



UNSW
SYDNEY

Faculty of Science
School of Psychology

STUDENT GUIDE

SCHOOL OF PSYCHOLOGY CONTACTS AND ENQUIRIES

Mailing Address

School of Psychology
Faculty of Science
UNSW Sydney NSW 2052

School Office/Enquiries

Level 15, Mathews Building
Phone: (02) 9385 3041
Ask a Question [here](#)
Access webforms [here](#)
<https://www.unsw.edu.au/science/our-schools/psychology>

Head of School

Professor Simon Killcross
Level 16, Mathews Building
PHONE: (02) 9385 3034
EMAIL: skillcross@psy.unsw.edu.au

First Year Enquiries

Danny Chen
Level 15, Mathews Building
PHONE: (02) 9385 3024
EMAIL: d.chen@unsw.edu.au

Honours & Postgraduate Enquiries

Samuel Chu
Level 15, Mathews Building
PHONE: (02) 9065 5753
EMAIL: samuel.chu@unsw.edu.au

Online Graduate Program Enquiries

Deliana Freky
Level 15, Mathews Building
EMAIL: psychonline@unsw.edu.au

Fourth Year (Honours) Convenors

Associate Professor Nathan Holmes
Room 909, Mathews Building
Dr Miriam Matamales
Room 404, Mathews Building
EMAIL: honours.psychology@unsw.edu.au

SONA Enquiries

Linda Camilleri
Level 16, Mathews Building
PHONE: (02) 9385 3034
EMAIL: l.camilleri@unsw.edu.au

Director of Undergraduate Programs

Dr Stephanie Roughley
Room 915, Mathews Building
EMAIL: stephanie.kelly@unsw.edu.au

Postgraduate Research Coordinators

Associate Professor Bronwyn Graham
Room 1302, Mathews Building
EMAIL: bgraham@psy.unsw.edu.au

Associate Professor Vincent Laurent
Room 510, Mathews Building
EMAIL: v.laurent@unsw.edu.au

Dr Christin Schulze
Room 712, Mathews Building
EMAIL: c.schulze@unsw.edu.au

Master of Psychology (Clinical) Program Director

Dr Chien Hoong Gooi
Level 8, Mathews Building
EMAIL: c.gooi@unsw.edu.au

Master of Psychology (Forensic) Program Director

Anita McGregor
EMAIL: amcgregor@unsw.edu.au

Master of Clinical Neuropsychology Program Director

Professor Skye McDonald
Room 1011, Mathews Building
EMAIL: s.mcdonald@unsw.edu.au

Graduate Diploma in Psychology Program Director

Dr Lidija Krebs-Lazendic
Room 915, Mathews Building
EMAIL: l.krebs-lazendic@unsw.edu.au

Grad Cert in Child Development Program Director

Dr Stephanie Roughley
Room 915, Mathews Building
EMAIL: stephanie.kelly@unsw.edu.au

Grievance Officer

Professor Peter Lovibond
Room 914, Mathews Building
PHONE: (02) 9385 3830
EMAIL: p.lovibond@unsw.edu.au

INFORMATION FOR COURSEWORK STUDENTS

Welcome to your Psychology course! This document contains School policies and procedures relevant for all students enrolled in undergraduate and Masters psychology courses. These policies and procedures have been formulated in accordance with the [Australian Psychology Accreditation Council \(APAC\) Accreditation Standards](#) as well as with University policies and procedures. Please familiarise yourself with the information contained in this document. For course-specific information make sure to regularly check your UNSW email and the course Moodle page for announcements and updates.

Online graduate programs including the Graduate Diploma in Psychology program (5331) and Graduate Certificate in Child Development (7419) are delivered via the post-graduate online Hexamester calendar to allow for a more flexible program structure. Key dates and some policies for these programs may be different than those applicable to students enrolled in standard programs using the standard academic calendar. Students enrolled in the Graduate Diploma in Psychology or Grad Cert Child Development should refer to the program guide documents and the program information available in the Graduate Diploma in Psychology or Graduate Certificate in Child Development sections of the [School of Psychology](#) website. Please contact psychonline@unsw.edu.au with any enquiries relating to these programs.

TIMETABLES

The 2025 Class Timetable is available [here](#). Postgraduate students should also refer to Moodle, and their Course Outlines, as some classes are not centrally timetabled (e.g., workshops) and will not appear on the timetable website.

UNDERGRADUATE ENROLMENT AND PROGRESSION

It is each student's responsibility to ensure that you are following the rules of your degree program and that you are enrolled in appropriate courses for your program. We advise that you consult the [University Handbook](#) each term to make sure that you are on track. You should refer to the edition for the year you commenced your degree program. For example, if you commenced your degree program in 2017, you should refer to the 2017 edition. Program information and sample plans can also be found on either the [School website](#) (up to 2021) or [Faculty website](#) (from 2023). Please note that it is your responsibility to make sure you are enrolled correctly by the relevant [enrolment deadline](#). Beyond these deadlines it will not be possible to Add or Swap Courses for that term.

