

PSYCHOLOGY

This is a detailed profile of the psychology field of study. It lists the range of specialisations available and compares degree-level courses. We examine the institutions that get the best ratings, based on real student experience and graduate outcome data, which will help you decide the right university for your educational journey.



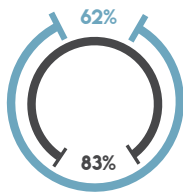
PSYCHOLOGY

Contrary to what people might think, the work of a psychologist involves much more than straight counselling. It can lead to new and emerging fields such as organisational psychology, industrial psychology and sports psychology.

FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT

UNDERGRADUATE POSTGRADUATE

Proportion of students who have secured a full-time job within four months of graduating.



MEDIAN GRADUATE SALARY

\$57,400

UNDERGRADUATE

\$77,300

POSTGRADUATE

NUMBER OF STUDENTS



2,900

UNDERGRADUATE INTERNATIONAL

39,633

UNDERGRADUATE

9,845

POSTGRADUATE

WHAT CAN I DO?



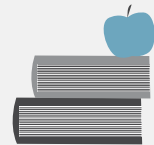
Human Services



Research



Counselling



Education



Social Work



Mental Health

Data has been sourced from the Graduate Outcomes Survey. Results are pooled to represent graduates who completed the survey in 2018, 2017 and 2016. Graduates complete the Graduate Outcomes Survey approximately four months post-graduation.



FIVE-STAR UNIVERSITIES

PSYCHOLOGY

EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE

SOUTHERN CROSS	92.1%
UNE	89.3%
QUT	88.1%
CURTIN	88.1%
FLINDERS	87.6%
QUEENSLAND	87.5%
DEAKIN	87.1%
ECU	87.0%

NATIONAL AVERAGE = 83.2%

GRADUATE EMPLOYMENT

MACQUARIE	76.2%
CSU	74.7%
CANBERRA	71.7%
UNSW	70.6%
QUT	69.9%
MONASH	69.8%
UNE	69.4%

NATIONAL AVERAGE = 61.9%

LEARNER ENGAGEMENT

NOTRE DAME	78.7%
BOND	77.4%
SOUTHERN CROSS	75.7%
CURTIN	72.9%
QUEENSLAND	66.8%
UniSA	62.8%
LATROBE	62.5%

NATIONAL AVERAGE = 55.3%

LEARNING RESOURCES

CURTIN	93.5%
SOUTHERN CROSS	92.7%
WOLLONGONG	92.4%
ECU	92.3%
DEAKIN	92.0%
SUNSHINE COAST	91.8%
BOND	91.5%

NATIONAL AVERAGE = 86.6%

MEDIAN STARTING SALARY

UNE	\$70,000
CQUni	\$65,000
ECU	\$64,500
CSU	\$63,700
SWINBURNE	\$62,500
FLINDERS	\$60,300

NATIONAL AVERAGE = \$57,400

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

NOTRE DAME	90.2%
USQ	89.7%
CURTIN	88.4%
SOUTHERN CROSS	87.4%
BOND	86.9%
GRIFFITH	86.3%
UniSA	85.9%

NATIONAL AVERAGE = 81.5%

STUDENT SUPPORT

SOUTHERN CROSS	94.8%
USQ	90.0%
NOTRE DAME	88.5%
BOND	87.5%
UNE	84.8%
FEDERATION	84.1%
ECU	83.1%
UniSA	83.0%

NATIONAL AVERAGE = 76.7%

TEACHING QUALITY

SOUTHERN CROSS	92.8%
QUEENSLAND	92.2%
CURTIN	90.6%
UNE	90.4%
ECU	89.8%
UniSA	89.1%
GRIFFITH	88.5%

NATIONAL AVERAGE = 85.6%

WHAT DO THESE NUMBERS MEAN? The ratings above represent the top 20 per cent of results for each measure in this particular field of study. For overall institution results, see the ratings section at the front of the guide.

PSYCHOLOGY

Psychology is listed separately from the other social and behavioural sciences because it can lead to a specific profession with its own strict rules for admission and practice. It is quite different to courses in counselling, which are often bundled in with the humanities. Contrary to what people might think, the work of a psychologist involves much more than straight counselling.

COURSES AND SPECIALISATIONS

The pathway to becoming a practising psychologist is more complicated than successfully completing a bachelor degree. In order to gain accreditation, it is necessary to first complete a degree majoring in psychology (with honours) or a four-year Bachelor of Psychology. The next step is either an accredited two-year postgraduate qualification (which can be extremely competitive), a one-year postgraduate qualification plus a year of supervised practice or two years of supervised experience with a registered psychologist. The bachelor degree and postgraduate courses must be accredited by the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council.

There is a vast range of careers available: everything from market research, advertising, management and business consultancy to human resource management, teaching and social welfare work.

While the common focus of psychologists was previously on helping individuals to overcome problems — which might range in severity from the common difficulties associated with making life decisions through to mental illness — the field of psychology is now much broader. Today, many graduates work with organisations (in organisational psychology and industrial psychology) or with teams of elite sportspeople (in sports psychology). Others help clients with issues such as addictions, depression, eating disorders, fears and phobias, career planning, child behavioural problems, sleep disorders and relationships.

Accredited psychologists can choose to specialise (usually by undertaking further study) in a variety of areas, the most common being clinical psychology, counselling psychology and organisational psychology.

For more information, visit:

- Australian Psychological Society
www.psychology.org.au
- Australian Psychology Accreditation Council
www.psychologycouncil.org.au