisational) H752	Burwood	On Campus
	Doctor of Psychology (Clinical) H951	Burwood	On Campus

This is a summary of the outcomes of an APAC accreditation assessment of the School of Psychology at Deakin 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.

Deakin University has an extensive enrolment of approximately 50,000 students, with one quarter of these completing their studies on-line. It has grown from its origins as a regional university of Victoria established in Geelong in 1974, to one of the largest universities in Australia, with four substantial campuses in Melbourne (Burwood), Geelong (Waterfront and Waurn Ponds), and Warrnambool. Deakin is organised into four faculties, fourteen schools, two research institutes and sixteen research centres. Psychology is located in the Faculty of Health where it is one of five schools. The School reports that it is the most productive research School in the University on the combined indices of research income, peer reviewed publications, and HDR completions. The School also reports the highest student satisfaction ratings of all Schools in the University.

The last APAC Accreditation Assessment of the School occurred in 2010. Since that time there has been considerable development in the infrastructure resources of the School with the Burwood

staff and students relocating to a newly constructed state-of-the-art building, and the development of a Cognitive Neurosciences Unit, enabling brain mapping and stimulation. Also the overall research focus for the School has been strategically redefined in terms of the human life-course, and intergenerational risk and protective factors that influence healthy social and emotional development and wellbeing. As a result the School's Research Centre for Mental Health and Wellbeing is now identified as the Centre for Social and Early Emotional Development (SEED).

The Head of School, a Deputy Head, and two Associate Heads (Research, and Teaching and Learning,) based at Burwood Campus, and one Associate Head (Rural and Remote) based at the Geelong Campus.

There is an overall appropriate level of academic staffing to meet the overall student to staff ratio of 22 to 1; for Clinical Psychology the ratio is 8 to 1; for Organisational Psychology 6.73:1.

All Standards for the Psychology Academic Organisational Unit (AOU) and academic staffing are met. However, as all accredited programs within the AOU have received a grade of Accreditation With Conditions, the AOU can only receive a grade of Accreditation With Conditions.

The School of Psychology offers undergraduate programs and fourth year programs on campus and on-line. All programs at Deakin University are designed, developed and delivered with a focus on flexibility in terms of time and place of offer, and use of technology to enable this flexibility. All students on all campuses have access to on campus staff in person or via video links or the Deakin in house email and discussion groups. There are three Deakin Learning Centres in Dandenong, Craigieburn and Werribee where students who study online can access face to face support.

Assessors were impressed with the high standards of competent use of the latest technologies by staff at all levels and their enthusiastic commitment to ongoing unit development.

All units in all program offerings across all modes of delivery have the same content, performance and assessment requirements. Comparability of student performance outcomes is assessed by analyses of grades across mode of study and the campuses. These analyses demonstrated equivalent standards. Standards for multi-campus institutions are met.

The School of Psychology at Deakin University has an impressive modern work environment of offices, teaching/meeting rooms, common meeting and cafe spaces for staff and students, laboratories, computer workstations, and AV/IT equipment. Assessors noted the positive and engaged relationship between administrative and technical staff, and the academics resulting in an energetic productive climate for the whole School on all campuses. There are test libraries on the Burwood and Geelong Waterfront Campuses that are managed by appropriate procedures and staff. Resources Standards are met.

All undergraduate (three year sequence) units are offered on-campus, on-line (off-campus) and mixed mode delivery. All programs are resourced to the same extent and students can select the learning opportunity that best suits their needs. All lectures are live streamed, recorded and uploaded to D2L, interactive tutorials are conducted in real time, with students asking questions, and there are discussion forums and opportunities for students to interact with fellow students

and staff.

Formative assessment is highly regarded by Deakin University and students are exposed to very regular assessments and quizzes. Through CloudDeakin, unit chairs can monitor student attendance, student interaction with the resources, monitor their progress through the unit (i.e., make sure they are keeping up and on track) and assess their knowledge and understanding of the content. All assessments are the same, regardless of the mode of delivery of the unit.

Students overall were very positive about their learning experiences whether they studied online or on campus, and all took advantage of the flexibility that the system provides to engage in face to face and electronically assisted engagement. Students are able to provide feedback through representation on advisory boards, at undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

All components of the Standard for teaching materials and methods are met.