2025 Enrolment Deadlines:

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
Sunday, 23 February 2025	Sunday, 8 June 2025	Sunday, 21 September 2025

How to Add, Drop and Swap Courses

See the Step-by-Step Enrolment [Guides](#).

Swapping Tutorial times

To swap tutorial classes within a course, please follow the Guide above. It is not possible to swap your tutorial time beyond the relevant deadline.

2025 Tutorial Swap Deadlines:

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
Sunday, 23 February 2025	Sunday, 8 June 2025	Sunday, 21 September 2025

TIMETABLE CLASHES

If you cannot enrol in a course due to a timetable clash, you should complete the electronic [Timetable Clash Enrolment form](#).

The School Office cannot process requests to override timetable clashes without a completed Timetable Clash Enrolment form.

WITHDRAWING FROM A COURSE

You can drop courses via myUNSW until the last day of the Teaching Period (inclusive). The Teaching Period dates can be found on the [Academic Calendar](#). There are implications for your financial liability and/or academic record, depending on when you drop a course.

On or before the Census Date

The Census Date is the last day to drop a course without having to pay the tuition fee or HECS/FEE-HELP contribution.

If you drop a course on or before the Census Date:

- You will **not** be financially liable for the course.
- The course will **not** appear on your transcript.
- The course will **not** be included in the calculation of your Weighted Average Mark (WAM).
- The course will **not** be included in the calculation of your academic standing.

2025 Census Dates:

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
Thursday, 13 March 2025	Thursday, 26 June 2025	Thursday, 9 October 2025

On or before the deadline to drop a course without academic penalty

If you drop a course on or before the last day to drop a course without academic penalty, but after the Census Date:

- You **will** be financially liable for the course.
- The course will **not** appear on your transcript.
- The course will **not** be included in the calculation of your WAM.
- The course will **not** be included in the calculation of your academic standing.

2025 Last Day to Drop a Course Without Academic Penalty:

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
Sunday, 30 March 2025	Sunday, 13 July 2025	Sunday, 26 October 2025

After the deadline to drop a course without academic penalty

If you drop a course after the last day to drop a course with academic penalty:

- You **will** be financially liable for the course.
- The course **will** appear on your transcript with a grade of AW (Academic Withdrawal).
- The course will **not** be included in the calculation of your WAM.
- The course **will** be included in the calculation of your academic standing as units of credit attempted but not passed.

2025 Last Day to Drop a Course With Academic Penalty:

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
Thursday, 24 April 2025	Friday, 8 August 2025	Friday, 21 November 2025

After the last day of the Teaching Period

You will not be able to drop courses via myUNSW after the last day of the Teaching Period. You will be assigned the final mark and grade awarded to you by the School.

Special Circumstances

In defined special circumstances, you can [apply](#) for [Fee Remission](#). If successful:

- You will **not** be financially liable for the course.
- The course **will** appear on your transcript with a grade of PW (Permitted Withdrawal).
- The course will **not** be included in the calculation of your WAM.
- The course **will** be included in the calculation of your academic standing as units of credit attempted but not passed.

COURSE ADMINISTRATION

All courses are governed in accordance with UNSW policies and procedures, and the majority of course administration is carried out at the university level rather than by individual course coordinators. If you have an administrative issue, your first step should be to consult UNSW-wide resources. The [Nucleus Student Hub](#) and [Web Form Portal](#) are great places to start for general information and enquiries.

ATTENDANCE

Students are required to attend at least 80% of tutorial / lab classes in a course and be punctual in attendance at all lectures and tutorial / lab classes. Tutorial attendance is required to ensure students are consistently working towards achieving the foundational graduate competencies required by the APAC Accreditation Standards. These Accreditation Standards are incorporated in Program and Course Learning Outcomes. Attendance is monitored for tutorials and labs and may be monitored for lectures. You should make sure your name has been marked on the class roll for each class you attend. Explanations for an occasional absence from a tutorial/lab class or requests for permission to be absent from a class should be discussed with the lecturer / tutor, and where applicable, accompanied by a medical certificate.

MOODLE – ONLINE COURSE CONTENT

Most Psychology courses have an online component offered through Moodle, which can be accessed via myUNSW. Course Moodle sites are made available to students enrolled in the course the **week before** the start of each Term. Check with your Course Convenor if your course is not listed on Moodle once the Term has commenced. It is your responsibility to stay up-to-date with course updates and announcements communicated via the Moodle page and your UNSW email.

COURSE ASSESSMENTS

Students are expected to complete all assessment tasks for a course except for those specifically identified as optional. For each course, check the Course Outline and make sure you are clear about what assessment tasks are required and when the deadline is for each.

