Graduate Programs in Clinical Psychology

Master of Clinical Psychology (Program 7601- coursework)

Doctor of Philosophy (Clinical Psychology) (Program 9064 – research)

In 2015, the Research School of Psychology in the College of Medicine, Biology and Environment (COMBE) will offer Clinical Psychology at the Masters and Doctoral levels. These programs provide postgraduate clinical training that prepares clinical psychologists to practise in a range of clinical settings such as hospitals, community health centres and private practice. The programs aim to develop effective clinical competencies and to encourage a critical approach to the application of these competencies to practice. The emphasis is on a science-based approach to clinical psychology and the development of clinical problem-solving skills, with a focus on scientific evidence combined with practical experience based on the theory of clinical psychology.

Program Structure and Duration

The programs include the three components of formal coursework, supervised clinical practice (internships) and original clinical research. The Master of Clinical Psychology is a two-year degree and the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) (Clinical Psychology) is a four-year degree.

Coursework commences in late February of any given year and is generally conducted within semesters. Other work such as the supervised internships and clinical research continue throughout the year. Students should expect to undertake academic work for 48 weeks each year. There is no mid-year commencement available.

Coursework Units

Formal courses have been designed to acquaint students with a wide range of practical and theoretical issues relevant to contemporary clinical and health psychology. They cover knowledge of psychological disorders and problems encountered in clinical practice, basic and clinical research, clinical assessment, psychological interventions and professional practice.

All students attend from half a day to two days per week of regular coursework per semester depending on their stage of training.

Clinical Placements

In their first semester, students attend courses to prepare them for their clinical internships. Beginning in June/July of their first year, students undertake supervised clinical practice in the ANU Psychology Clinic. Subsequently they undertake two or more supervised clinical placements external to the ANU. The total amount of time spent in internships is a minimum of 1000 hours for the Masters and PhD (Clinical Psychology) degrees. Internships are undertaken, in addition to the ANU Psychology Clinic, in a variety of community and hospital based settings within the ACT and NSW, and include public and private hospitals, mental health services, community health centres, corrective services, educational facilities, military services, employee assistance programs, private practice, and not for profit organisations.

Research Component - Master of Clinical Psychology

All students undertaking the Master of Clinical Psychology degree are required to conduct an approved empirical research project. This includes two written components. The first component comprises a review of the relevant literature, while the second component presents the empirical project in the form of a journal article manuscript. These two components must be submitted for internal and external examination by 31 January following the second year of study.
**PhD Candidature**
Students accepted into the PhD (Clinical Psychology) program complete the first and second year of coursework. They must also complete the same requirements for supervised clinical experience as the Masters program. Immediately following their acceptance into the program, PhD students also commence a program of extensive clinical research. At the end of the fourth year of study, PhD candidates are required to present a major thesis (equivalent in size and scope to a research-only PhD thesis) for external examination.

**Part-time Study**
It is possible to complete any of these degrees by part-time study. Part-time students are expected to devote 20 hours per week towards their studies, and all students completing coursework units must be available to attend classes on 1.5 days per week.

**Internship Status in paid employment**
Students entering the clinical program who continue to work as employees in suitable settings may, on application to the Placement Coordinator, be granted status for their clinical work in this setting. Status will not be granted for clinical work undertaken prior to enrolment in the clinical program or undertaken without the written approval of the Placement Coordinator.

**Accreditation**
All programs fulfill the requirements for registration as a psychologist by the Psychology Board of Australia. The Master of Clinical Psychology and Doctor of Philosophy (Clinical Psychology) degrees are accredited for full membership of the Australian Psychological Society. All programs are also accredited for conditional membership of the College of Clinical Psychologists of the Australian Psychological Society and the Australian Clinical Psychology Association though, as with all accredited postgraduate clinical programs, additional supervised clinical practice will be necessary before full membership is given.

**Entry Requirements** (completion of minimum requirements does not guarantee entry)
The minimum academic requirement for entry to the clinical program is an Honours degree in psychology at the IIA level. Entry by a fourth year postgraduate diploma in psychology will also be considered. However, diplomas must (a) be of Honours standard, (b) contain a substantial research methodology component, and (c) be accredited for Associate Membership of the Australian Psychological Society. Applicants can check the acceptability of their degree by contacting the Australian Psychological Society (www.psychology.org.au/).

