



## University of Tasmania - APAC Accreditation Assessment Summary Report

<b>Higher education provider</b>	University of Tasmania
<b>Name of the Psychology AOU</b>	Division of Psychology, School of Medicine
<b>Standards version</b>	Version 1.2, 1 January 2019
<b>Purpose of assessment</b>	Out of cycle assessment of new Level 1 programs
<b>Assessment type and year</b>	On-Paper Assessment in 2019
<b>Date of APAC Board Determination</b>	19 August 2019
<b>Accreditation start date</b>	19 August 2019
<b>Accreditation end date</b>	31 December 2021
<b>Program and level of study assessed</b>	Bachelor of Psychological Science (53F) (Level 1) Bachelor of Arts (A3A) (Level 1) Bachelor of Science (P3O) (Level 1) Bachelor of Psychological Science and Bachelor of Laws (63Y) (Level 1)
<b>Campus</b>	Hobart and Launceston



## Background and overview

This is a report of an Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC) accreditation assessment made following an application by the University of Tasmania for accreditation of the above listed Level 1 programs in an out-of-cycle assessment. This assessment is in the form of an on-paper assessment based solely on the *Application Form for Accreditation*.

In line with changes in the university's aims, four new undergraduate psychology programs have been developed all of which contain the same psychology sequence for which accreditation is sought. These programs replace the currently accredited Level 1 programs. The proposed psychology sequence is based on the existing accredited sequence but has been updated to meet the Level 1 competency requirements of the 2019 Accreditation Standards and to provide a more 'student-centred model of teaching'.

While the application was very comprehensive, unfortunately the specific details relating to the contents of the proposed psychology sequence and how it fits into the programs listed above, were not clearly spelt out. (It is acknowledged that this is probably because the form does not request that specific information.) The application stated that the new psychology sequence consists of 11 units of study, whereas the program website indicated 12 units. The rejoinder to the draft report indicated that the information on the website was incorrect. Evidence was provided to show that the error had been corrected and that the website now accurately describes the specific requirements to complete an accredited psychology sequence.



## Key findings

Based on the information provided for the 11 units contained in the application, the curriculum appears to adequately cover the Level 1 Foundational Competencies, with appropriate assessment tools and strategies.

There was a condition relating to staffing for the Level 1 programs at the Launceston campus. Since the commencement of new staff at Level B position in May 2019, the staffing condition is no longer applicable for the new programs.

Appropriate policies and procedures were submitted to APAC regarding public safety, academic governance, student experience and assessment. These apply to all programs offered by the University of Tasmania.

Based on the information provided, the proposed Level 1 psychology sequence meets all the *Accreditation Standards for Psychology Programs (2019 v 1.2)* and therefore the recommendation is for the program to be Accredited Without Conditions. It should be noted that this program will be fully assessed again in 2021 during the five-year cyclic assessment of psychology programs at the University of Tasmania.

## APAC Board determination

That the following University of Tasmania's programs are accredited without conditions from **19 August 2019** to **31 December 2021**:

- **Bachelor of Psychological Science (53F)** (Level 1) (Campus: Hobart, Launceston)
- **Bachelor of Arts (A3A)** (Level 1) (Campus: Hobart, Launceston)
- **Bachelor of Science (P3O)** (Level 1) (Campus: Hobart, Launceston)
- **Bachelor of Psychological Science and Bachelor of Laws (63Y)** (Level 1) (Campus: Hobart, Launceston)



Table 1: Summary of findings regarding each criterion for each Standard

Domain 1: Public safety	<b>Standard Statement 1: Public safety is assured</b>
	<b>Level 1</b> Standard is met
Domain 2: Academic governance and quality assurance	<b>Standard Statement 2: Academic governance and quality assurance processes are effective</b>
	<b>Level 1</b> Standard is met
Domain 3: Program of study	<b>Standard Statement 3: Program of study, design, delivery and resourcing enable students to achieve the required graduate competencies</b>
	<b>Level 1</b> Standard is met
Domain 4: The student experience	<b>Standard Statement 4: Students are provided with equitable and timely access to information and support</b>
	<b>Level 1</b> Standard is met
Domain 5: Assessment	<b>Standard Statement 5: Assessment is fair, reliable and valid</b>
	<b>Level 1</b> Standard is met



## Commendation

Despite the lack of specific information on the psychology sequence, the Division of Psychology is commended on the quality and thoroughness of its application, and especially the use of MyLo to present the information. With updating and more specific information about programs, it will be a good basis for the 2020 accreditation application.

## Suggestion

It would be very helpful if there was a specific webpage for the Division of Psychology which showed the psychology staff as well as other relevant psychology information.