(i) Individual Written Assignments

Submission

Students are required to submit an electronic copy of their assignment to the School via the course Moodle site. In most cases, the electronic version of the assignment should be submitted through the Turnitin link on Moodle for plagiarism checking. Check your Course Outline for instruction regarding online submission.

The School takes no responsibility for assignments submitted in ways other than specified above. While individual Course Convenors may occasionally arrange for assignments to be emailed to them, ***under no circumstances*** will assignments emailed or faxed to the School be accepted.

Late Penalty

In accordance with the [UNSW Assessment Implementation Procedure](#), failure to meet the submission deadline (“the initial deadline”) will attract a penalty. Unless an extended deadline has been granted, if an assignment is submitted late, but within five days (120 hours) of the initial deadline, 5% of the maximum possible mark for that assignment will be deducted for each day (including weekend days) it is overdue. For example, if an assignment is worth 100 marks, you will automatically lose five marks ($100 \times 0.05 = 5$) for each day it is late. If you submit the assignment three days after the initial deadline, a penalty of 15 marks will be deducted.

Students can submit an assessment late, incurring the late penalty, until the “overdue submission deadline”. The overdue submission deadline is five days (120 hours) after the initial deadline. Any assessment submitted after the overdue submission deadline will not be marked and will result in a mark of zero for the assessment. In determining whether an assignment is overdue, the date it was submitted online via Moodle will be used. Assignments submitted late may not receive detailed feedback from markers. Students are expected to manage their time to meet deadlines and to request extensions as early as possible before the deadline.

Request to Waive Late Penalty via Special Consideration

If circumstances outside a student’s control have impacted their ability to submit an assessment before the initial deadline, they may apply to have the late penalty waived, via Special Consideration through [The Nucleus: Student Hub](#) (see “Special Consideration” below for details). If Special Consideration is granted, an extension up to a maximum of 10 working days past the initial deadline may be provided.

Under these circumstances an “absolute fail deadline” applies. Under no circumstances will an extension be given beyond when marks and feedback on the assessment are provided to students (10 working days from the initial deadline). Neglecting to submit an assignment by the absolute fail deadline will result in a mark of 0 for the assignment.

Request to Waive Late Penalty via Equitable Learning Plan

If a student is registered with UNSW Equitable Learning Services (ELS), and an Equitable Learning Plan (ELP) authorises extensions for assignment submission, you do not need to apply for Special Consideration irrespective of the weight of the assignment. Instead, you are required to email the Course Convenor **at least one week prior to the assessment deadline to request an extension**—unless the ELP specifically stipulates that you are not required to do so. If you do not follow the requirements indicated in your ELP, you may not be granted any adjustments. If your ELP does not include an authorisation for late submission, the same rules that apply to other students will apply to you (see “Special Consideration” below).

Under these circumstances an absolute fail deadline applies. Under no circumstances will an extension be given beyond when marks and feedback on the assessment have been provided to students (10 working days from the initial deadline). Neglecting to submit an assignment by the absolute fail deadline will result in a mark of 0 for the assignment, unless Special Consideration has been granted to undertake a supplementary assessment (see “Special Consideration” and “Supplementary Assessment” below). Note that the form of supplementary assessment may not

be identical to the original assessment but will assess the same learning outcomes. Moreover, the timing and conditions of the supplementary assessment may differ from the standard assessment and will be determined by the Course Convenor, or by the Director of Undergraduate Programs. If a supplementary assessment is granted an extension up to a maximum of 10 working days past the absolute fail deadline may be provided. No further extensions beyond this point will be granted.

(ii) Group Work

No extensions will be granted for group work.

ELS-registered students who require educational adjustments with respect to group work should discuss their specific needs with their Course Convenor within one week of receiving their ELP and no later than the end of Week 1. We will do our best to accommodate these needs in accordance with the ELP, however it should be noted that APAC standards involve the demonstration of interpersonal and teamwork skills, which is often what is being assessed during group work.

(iii) Exams Other Than Final Exams

“Exams other than final exams” include but are not limited to mid-term exams and quizzes. It is students’ responsibility to check the Course Outline for the dates of, and make themselves available for, these exams.

If you miss one of these exams due to unexpected short-term illness, misadventure, or other circumstances beyond your control and wish to sit a supplementary exam, you will need to apply for Special Consideration through The Nucleus: Student Hub. **Students registered with Equitable Learning Services are no exception.**

Note, Supplementary Exams are not always possible for mid-term exams and quizzes. If this is the case and your Special Consideration application is approved an alternative arrangement will be implemented at the discretion of the Course Convenor. If a Supplementary Exam is possible this will be held at a time specified by the Course Convenor.

(iv) Final Exams

Final written exams for each course will be held during the University exam period. **All students are expected to be available during the entire exam period, including the Supplementary Exam Period.** It is important that you do not make commitments during these periods, including travel, that will prevent you from sitting an exam or supplementary exam. The University exam timetable is determined centrally, not by the School, and students can access their own [exam timetables](#) via myUNSW.

