

### Special Groups & Methods (GHMC956) (8CPS)

This subject introduces the student to the application of psychological principles to special needs groups and in special situations. In particular, the subject will address needs as they relate to working with people with Autism Spectrum Disorders and working as a clinical psychologist in forensic environments. Lectures are delivered by experts currently working in the field. Successful completion of this subject will also include satisfactory progress toward the completion of 300 practicum hours in an appropriate clinical placement, supported by appropriate clinical supervision.

### Psychotherapy of Personality Disorders (GHMC920) (4CPS) (DPsyc only)

This subject focuses on advanced training in the treatment of personality disorders and complex cases. Classification, aetiology, and treatment models and methods will be addressed through workshops and clinical presentations. Satisfactory completion of supervised practical experience working with clients with personality disorders or an equivalent area is required as part of this subject. The primary focus will be on conducting evidence-based practice for enhancing a client's interpersonal effectiveness, emotion regulation, and distress tolerance. Training will emphasise developing skills to deal with therapeutic stalemates, comorbid psychopathology, self-harm behaviours, acute crises, and building effective therapy teams.

### Clinical Supervision & Practice (GHMC921) (4CPS) (DPsyc only)

This subject focuses on the knowledge and skills required of an advanced professional. The clinical supervision component will cover theories and models of clinical supervision, and the rationale, procedures, and best-practice guidelines regarding formulating supervision plans, assessing supervisee performance and evaluating supervision programs. The advanced practice unit is designed for participants to understand, examine and critically evaluate professional and nonprofessional management of a chronic psychological disorder. In addition to didactic teaching, skills training methods (e.g., role-play, videotapes) will be used. This subject includes a clinical practicum within an advanced professional or clinical supervision area.

## RESEARCH

Within the Masters course, the research project aims to equip students with the knowledge and skills needed to report research findings in a professional journal.

The Doctoral Programs require students to undertake research work and prepare a thesis. The Doctor of Psychology thesis must make an original contribution to clinical psychology knowledge. The scope of the research for the PhD (Clinical Psychology) is equivalent to a research PhD.

## RECOGNITION

The clinical courses provide graduates with sufficient basis for national registration as a psychologist and entry into a registrar program leading to Area of Practice Endorsement as a Clinical Psychologist. It is viewed by the NSW Public Service Board as partially meeting requirements for positions advertised as a Clinical Psychologist. The course has approval for the purposes of attaining associate membership of the APS Clinical College and full membership of the Australian Psychological Society.

## FEES

Students in the MPsyc (Clinical) program who are Australian Citizens or are the holder of a Humanitarian Visa are eligible for a Commonwealth Supported training place. Current details of the fees and loan options can be found at <http://www.uow.edu.au/student/finances>.

The DPsyc (Clinical) and PhD (Clinical) are fee-exempt research degrees.

## WHY STUDY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WOLLONGONG?

The Clinical program has an excellent national and international reputation. The staff are committed to excellence in clinical training that includes expert teaching and methodical practice-relevant skills training. The School of Psychology offers excellent practitioner and research facilities including a state-of-the-art library, extensive computer facilities as well as teaching and research laboratories that are equipped with the latest technology and supported by a team of professional technical staff. The Northfields Clinic is a fee-for-service facility providing full psychological services five days a week to the Illawarra Community. The clinic directors are expert practitioners and supervisors and the clinic is equipped with DVD equipment to monitor and shape clinical competencies. Research is facilitated through a partnership with the Illawarra Institute for Mental Health (iIMH) and the Illawarra Health and Medical Research Institute (IHMRI). The University is set in a garden campus and is a well resourced, culturally diverse, and lively place to study. UOW is recognised as providing an excellent educational experience and employment outcomes for students.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information about this or any other courses offered by the School of Psychology, please contact us:

### By Post or in Person:


School of Psychology  
University of Wollongong  
Northfields Ave  
NSW 2522

**Phone:** (02) 4221 4141

**Web:** [socialsciences.uow.edu.au/psychology](http://socialsciences.uow.edu.au/psychology)

**Email:** [profpsyc-apps@uow.edu.au](mailto:profpsyc-apps@uow.edu.au)

Note: This information was correct at the time of printing, but may be subject to change.



**CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY**  
**MASTER OF PSYCHOLOGY**  
**DOCTOR OF PSYCHOLOGY**  
**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY**  
**CONNECT: PSYCHOLOGY**

The School of Psychology offers the following full time or part time postgraduate programs in Clinical Psychology:

	Master of Psychology (Clinical)	Doctor of Psychology (Clinical)	Doctor of Philosophy (Clinical)
Full time	2 years	3.5 years	4 years
Part time	4 years	7 years	8 years

These courses vary with regard to coursework, practical requirements, and research components. Each program provides post 4th Year professional training that aims to equip a person with the knowledge and skills to become a Clinical Psychologist. These programs are very popular and entry is competitive.

The courses reflect a carefully thought out balance of coursework, supervised clinical practice, and research. An emphasis on applied skill-development is reflected in the training methods used across the programs. These include demonstration sessions, audio and audio-visual recording of assessment and therapy, case presentations, role-play activities and feedback, in addition to conventional didactic methods. The University also runs a Clinic to provide students with casework and in-house supervision for adult and child clients.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

**Master of Psychology (Clinical)** – Postgraduate training in Clinical Psychology is available to graduates with an Honours degree of at least Class II Division 1 standard or equivalent qualification in Psychology, completed within the last 10 years. Candidates must submit an application form, evidence of relevant experience, two referee's reports, and a personal statement. Short listed candidates also complete a selection interview.