Completion of undergraduate programs in abnormal psychology at the 2nd, 3rd or 4th year level is a prerequisite. Completion of undergraduate programs in the areas of psychometrics, personality and health psychology is highly recommended. As the clinical program focuses on a science-based approach to clinical practice, prior acquisition of competence in statistics and research methodology is an important criterion, usually demonstrated by the successful completion of a fourth year thesis. Some clinical experience is also a prerequisite.

Eligibility for conditional registration as a provisional psychologist with the Psychology Board of Australia is a condition of entry into the Research School of Psychology's clinical program. Other entry qualifications need to be assessed for their compliance with the above-mentioned standards. The Clinical Selection Committee will invite prospective students to a personal interview prior to making a final decision on admission.

PhD(Clinical Psychology) applicants must nominate a research area appropriate to their interests and the expertise available among the academic staff of the ANU. Applicants should consult the staff research interests on the Psychology School's website http://psychology.anu.edu.au/research/staff-research-interests to determine whether any staff research interests are relevant to their own. Applicants must also confirm with the individual academic their interest in supervising the proposed research. After the selection process, Master of Clinical Psychology applicants who are successful in gaining entry to the clinical program will be made a conditional offer until they have secured a research supervisor.

**Fees and Scholarships**
Students enrolled in the Master of Clinical Psychology degree and who are permanent residents/citizens of Australia or citizens of New Zealand are required to pay Domestic Tuition Fees (DTF) up front and in full. Students should refer to http://Students.anu.edu.au/fees for information on the fees for each course of the Master of Clinical Psychology degree. Students should also refer to the latest information provided on the...
Students enrolled in the Master of Clinical Psychology degree may be able to apply for student income support, with the eligibility of payments dependent upon the student meeting certain personal eligibility requirements.

Places in the PhD (Clinical Psychology) degrees are offered on a Commonwealth-funded basis (exempt of fees) for Australian and New Zealand applicants. Students in these programs are also eligible to apply for scholarships. The closing dates for scholarship applications are October 31 for Australian/New Zealand citizens and permanent residents and August 31 for international students. Scholarship information is available from [http://students.anu.edu.au/scholarships/](http://students.anu.edu.au/scholarships/).

A Clinical Psychology scholarship is also offered by the Nursing and Allied Health Scholarship Support Scheme (NAHSSS). Students applying for the Master of Clinical Psychology and PhD (Clinical Psychology) are eligible to apply for this scholarship. Applications for the 2016 scholarship open in August 2015 and can be completed online at [http://sarrah.org.au/content/clinical-psychology-scholarship-cps](http://sarrah.org.au/content/clinical-psychology-scholarship-cps).

**How to Apply – Please read carefully**

**International** applicants who are applying for the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD Clinical) or Master of Clinical Psychology program must apply via the on-line system [http://students.anu.edu.au/apply_online.asp](http://students.anu.edu.au/apply_online.asp).

**Domestic** applicants who are applying for the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD Clinical) must also apply via the on-line system [http://students.anu.edu.au/apply_online.asp](http://students.anu.edu.au/apply_online.asp).

**Domestic** applicants who are applying for the Master of Clinical Psychology program must apply via the Universities Admission Centre (UAC) [http://students.anu.edu.au/applications/gradcoursework.php](http://students.anu.edu.au/applications/gradcoursework.php).

If you are submitting applications for both the clinical programs, you will need to complete a coursework application for the Masters program and the research/scholarship application forms for the PhD program.

All applications must be accompanied by certified copies of academic transcripts, referee reports (two reports for the Master of Clinical Psychology; three reports for the Doctor of Philosophy [Clinical Psychology]), (Please refer to the checklist at the bottom page of the supplementary form).

It is essential that prospective PhD(Clin) students approach appropriate staff about supervision of their research before submitting an application.

Selection to the clinical program is highly competitive and based on the quality of applicants’ academic qualifications, relevant paid or voluntary clinical work experience, referee reports and the interview. Initial offers of places are typically made in early-December. It is essential that the deadline for responding to an offer be strictly observed as a lack of response may forfeit an offer of a place in the program.