2025 Examination Periods:

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
Standard Exam Period	2 May 2025 to 15 May 2025	15 Aug 2025 to 28 Aug 2025	28 Nov 2025 to 11 Dec 2025
Supplementary Exam Period	26 May 2025 to 30 May 2025	8 Sep 2025 to 12 Sep 2025	5 Jan 2026 to 9 Jan 2026

Special Arrangements for Final Exams

The School is unable to make individual arrangements with students regarding the scheduling of a final exam. If you are unable to attend a final exam for religious reasons, you may request alternative exam arrangements by applying for [Special Consideration](#). Your request for an alternative examination must be submitted no later than two weeks after the release of the final exam timetable.

Students registered with Equitable Learning Services (ELS), in certain circumstances, may be eligible for alternative provisions for formal end-of-term exams (i.e., those run by UNSW Exams). These provisions must be arranged with ELS, who will liaise with the Examinations Team. If you believe you may need special provisions for final exams, you should discuss your needs with an ELS Equitable Learning Advisor (via els@unsw.edu.au, 8374 9201, or [virtual drop-in appointment](#)).

If you miss a final exam due to unexpected short-term illness, misadventure, or other circumstances beyond your control, you may be eligible for a supplementary exam after a successful application for Special Consideration. **Students registered with Equitable Learning Services are no exception.** See “Supplementary Exams” and “Special Consideration” below for details.

SUPPLEMENTARY ASSESSMENT

A supplementary assessment is an additional assessment that may be provided to a student who, due to extenuating special circumstances, was unable to complete an initial assessment and has a Special Consideration application approved. The form of supplementary assessment may not be identical to the original assessment but will assess the same learning outcomes. Moreover, the timing and conditions of the supplementary assessment may differ from the standard assessment and will be determined by the Course Convenor, or by the Director of Undergraduate Program.

For students in the final term of their program who have failed an assessment task, one supplementary assessment will be offered in cases where passing the task would result in passing the course and completing the program. For such cases, in the absence of Special Consideration, the mark awarded for the supplementary assessment will be capped at 50% of the value of the assessment task.

A supplementary exam is one type of supplementary assessment. For further information regarding supplementary exams, see “Supplementary Exams” below.

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMS

A [supplementary exam](#) may be given to students who:

- (a) Are absent from the initial exam due to unexpected short-term illness, misadventure, or circumstances beyond their control and who successfully apply for Special Consideration; or
- (b) Are in the final term of their program and for whom a pass mark would enable successful completion of their degree program.

Where students sit a supplementary exam under circumstances (b) above, the final mark *for the course* will be capped at 50%.

A supplementary exam opportunity for each Psychology course will be offered only once.

Supplementary exams typically occur within a fortnight of the conclusion of the standard exam period (except for Term 3 supplementary exams, which typically occur in early January of the following year). Refer to [Key Dates for Exams](#) or the table on the previous page for details. Students who successfully apply for Special Consideration to sit a supplementary exam will be emailed approval by the Case Review team. Students will be able to see their supplementary exam timetable on myUNSW seven (7) days prior to their exam.

Students can expect the supplementary exam to be of the same degree of difficulty as the original. Supplementary exam materials may be in a different format from the original (e.g., short answer instead of multiple-choice questions, or an oral exam instead of written exam). In addition, the original and supplementary exam materials may also differ in the specific content, although, overall, both will be sampled from the same relevant course material.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATION

If you find that unexpected short-term illness, misadventure, or other circumstances beyond your control may prevent you from completing a course requirement or attending classes, or may significantly affect your performance in assessable work, you can apply for [Special Consideration](#).

Students enrolled in a School of Psychology course should make a Special Consideration application relating to an assessment task **regardless of the weighting** given to this assessment task. Except in unusual circumstances, the duration of circumstances impacting academic work must be more than 3 consecutive days, or a total of 5 days within the teaching period.

Students should also note that UNSW has a **Fit to Sit** rule for all exams – see Section 1.3 of the UNSW Application and Assessment Information document available [here](#) (under the heading “Check the Timeframe to Submit In Fit to Sit Policy”). If a student wishes to apply for Special Consideration for an exam, the application must be submitted prior to the start of the exam. If a student sits the exam, they are declaring themselves well enough to do so and are unable to subsequently apply for Special Consideration (unless it is clear that the student was unfit to make reasonable judgement on their fitness to undertake the exam due to mental illness or other extenuating circumstances). If a student becomes ill on the day of the exam, they must provide evidence dated within 24 hours of the exam, with their application. **Fit to sit** means that students should not attend an exam if they are feeling unwell and therefore must ensure that they are available to sit the supplementary exam during the supplementary exam period (as noted above, a supplementary exam opportunity for each Psychology course will be offered only once).