Three year sequence programs of study

There is a 10 unit core sequence which is embedded in all programs for which accreditation was sought, and the Standards for 3-year programs were assessed on the basis of this sequence. The Bachelor of Psychological Science has two core units in addition to the 10 unit sequence.

All 3-year programs contain the required number of psychology credits per year; at least 25% first, 50% second and 50% third year. There are a number of electives available to students covering a diversity of subjects relevant to their interests.

The program content was evaluated through the information provided in the accreditation application, the unit outlines and careful evaluation of the mapping of the graduate attributes. All six graduate attributes were covered at various points in the sequence. The attributes formed part of both the teaching program and in the assessments. While all core topics were covered the assessors could not find evidence that topics pertaining to Graduate Attribute 1: Learning and Intercultural diversity and indigenous psychology were covered adequately (Standard 3.1.7).

The School has chosen to structure its undergraduate offerings to address the interests and academic needs of students who are likely to apply to post-graduate courses, and those who will exit the university to enter the employment market. Two “streams” have been identified: a “Scientist-Practitioner” and a “Work-Ready” stream. The School is to be commended for its leadership in addressing nationally held concerns for the employability of 3-year trained psychology graduates.

The School has extensive monitoring processes to assure the timeliness, content, quality of marking, and feedback of assessments across all campuses and modes of offer. Assessment includes lab reports, essays, literature reviews, reflective journals, formative on-line quizzes and formal exams.

The undergraduate 3-year programs received a grade of Accreditation With Conditions as Standard 3.1.7 was not fully met.

Fourth year programs of study

All 4 fourth year programs have the same fourth year curriculum and are taught in a single cohort over two campuses, Burwood and Geelong Waterfront. The Graduate Diploma of Psychology is undertaken by undergraduate students from Deakin who did not acquire a place in the fourth year Honours program, as well as for students who completed a an APAC approved 3 year program in another university. Students in the Graduate Diploma program are treated the same as the Honours students. They sit in the same classes, have the same assessments, and complete the same thesis procedures for selection of supervisor, topic, supervision, write-up and assessment.

Assessors were concerned regarding the adequacy of coverage of Graduate Attribute 1: Intercultural diversity and indigenous psychology. Standard 4.1.4 is not met with regard to this Graduate Attribute.

Inspected theses represent projects appropriate in scope and were given an acceptable grade. A report on the benchmarking of theses showed acceptable grade profiles.

The stand-alone fourth year programs received a grade of Accreditation With Conditions as Standard 4.1.4 is not fully met.

Four year sequence program of study

The four year sequence program is offered through the Bachelor of Psychology (Honours). It contains the accredited 10 unit three year sequence and the Honours units at 4th year. The same conditions that were discussed above in relation to the 10 unit sequence and 4th year apply to the four year program.

The four year sequence program received a grade of Accreditation With Conditions as Standards 3.1.7 and 4.1.4 are not fully met.

Four year integrated bridging program of study

For the first time, in 2015, Deakin University is offering an integrated bridging program combining the core accredited units of the three year undergraduate program and the fourth year, the Graduate Diploma of Psychology (Pre-Practice).

While this program meets the programs structure required in Standard 4.3 it does not meet the nomenclature specified in Standard 2.3.5. The June 2010 Standards, require a program with this structure to hold a generic Masters title. As all qualifications from 1 January 2015 are required to be AQF compliant, the Graduate Diploma of Psychology (Pre-Practice) meets the AQF nomenclature specifications of a level 8 qualification.

Students entering the Graduate Diploma of Psychology (Pre-Practice) are required to have completed a conferred bachelors degree and two pre-requisite first year units HPS111 Psychology A: Fundamentals of Human Behaviour and HPS121 Psychology B: Individual and social Development or the equivalent first year units from another APAC accredited undergraduate program.

For the Graduate Diploma of Psychology (Pre-Practice) to meet the entry requirements of Standard 4.1.1 (fourth-year) students not meeting these entry requirements will exit with an accredited Bachelors degree having received advance standing for the elective components of that degree. All comments above for the three-year sequence and the fourth year also apply to this program.

The Graduate Diploma of Psychology (Pre-Practice) received the grade of Accreditation With Conditions as Standards 3-1-7 and 4.1.4 are not fully met and Standard 2.3.5 is not met.