**International students **Additional compulsory entry requirements**

It is a condition of entry into the clinical program that students are eligible for conditional registration as a provisional psychologist by the Psychology Board of Australia (PsyBA). International applicants, or those whose application is based on qualifications gained outside of Australia, are required by the PsyBA to have their qualifications in psychology formally assessed for compatibility with Australian legislative requirements before submitting an application for any of the clinical program degrees. Applications based on overseas qualifications without such a formal assessment cannot be considered. Details on how to have qualifications assessed are available from the Australian Psychological Society (www.psychology.org.au).

In addition, international applicants are required to have a recent and valid IELTS score of 7 on all categories unless they are from selected countries and can demonstrate that they completed their high schooling in English.

Students with an accredited award from a New Zealand university are exempt from the above requirements.

**Applications for the clinical psychology program close on 31 October**
Further Information
http://psychology.anu.edu.au or enquiries.psychology@anu.edu.au

The information contained in this document is subject to change. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this information, this document is indicative only and is not a formal statement by the Australian National University of the rules, procedures, or fee schedules for the degrees mentioned.
Research School of Psychology Supplementary Information for Clinical Psychology
This form must be returned to the ANU with your formal application for study by 31 October. Applicants must also complete the relevant ANU Postgraduate Application form.

Surname: _________________________________   Given Name: ________________________________

Title: _________________________________   Date of Birth: _________________________________

Program you wish to apply for:

☐ 7601 Master of Clinical Psychology (coursework)   ☐ 9064 Doctor of Philosophy (Clinical Psychology) (research)

Preference for intensity of study:

☐ Full-Time   ☐ Part-Time

Contact Address: ___________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________

Postcode: ________________________________

Home Phone: ______________________________ Work Phone: ______________________________

Mobile Phone: ______________________________ Vacation Phone: __________________________

Email Address: ___________________________________________________________________

Qualifications For Admission:

Do you have an Honours Degree In Psychology?   ☐ Yes   ☐ No

(If you are currently completing an Honours Degree, tick ‘Yes’ and indicate when your degree will be completed)

If YES, what grade is the Honours Degree?

☐ First Class   ☐ Second Class A   ☐ Second Class B

☐ Other (Please Specify)_________________________  Completed In _____________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________

At what University? ___________________________________________________________________

If NO, do you have a Postgraduate Diploma in Psychology?   ☐ Yes   ☐ No

If YES, please specify: ___________________________  Completed in _____________________________

Final Mark: __________________________________  __________________________________

Name of University: ____________________________________________

Other relevant education and training:
What other programs of study and or training have you undertaken that is relevant to Clinical Psychology (including things like Diplomas, short courses and workshops)?

_________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________
Relevant Experience:

Have you ever had paid employment in the area of Clinical Psychology (or related fields such as counselling)?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Have you worked in the area of Clinical Psychology (or related fields such as counselling) on a volunteer basis?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Have you discussed your research interests with a member of our academic staff?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Which member(s) of the academic staff have you discussed your research interests with: ____________________________

What area/s of Clinical Psychology are you particularly interested in? ______________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________

Please attach a letter of approximately 200-300 words to your application outlining why you wish to undertake a program of study in Clinical Psychology at The Australian National University.

Please also attach an up-to-date Curriculum Vitae.

Short listed applicants are normally required to attend an interview in late November as part of the selection process.

Enquiries regarding this form or the application and selection process should be directed to:

E: Enquiries.Psychology@anu.edu.au
T: (+61 2) 6125 2795

Entry to the clinical psychology program is highly competitive.

Please ensure that your formal application (see How to Apply section above) to the ANU is accompanied by this form, and the followings:

1. Academic transcripts
2. Referee Form
   x 2 Referee forms for the Master of Clinical Psychology -- Follow this link http://students.anu.edu.au/manage/forms
      select Admission Forms > Referee’s Questionnaire to Accompany Applications Admission
   x 3 Referee forms for the Doctor of Philosophy (Clinical Psychology) Same as Master of Clinical Psychology
3. All applicants to submit a 200 – 300 word support statement as to why you wish to undertake a program of study in Clinical Psychology.
4. PhD applicants to submit details of proposed research study and secure a potential supervisor before submitting their applications.
   (Master of Clinical Psychology applicants do not need to submit details of their proposed research. Only successful applicant(s) will need to secure a potential supervisor.)
5. Completion of the minimum requirements does not guarantee entry to the program.