Special Consideration applications must be submitted to the online portal along with Third Party supporting documentation. Failure to do so will result in your application being rejected. Only circumstances deemed to be outside of the student’s control, such as significant illness or misadventure during the assessment period, are eligible for Special Consideration. If the Special Consideration application is approved, students may be given an extended due date for the same piece of assessment, an aggregate mark may be calculated based on performance in other comparable assessments, or an alternative assessment/supplementary examination may be set, at the discretion of the course authority.

In Psychology, short extensions (48 hours) may be available on assessments in which students submit a major piece of written work. Assessments that involve low stakes weekly tasks, quizzes, midterm tests, group work, or presentations are not eligible for short extension provisions. Eligible tasks will be clearly indicated in the course outline. Short extension applications do not require documentation and should be submitted to the Special Consideration [online portal](#) before the assessment deadline.

FINAL MARKS FOR A COURSE

Final marks for a course are calculated from the summation of component marks for a course (with weightings indicated in the Course Outline). Final marks for all courses may be moderated to ensure consistency in marking of assessment tasks.

REVIEW OF RESULTS

A review of a Final Mark for a course may take one of two forms:

1. **Checking of marks** – an administrative check that all marks have been included in the final composite mark;
2. **Re-assessment** – an academic re-assessment of a piece of work.

Students can [apply online](#) to have a piece of work re-assessed. In order to have a piece of work re-assessed, students must first discuss their performance with the Course Convenor and obtain their approval to apply for the re-assessment – the student will need to include this approval in their re-assessment application, as an attachment. Requests for re-assessment will not be considered without this approval. If the Course Convenor does not approve a re-assessment (e.g., because the marks given are consistent with a moderated system of marking criteria), and the student still believes that the mark they have received does not reflect their performance, they can make a [formal complaint](#) through Student Conduct and Integrity Unit. If you are permitted a re-assessment of your result, this will include a check

of the addition of marks. Note that the re-assessment may result in the mark going up or down. The online application must be submitted no later than five working days after the return of the piece of work or, in the case of an exam, five working days from the release of results. All marked work returned to students must be kept in case it is needed for re-marking. More information about the review of results process including a list of circumstance that are not valid reasons for applying for a remark is available [here](#).

FEEDBACK

Assessments, other than final exams, will be marked and returned to students within 10 working days from the assessment submission date. Students will receive a mark for the assessment and written comments from the marker. Students who would like further feedback on their assessment should contact the Course Convenor within five working days of the return of marks for the assessment. The Course Convenor is responsible for responding to this request in a timely manner, and within 5 working days from the receiving the student's request.

COURSE EVALUATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Courses are periodically reviewed, and students' feedback is used to improve them. Feedback is gathered using various means, including UNSW's myExperience survey.

INFORMATION ABOUT HONOURS

Students undertaking Honours in psychology conduct a major independent research project under the supervision of a member of academic staff, and write a thesis based on the project. In addition, students undertake core and elective coursework each term.

An APAC-accredited Honours year in psychology (fourth year program) is required for entry to postgraduate psychology programs offered by Australian universities.

The number of places available for Honours varies from year to year and admission is competitive, depending both on a student's academic performance (*Psychology Average*) and the availability of School resources. A *Psychology Average* of 75 is the minimum eligibility requirement but does not guarantee a place.

Minimum Eligibility Requirements

Students in degree programs that allow for completion of an accredited undergraduate sequence (major), or bridging sequence, in psychology may be eligible to apply for a place in the Honours year. The psychology major for 3632 Psychology (Honours) is 96 Units of Credit (UOC). The psychology major for all other Bachelor programs is 78 UOC. 5331 Graduate Diploma in Psychology students complete a bridging sequence of 10 (core) psychology courses.

For some students the Honours year is embedded in their degree [e.g., 3632 Psych(Hons), 3962 AdvSc(Hons), 4721 Psych(Hons)/Law]. For other students the Honours year is taken as a separate one-year program [4518 PsychSc(Hons)] at the end of their pass degree (e.g., 3435 PsychSc, 3970 Sc, 5331 GDPsych).

A *Psychology Average* of 75 is the minimum eligibility requirement but does not guarantee a place. The *Psychology Average* is calculated from:

For Bachelor programs with an APAC-accredited psychology major

- First attempt marks for **psychology core courses common to all psychology programs / plans** (see below); and
- The **three highest** first attempt marks of any completed Level 3 psychology electives.

Psychology core courses common to all Bachelor programs/plans are listed below.

- Stage 1 – PSYC1001, PSYC1011, PSYC1111

- Stage 2 – PSYC2001, PSYC2061, PSYC2071, PSYC2081, PSYC2101
- Stage 3 – PSYC3001, PSYC3011

Not included in the *Psychology Average*:

- Level 1 Psychology electives (i.e., PSYC1031, PSYC1022 – PSYC1029, PSYC1062)
- Psychology courses completed at another university (e.g., via credit transfer, cross-institutional study, exchange or study abroad)
- Non-psychology free electives or courses counted as General Education
- Psychology courses graded SY

For the Graduate Diploma in Psychology

- First attempt marks for ***all psychology courses completed at UNSW.***

How to Apply for the Honours program

The [School's website](#) is updated annually with information about the following year's Honours program, including application procedures and available supervisors. Students should carefully read all the available information (including the FAQs) and submit their Honours application accordingly. Applications typically open on 1 August and close on 15 November. Late applications will not be accepted.

