



Murdoch University - APAC Accreditation Assessment Report

Higher education provider	Murdoch University
Name of the Psychology AOU	Discipline of Psychology
Standards version	Version 1.2, 1 January 2019
Purpose of assessment	Out of cycle assessment of a new program
Programs and level of study assessed	Graduate Diploma in Psychology (Level 2)
Campus	Singapore
Date of review	January 2020
Date of APAC Board Determination	25 May 2020
Accreditation start date	1 January 2020
Accreditation end date	31 December 2021



Background and overview

This is a report of an Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC) accreditation assessment made following an application by Murdoch University for the accreditation of the above listed Level 2 program 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*.

Murdoch University currently provide the Graduate Diploma of Psychology at their Perth Campus. The program is accredited without conditions (albeit against the 2010 APAC standards). The proposed Singapore program makes use of the same content, and the intention is for the Perth program staff to provide mentoring and moderation support to the Singapore staff.

The proposed program is to be taught at the Kaplan Higher Education Academy (Wilkie Rd) campus. This site was visited in 2017 as part of the accreditation of their Bachelor of Arts program. No concerns with the physical resources, teaching environments or support services were noted at that time.



Key findings

The Graduate Diploma of Psychology appears to be a strong program, modelled on the currently accredited Perth campus program, with only a small number of issues noted. It was noted that of the 2 staff assigned to the program, both have minimal teaching experience. One member of staff teaches four of the five units (although one of these is a seminar series with video-based input from other staff).

Several issues stemmed from the lack of assessment of demonstrated student skills in relation to Graduate competency 2.2 (Demonstrate appropriate interpersonal communication and interview skills in situations appropriate to psychological practice and research. This includes active listening, clarifying and reflecting, effective questioning, summarising and paraphrasing, developing rapport, appropriate cultural responsiveness and empathic responding). Following feedback, the HEP has agreed to address this by introducing a new videoed role-play assessment piece into their existing Practical Skills unit.



APAC Board Determination

That Murdoch University's **Graduate Diploma in Psychology** (Level 2) (Campus: Singapore) program is accredited from **1 January 2020** until **31 December 2021**, subject to the following condition:

1. To ensure Standard 3 Program of study, criteria 3.2 and 3.7 and Standard 5 Assessment, criterion 5.1 are met, the Discipline must provide APAC evidence of appropriate assessment of students' ability to demonstrate some of the practical skills listed in pre-professional competency 2.2 (e.g. listening, clarifying, reflecting, questioning and rapport building) by **30 June 2020**.



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

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