Fifth and sixth year programs of professional education

The School of Psychology offers a Master of Psychology (Clinical) on the Burwood and Geelong Waterfront Campuses, and a Master of Psychology (Organisational) and Doctorate of Psychology (Clinical) on the Burwood Campus.

As indicated above both clinical and organisational postgraduate programs meet the required student to staff ratio Standards. All postgraduate programs have a considerable number of experienced psychologists as placement supervisors who hold Area of Practice Endorsement in the related area.

There is a properly constituted Advisory/Liaison and Quality Review Committee for each of the clinical and organisational programs.

Master of Psychology (Organisational)

The Master of Psychology (Organisational) receives more than 100 applications for the program each year and 17 students (16 domestic and 1 international) students are admitted into the program each year.

There is sufficient space for the Organisational Psychology students, who each have access to a computer and a very pleasant Masters work room in the psychology building. There are rooms for developing skills with video and audio recording equipment, as well as a well-resourced test library, and access to software and electronic journals. The program meets resources, credit for previous study, entry and selection of students and length of course Standards.

Based on the application, the material seen on the visit and interviews with staff, students and supervisors, the program covers the required core capabilities apart from sufficient coverage of diversity and cultural issues (5.1.12 a, b, c and f). The core capabilities are assessed thoroughly with a mix of observation, exams, written assignments and projects. With regard to course structure, the program consists of nine coursework units (48%), four research units culminating

in a dissertation (22%) and three practicums (30%) meeting the Standard.

Students undertake 3 placements in a variety of organisations. Assessors reviewed unit profiles, examples of assessed work via DeakinCloud and viewed hard copies of supervision contracts, log books and field supervisor CV's. This documentation was excellent. Assessors met with field supervisors who have all supervised a number of students at Deakin and at other universities. The feedback on the program was very positive.

The Master of Psychology (Organisational) received a grade of Accreditation With Conditions as Standards 5.1.12 and 5.3.9 (a) are not fully met.

Master of Psychology (Clinical) and Doctor of Psychology (Clinical)

The Master of Psychology (Clinical) and Doctor of Psychology (Clinical) each admit 10 students into the programs each year.

Clinical students, each have access to a computer and a meeting room on the Geelong Waterfront Campus, which also serves as a seminar room. As students spend time on both campuses, the Masters students have access to "hot-desk" and meeting rooms at Burwood. There are rooms for developing assessment, interviewing and therapeutic skills with video and audio recording equipment, as well as a well-resourced test library, and access to software and electronic journals. The clinical masters program meets resources, credit for previous study, entry and selection of students and length of course Standards.

The program is structured such that there is a sequence of coursework and placement that provide progressive development of competency. Based on the accreditation application, the material seen on the visit, and interviews with staff, students and supervisors, the assessors concluded that the program covers the required core capabilities apart from sufficient coverage of diversity and cultural issues (5.1.12 a, b, c and f). Standard 5.3.9 (a) is therefore also not met.

Students must meet a clearly defined standard before they can commence their placement, and are required to continue their skill development and are re-assessed if they do not. Within all of the clinical units students have access to some 100 clinical simulations to practice and assess their skills. The years of commitment from the clinical staff in the creation of these quality simulations has been acknowledged by award of the Victorian Government 2014 "People in Health – Metropolitan Educators Award" for outstanding contribution to the training and development of current and future health workers. In addition to OSCEs the core capabilities are assessed thoroughly with a mix of observation, exams, written assignments and projects. Course structure and most coursework Standards are met with the exception of Standard 5.3.9(a).

Standards relating to research are also met. Assessors noted the opportunities for a high level of neuroscience research applied to clinical issues that is afforded students through the cognitive and neuroscience laboratories, and well as the psychosocial inquiry provided through well-established longitudinal projects such as the Australian Temperament Study.

Standards relating to practical placements are also satisfied. Students undertake three placements in a variety of clinical settings. Students' progression in meeting the required

practice competencies is carefully monitored to ensure comprehensive coverage prior to passing the final placement. Assessors reviewed unit profiles, examples of assessed work via DeakinCloud and viewed hard copies of supervision contracts, log books and field supervisor CV's. This documentation was excellent.