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

The University is committed to the pursuit of excellence in learning, teaching and research, and to community engagement. The Student Code sets out the University's expectations of students with respect to their academic and personal conduct and outlines the University's responsibilities to students.

STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO FAMILIARISE THEMSELVES WITH THE STUDENT CODE POLICY, WHICH INCORPORATES THE STUDENT CODE, AND THE STUDENT MISCONDUCT PROCEDURES, ALL AVAILABLE [HERE](#).

PLAGIARISM: ESSENTIAL INFORMATION FOR AVOIDING PLAGIARISM*

What is plagiarism?

Plagiarism is presenting someone else's thoughts or work as your own. It can take many forms, from not having appropriate academic referencing to deliberate cheating.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

- **Copying:** Using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This includes copying materials, ideas or concepts from a book, article, report or other written document, presentation, composition, artwork, design, drawing, circuitry, computer program or software, website, internet, other electronic resource, or another person's assignment, without appropriate acknowledgement.
- **Inappropriate paraphrasing:** Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original structure and/or progression of ideas of the original, and information without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.
- **Collusion:** Presenting work as independent work when it has been produced in whole or part in collusion with other people. Collusion includes students providing their work to another student

* The following text has been adopted from "UNSW Plagiarism: Essential information for avoiding plagiarism" (<https://my.unsw.edu.au/student/academiclife/Plagiarism.pdf>; accessed on 1 February 2017).

before the due date, or for the purpose of them plagiarising at any time, paying another person to perform an academic task and passing it off as your own, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work. This should not be confused with academic collaboration.

- **Inappropriate citation:** Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.
- **Self-plagiarism:** "Self-plagiarism" occurs where an author republishes their own previously written work and presents it as new findings without referencing the earlier work, either in its entirety or partially. Self-plagiarism is also referred to as "recycling", "duplication", or "multiple submissions of research findings" without disclosure. In the student context, self-plagiarism includes re-using parts of, or all of, a body of work that has already been submitted for assessment without proper citation.

Where can I find out more information?

In many cases plagiarism is the result of inexperience about academic conventions. The University has resources and information to assist you to avoid plagiarism. The first place you can look is the section about referencing and plagiarism in each Course Outline, as this will also include information specific to the discipline the course is from. There are also other sources of assistance at UNSW:

How can the Academic Skills Centre help me?

The [Academic Skills Centre](#) assists students with understanding [academic integrity](#) and how to not plagiarise. They also hold workshops and students can book [one-on-one appointments](#).

How can ELISE help me?

ELISE (Enabling Library & Information Skills for Everyone) is an online tutorial to help you understand how to find and use information for your assignments or research. It will help you to search databases, how to identify good quality information and how to write assignments. It will also help you understand plagiarism and how to avoid it. All undergraduate and postgraduate coursework students are required to review the [ELISE tutorial](#) in their first term and complete the quiz, but any student can review it to improve their knowledge.

What is Turnitin?

Turnitin is a checking database which reviews your work and compares it to an international collection of books, journals, Internet pages and other students' assignments. The database checks referencing and whether you have copied something from another student, resource, or off the Internet. Oftentimes, students are asked to submit an electronic version of their work into Turnitin, but academics can also use it to check a student's work when it is being marked. You can find out more about Turnitin [here](#).

What if plagiarism is found in my work?

If plagiarism is found in your work when you are in first year, your lecturer will offer you assistance to improve your academic skills. They may ask you to look at some online resources, attend the Learning Centre, or sometimes resubmit your work with the problem fixed. However more serious instances in first year, such as stealing another student's work or paying someone to do your work, may be investigated under the [Student Misconduct Procedures](#).

Repeated plagiarism (even in first year), plagiarism after first year, or serious instances, may also be investigated under the Student Misconduct Procedures. The penalties under the procedures can include a reduction in marks, failing a course or for the most serious matters (such as plagiarism in an Honours thesis) can result in suspension from the University.

Important Notes on File-sharing Websites

There are some file-sharing websites around that specialise in buying and selling academic work to and from university students. Examples of such websites include but are not limited to:

- Course Hero;
- Nexus Notes;
- StudyMode; and
- Thinkswap

You should be aware that you would be committing plagiarism if you download a piece of work from these websites and present it as your own either wholly or partially.

If you upload your original work to these websites, and if another student downloads and presents it as their own either wholly or partially, you might be found guilty of collusion—even years after graduation.