**Doctor of Psychology (Clinical)** – Available to graduates with an Honours degree of at least Class II Division 1 standard or equivalent in Psychology. Applicants submit the same materials as those for the MPsync course plus a preliminary research proposal. Candidates should contact a potential research supervisor and negotiate a viable project well in advance of the 17 October closing date for clinical program applications. Alternatively, MPsync (Clinical) candidates may apply to transfer to this course at the end of the first year of the MPsync program. Candidates with existing postgraduate clinical psychology qualifications may be eligible to receive advanced standing for up to half of the credit points required for the DPsync. The duration of study for the doctoral top-up course is at least 2 years full time or 4 years part time.

**Doctor of Philosophy (Clinical)** – Entry into the PhD program is available to graduates with an Honours degree of at least Class II Division 1 standard or equivalent qualification in Psychology, however offers are generally made to students with a superior honours degree in Psychology who are also likely to receive a PhD scholarship.

Applications are accepted from non-honours 4th year graduates (e.g. PGDip) for all three courses provided that the required academic standard is met.

Selection decisions are based on a weighted consideration of previous academic performance, referee's reports, other clinical or academic achievements, compatibility of the candidate's research interests with the school's strategic research goals, and performance during the selection interview.

Applications close 17 October each year and courses commence in February/March annually. No mid-year admissions are available.

For details regarding the application process consult:  
[socialsciences.uow.edu.au/psychology/clinical/UOW024839.html](https://socialsciences.uow.edu.au/psychology/clinical/UOW024839.html)

## COURSE AIMS

The clinical coursework and practical experience aim to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the principles governing psychological assessment and therapy and to equip students with the clinical skills required to assess and treat children and adults with a wide variety of clinical conditions.

## COURSE STRUCTURE

The course structure is designed to achieve integration of theoretical and practical components of training. All of the subjects listed below include specified practicum and supervision hours.

Subjects	MPsync (Clin)	DPsync (Clin)	PhD (Clin)
Child & Adult Assessment and Psychopathology	•	•	•
Principles of Psychotherapy	•	•	•
Neuropsychology & Neuropsychiatric Disorders	•	•	•
Cognitive Behavioural Therapies	•	•	•
Health & Wellbeing	•	•	•
Special Groups & Methods	•	•	•
Research Project A	•	•	•
Research Project B	•		
Research Thesis (DPsync)		•	
Research Thesis (PhD)			•
Psychotherapy of Personality Disorders		•	
Clinical Supervision & Practice		•	

## COURSEWORK

### Child & Adult Assessment and Psychopathology (GHMC951) (8CPS)

This subject focuses on equipping students with theoretical knowledge and practical skills relevant to the assessment and formulation of mental disorders in adults and children. This is achieved through a combination of lectures, workshop activities, independent study, and supervised clinical practice at Northfields Clinic. The clinical-theoretical part of the course addresses human cognitive processes such as memory and higher intel-

lectual functioning and the ways in which these functions may become disturbed in people with mental disorders. The assessment and diagnosis components of the course cover issues relevant to the diagnosis of mental disorder and psychometric assessment methods relevant to understanding adults and children with non-psychotic affective disorders and anxiety disorders.

### Principles of Psychotherapy (GHMC952) (8CPS)

This subject provides students with a set of research-based interventions, strategies and skills for conducting psychological therapy for children and adults. The subject provides the principles of empirically-based psychotherapy with children and adults in individual, family and group therapy formats. Microskills of interviewing, goal setting, problem solving, monitoring and reviewing, relationship enhancement, and selection of appropriate interventions depending clients needs are addressed. The course also covers the ethical and professional practice issues relevant to contemporary clinical psychologists. Training methods include video feedback and direct observation of clinical skills.

### Neuropsychology & Neuropsychiatric Disorders (GHMC953) (8CPS)

This subject will equip students with knowledge of the theoretical and practical issues relevant to the assessment of children and adults who present with psychotic disorders, severe behavioural problems, and cognitive impairments stemming from pathology of the central nervous system. This is achieved through a combination of lectures, workshop activities, independent study, and supervised clinical practice at Northfields Clinic. The subject content related to clinical assessment includes the principles of psychometric assessment in neuropsychology and the application of specific tests. Topics relating to psychopathological theory include basic neuroanatomy and neuropathology and theoretical and clinical models of psychotic and behavioural disorders.

### Cognitive Behavioural Therapies (GHMC954) (8CPS)

This subject aims to provide students with additional knowledge of the principles, procedures, applications, and research associated with psychotherapy for children and adults for a wide range of psychological disorders. Students will also obtain practical skills training in the conduct of therapy. The focus will be on cognitive behavioural therapies. In addition to lectures, training methods include demonstration of therapy, role-play sessions, use of videotapes, and practical clinical training at the Northfields Clinic or other equivalent services.

### Health & Wellbeing (GHMC955) (8CPS)

This subject examines health psychology, behavioural medicine, psychopharmacology and rehabilitation models of intervention. Stress and coping are examined within individuals, groups and populations. Current evidence-based practice of psychopharmacology is also considered. Satisfactory completion of practical training with clients is required as part of this subject. Topics covered include the treatment of substance dependence, chronic pain, cancer, cardiovascular disease, HIV/AIDS, chronic and terminal illnesses, and the implementation of behavioural interventions for physical activity and dietary change, positive psychology techniques, and lifeskills coaching.