Assessors met with supervisors across a broad range of 1st, 2nd and 3rd placements. They all commented that compared to students from other universities, the Deakin University students are well prepared and confident to engage and initiate across challenging and confronting clientele. Students noted how much they were enjoying the integration of the Masters and Doctoral coursework lectures and workshops that had just commenced this year. There were no objections to the travel between campuses.

The Master of Psychology (Clinical) received a grade of Accreditation With Conditions as Standard 5.1.12 and Standards 5.3.9 (a) are not fully met.

Professional Doctorates - Doctor of Psychology (Clinical)

The Doctor of Psychology (Clinical) program is offered full time over 4 years on campus at Burwood, with completion of the thesis the primary focus in the fourth year. It is an HDR program. In addition to the coursework and placement sequence of the Masters program, Doctoral students complete an advanced unit in Psychological Intervention (Family Therapy), and a 4th and 5th advanced placement requiring more professional autonomy and independence, and a 4th case study. The research component culminates in a thesis equivalent in conceptual complexity to a PhD, but of lesser scope, as well as a Portfolio of de-identified Case Studies from placements that are presented as a critical appraisal of relevant literature and research across a particular theme. Course length and structure Standards are met.

All comments regarding the quality of materials, clinical experiences and thorough assessment of competencies described for the Masters program apply similarly to the Doctor of Psychology program.

Graduates from an APAC accredited Clinical Masters Degree are eligible to apply for the Doctor of Psychology (Clinical) Program. However the candidate is required to complete a new thesis equivalent to the standard of the Doctor of Psychology (Clinical), and the additional unit and two placements. Credit is granted only for those units where it can be demonstrated that the content and assessment are comparable to the content and depth of study in the Doctor of Psychology (Clinical) units. These must have been taken in the last 5 years. At least 18 months of full time study is required.

The Doctor of Psychology (Clinical) received a grade of Accreditation With Conditions as Standard 5.1.12 and Standards 5.3.9 (a) are not fully met.

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 the Higher Education Provider: Deakin University, School of Psychology

Date of Site Visit: 12-15 May 2015

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 Programs 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 Programs 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	✓		



Four Year Sequence Program of Study	Standard Number	Satisfied	Not Yet Satisfied	N/A
Program of Study Structure	3.1.2-5 /4.1.3	✓		
Program of Study Content (Years 1 - 4)	3.1.6-7 /4.1.4-7		✓	
Research Methods and Professional and Research Ethics	4.1.8	✓		
Research Project	4.1.9-15	✓		
Assessment	3.1.11-16 /4.1.16-17	✓		
Assessment of 4 th Year Research Project	4.1.18-20	✓		
Awarding of Credit or Advance Standing	3.1.17-19	✓		

Four Year Integrated Bridging Sequence Program of Study	Standard Number	Satisfied	Not Yet Satisfied	N/A
Program of Study Structure	3.1.2-5 /4.1.3	✓		
Program of Study Content (Years 1 - 4)	3.1.6-7 /4.1.4-7		✓	
Research Methods and Professional and Research Ethics	4.1.8	✓		
Research Project	4.1.9-15	✓		
Assessment of 4 th Year Research Project	3.1.11-16 /4.1.16-17	✓		
Awarding of Credit or Advance Standing	3.1.17-19	✓		

Fifth and Sixth Year Masters Program of Study - Clinical Psychology	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	✓		

Fifth and Sixth Year Masters Program of Study Organisational Psychology	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	✓		

Professional Doctorate Programs of Study – Clinical Psychology	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	5.1.9-12	✓		
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	5.1.12(c)		✓	



Assessment & Measurement				
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	5.4.1	✓		
Program of Study Structure	5.4.2-5	✓		
Coursework	5.3.9-10	✓	✓	
Research	5.4.6-11	✓		
Practical Placements	5.3.17-30	✓		

Comments: Four Year Integrated Bridging Sequence Program of Study – Graduate Diploma in Psychology (Pre-Practice)

Until APAC Standard 2.3.5 (June 2010) aligns with the current AQF specifications the program of study can only obtain a grade of Accreditation With Conditions.

Authorised:

Professor John Dunn
Chair, Australian Psychology Accreditation Council

Date: 18 September 2015