Your work may be posted by others unbeknownst to you. The surest way to avoid putting yourself at risk is to take care to not share your work with another student. If you stumble across your work online, the School of Psychology recommends you take action to have it removed at the earliest opportunity.

These file-sharing websites may also accept for purchase course materials, such as copies of lecture slides and tutorial handouts. By law, the copyright on course materials, developed by UNSW staff in the course of their employment, belongs to UNSW. It constitutes copyright infringement, if not plagiarism, to trade these materials.

Important notes on chatGPT and other generative AI tools

Generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools have become commonplace in the past 12 months. Tools like chatGPT are large language models, which are trained on the contents of the internet, and used to generate text in response to user prompts. There has been much discussion in higher education circles about the potential of these tools to assist students with completing written assessment at university.

Lecturers in the School of Psychology design assessment to help you attain the competencies prescribed by APAC, the psychology accreditation body that oversees all psychology programs in Australia. These competencies emphasise psychology as a scientific discipline, research methods, values and ethics, critical thinking, and scientific communication skills. In the vast majority of cases, using generative AI tools like chatGPT to complete your assessment will not aid you in gaining these competencies. In fact, the output from tools like chatGPT is often inaccurate, overly general, and poorly referenced.

Your lecturers will make it clear in course outlines and/or assessment guidelines the extent to which they allow you to use chatGPT (or similar tools) to complete each of your assessments. Most assessments in the School of Psychology will allow no assistance or simple editing assistance only.

STUDENT COMPLAINTS AND GRIEVANCES

The School is committed to the University policy of providing a fulfilling and rewarding learning and research experience that enables students to achieve their full academic potential, and will seriously listen

to complaints and resolve them as quickly if possible. The resolution procedures ensure that students can air legitimate complaints, knowing that they will not suffer detriment or disadvantage as a direct result of [making a complaint](#).

If students have a grievance, they should first attempt to resolve it with the individual concerned. If that fails, the next step is to take the matter to the course or level convenor within a reasonable period of time. Beyond this, the next step is to take the matter to the School Grievance Officer (see “School Contacts” above) and then to the Head of School.

If the matter is still not resolved, then you can seek advice about your options from the [Conduct and Integrity Office](#).

EQUITABLE LEARNING SERVICES

Students who have a disability or a health / mental health concern that may impact their studies or require some adjustment in their learning and teaching environment are encouraged to discuss their study needs with the Course Convenor prior to or at the commencement of the course, or with an Equitable Learning Advisor in [Equitable Learning Services](#).

Issues to be discussed may include access to materials, signers or note-takers, the provision of services and additional examination and assessment arrangements. Early notification is essential to enable any necessary adjustments to be made. Students are required to email a copy of their Equitable Learning Plan to the Course Convenor as soon as they receive it.

HEALTH & SAFETY FOR STUDENTS

UNSW is a leading Australian University with a diverse range of research, teaching programs and centres of excellence, covering a multitude of disciplines and research areas. Health and safety is intrinsic to the way we do business at UNSW. Our overall aim is “Harm to Zero”, with the expectation that all persons shall come to no harm while in the workplace.

The following values form the basis of achieving our aim of “Harm to Zero”:

- People are our most valuable asset, and we are all committed to ensuring the health, safety and wellbeing of everyone in the workplace.
- Everyone has a responsibility for safety, their own and others.
- Injuries can be prevented, and an incident-free working and learning environment is actively pursued.
- Communication and consultation are central to working together for a safer workplace.

More information relating to Health and Safety can be found [here](#).

Hazard & Incident Reporting

Students enrolled in Psychology courses are asked to report any hazards or incidents *in two ways*:

1. Make a report on SALUS via following the steps [here](#); and then
2. Report the details of the hazard or incident to the lecturer/tutor or Course Convenor.

It is important to report hazards or incidents using both methods.

Mandatory Health & Safety Training

Completion of an online health & safety awareness course is required for Honours and postgraduate students. Those conducting laboratory work as part of their study may also be required to undertake a laboratory safety course.

More information can be found [here](#).

If you fail to complete mandatory health and safety training:

- Panel meetings may not be convened for Honours students.
- Postgraduate coursework/research students may not be permitted to enrol.
- Those requiring laboratory work as part of their study may not be allowed access to labs.

A Safe Campus

Student safety and the security of personal property is a high priority at UNSW.

Personal safety on campus is something UNSW wants students to be aware of. UNSW encourage students to act positively and responsibly to enhance their own safety.

Safety on campus is managed by UNSW Security Services who are dedicated to providing a safe campus for the whole community.

UNSW is a large institution and includes a number of campuses. Each campus has a local security focus, so it is important to find out what the safety procedures are at each location

Visit the "[Safer Communities](#)" and "[Your Safety](#)" websites for further information.

USE OF SCHOOL COMPUTING FACILITIES

The following is a summary of computer-related information for all undergraduate and postgraduate students.

Accounts

In most cases, psychology computer accounts will be available from Week 1 of each term. Fourth-Year accounts are available in early February.

Students in the following Programs/Courses are provided with their own psychology accounts:

- Bachelor of Psychology (Honours)
- Bachelor of Psychological Science
- Honours year students
- Master of Psychology (Clinical and Forensic)
- PSYC2001
- All Level 3 Psychology courses

Please note that due to limited School resources it is not possible to create psychology computing accounts for all students taking psychology courses (whether as part of a major or not).

Passwords and Technical Difficulties

All passwords will be reset at the beginning of each term, and notices posted on lab doors explaining this.

Psychology accounts are administered by the School of Psychology's Technical Support Unit (TSU) located in Room 138 of the Mathews Building, and not by the University's central IT unit. Your psychology account is not the same as your zID/zPass account. Students having difficulties with their psychology accounts should contact the TSU (Phone: 9385 3139).

Access Hours

Absolutely no food or drinks permitted in computer labs

Programs or Courses	Rooms	Hours
BPsych(Hons) [3632] [†] BPsychSc [3435]	Mat 209 and Mat 209A, Mat 419	8am-6pm Mon-Fri February – December
PSYC2001	Mat 209 and Mat 209A, Mat 419	8am-6pm Mon-Fri February – June
Level 3 PSYC Courses – T1	Mat 209 and Mat 209A, Mat 419	8am-6pm Mon-Fri February – June
Level 3 PSYC Courses – T2	Mat 209 and Mat 209A, Mat 419	8am-6pm Mon-Fri June – August
Level 3 PSYC Courses – T3	Mat 209 and Mat 209A, Mat 419	8am-6pm Mon-Fri August – December
MPsychol & Honours year (PSYC4093, PSYC4072, PSYC4073, and PSYC4103)	Mat 209 and Mat 209A, Mat 419	7am-10pm, 7 days a week

Print Quotas

The following initial quotas will be assigned:

- 350 pages for Honours and Master of Psychology students.
- 250 pages for all other students.

Students can top-up their print quotas by bringing a ream of A4 paper (500 sheets) to the TSU (Mathews Rm 138). They will receive credit for 150 pages. This credit system considers the major cost factor associated with laboratory printing which is the toner and printer itself rather than paper. Only one top-up per term is generally allowed with the exception of Honours and Master of Psychology students.

Rules

While at UNSW, students are responsible for ensuring that their use of the University's information and computing technology (ICT) facilities is ethical and lawful. By using any of the School computing facilities, students acknowledge that they have read and will abide by the University rules relating to student use of computing and electronic communications facilities. The full *Acceptable Use of UNSW Information and Communication Technology Resources* policy and procedures documents are available [here](#).

Users of computing and communications facilities must be aware that use of these facilities is subject to the full range of State and Federal laws that apply to communications and to the use of computers, as well as any other relevant laws. This includes copyright, breach of confidence, defamation, privacy, contempt of court, harassment, vilification and anti-discrimination legislation, the creation of contractual obligations, and criminal laws.

Examples of Inappropriate Use

Examples of inappropriate use include (but are not limited to):

- Making/using illegal copies of a licensed computer program;
- Downloading, copying, storing or transmitting copyrighted material such as music, graphic, video or movie files without the express permission of the copyright holder or as permitted by law;

[†] See the bottom row of the table for Honours year access

- Using another's login or password, or allowing others to use yours;
- Gaining unauthorised access to systems by any means, including port scans, 'hacking' and use of 'password sniffer' software;
- Using UNSW ICT resources to attack or compromise any other system, whether on or off-campus, including circumventing system security or protection measures;
- Knowingly propagating or installing computer viruses or malicious code;
- Accessing or intercepting others' electronic communications without permission;
- Creating/sending email under another's name (forgery); creating/sending/forwarding electronic chain letters, unsolicited broadcast emails ('Spam'), obscene, abusive, fraudulent, threatening or repetitive messages;
- Using ICT resources to harass, threaten, defame, vilify or discriminate against any group or individual;
- Causing intentional or irresponsible damage to ICT resources, or stealing equipment;
- Making excessive personal use of ICT resources; and
- Deliberately or negligently accessing, preparing, storing, displaying or transmitting of material that: is obscene, pornographic or paedophilic; is used to harass, threaten, defame, vilify or discriminate against any group or individual; promotes illegal acts, or that advocates violence; is offensive or potentially unlawful; or promotes/allows online gambling - unless this material is a requisite component of an approved course of study or research program.

Penalties for Breaching Conditions of Use

Penalties will depend upon the type and severity of breach. The School of Psychology reserves the right to suspend the psychology account privileges of any student found in breach of the UNSW Information Technology policies. In addition, penalties may range from loss or restriction of ICT access to formal University disciplinary action for breach of the UNSW Information Technology policies. Misuse of ICT resources by students may attract financial penalties. Cases of serious, deliberate, and/or criminal breach will be referred to external authorities and may result in civil or criminal proceedings.