

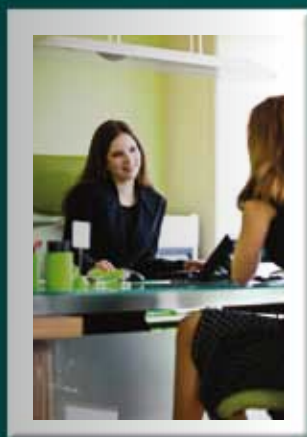
DEGREES OF SUCCESS

University of  
Western Sydney  
Bringing knowledge to life



AREA OF STUDY GUIDE 2012

# PSYCHOLOGY



The University of Western Sydney (UWS) provides a welcoming environment for all students, and our campuses, spread across Greater Western Sydney, offer purpose-built facilities designed to give you room to think and learn.

With ground-breaking research, recognised nationally and internationally, our academics are challenging the boundaries of knowledge and laying the pathway to success through teaching and learning excellence.

At UWS you are encouraged to aspire to achieve great things in your career and community.

# PSYCHOLOGY COURSE GUIDE 2012

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## Melissa Colusso

### Bachelor of Psychology

#### Aspire Future Leader

Melissa Colusso has no regrets about choosing to study at the University of Western Sydney. 'I chose to study at UWS because of its young and friendly atmosphere,' she says. 'There was more flexibility and opportunities with my degree. The University is also conveniently located close to home, so I don't have to travel too far. Gaining the Academic Excellence scholarship and being accepted into the Aspire Leadership program sealed the deal. I know I made the right choice.'

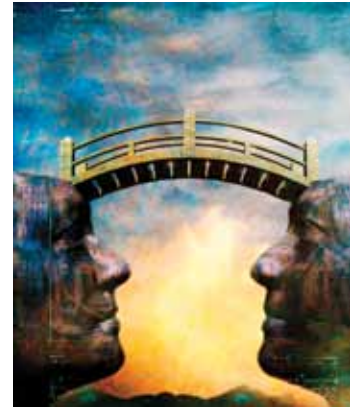
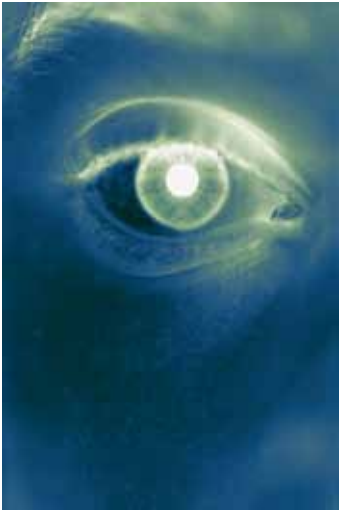
**'I chose to study at UWS because of its young and friendly atmosphere.'**

The Aspire retreat is the highlight of the program for Melissa so far. 'All the people I met during the retreat, I felt like I've known my entire life.' With a love of learning, meeting new people and experiencing new things, Melissa is keen to work with different people through Aspire, and make connections that will be valuable in her career, and life as a whole.

Melissa is no stranger to leadership, having held the roles of Vice Captain, Peer Support Leader, Prefect, Class Captain, Student Representative Council member and coordinator of the Vampire Shield in high school. Naturally drawn to leadership roles, Melissa enjoys the rewards of leading – helping others and seeing their appreciation.

In addition to her various roles, Melissa spent time working with autistic children during high school. She considers this experience as a major catalyst for her interest in human behaviour and decision to pursue a Bachelor of Psychology. Working with children appeals to Melissa who is interested in a career in educational psychology when she graduates. 'Another option I am considering is studying human behaviour within immigration or customs.'

# Why Study Psychology



» **Make sense of the world:** Studying psychology is to study our most powerful tool – the human mind – and to understand how we perceive and make sense of the world. Psychology helps us more accurately position the individual within the collective. It displaces assumption and installs evidence-based knowledge in place of misconception. What drives us? What stifles us? Psychology aims to make sense of who we really are.

» **Prepare for a broad range of careers:** If you are fascinated by the intrigues of the human psyche and excited by the prospect of positively impacting on human health, work, education, and home and family life, consider UWS Psychology. A UWS Psychology degree opens doors to numerous specialist psychology careers and various non-psychology roles including clinical psychology, forensic psychology, policy development, human resource consultancy, vocational assessment, juvenile justice, family and community services, and youth work.

» **Teaching and learning excellence:** Led by internationally recognised psychology academics and practitioners, the University of Western Sydney's Psychology program combines biological, cognitive, neurological, social, developmental and personality theory. This is complemented by research expertise and a solid grounding for later practical experience during postgraduate programs.

» **Gain full accreditation:** Our Psychology degrees are fully accredited and provide clear pathways from an undergraduate level to a professional career in psychology. They offer professional recognition, industry-based projects and placements (at the postgraduate level), broad subject choices, full-time or part-time study, exciting career options, a balance of theory and practical applications, local and international work experience opportunities, research opportunities and scholarships.

# at UWS?



» **Research that makes a difference:** The research profile of UWS is the success factor that attracts students to Psychology. UWS has a distinctive, high-impact research culture committed to enhancing our region's cultural, economic, environmental and educational development. Our reputation for research excellence has placed us in the Australian Research Council's (ARC) funding top 20, underlining our position among the best research institutions in the country.



» **Enjoy a great learning environment:** Each of UWS's campuses is directly linked to the Greater Western Sydney community and reflects the cultural diversity, energy and growth of the region. Facilities vary between campuses, but include libraries, gyms, computer labs, wireless internet, cafes, bars, tennis courts, swimming pools and open space. The Psychology degrees are offered on our dynamic Bankstown and Penrith campuses.



» **Gain further practical experience:** UWS has a range of professional practices operating under the UWS Psychology Clinic, which is a centre for postgraduate training and research. The clinic provides first-rate teaching and research facilities for students undertaking professional practice training, and is a significant community resource. The Clinic provides psychometric, behavioural and psychological assessments and cognitive behavioural therapy.



» **Realise your career goals:** Dr Genevieve Nelson, graduate of the Bachelor of Psychology (Honours) and Doctorate of Philosophy (Educational and Cross-Cultural Psychology) is convinced her studies at UWS gave her an extremely strong platform to achieve her career goals. 'The University supported all of my career choices – even when they were taking me down a very different path to what I had intended to go down early on. I am still in contact with professors and lecturers at the University and consider them important role models and mentors,' the Kokoda Track Executive Director says.

For those entering the field of psychology, Dr Nelson says it is an 'extremely rewarding career and the many years of study certainly do pay off. You can branch out into numerous career paths with a degree in psychology and are not bound to a single outcome'.

# Bachelor of Psychology

The UWS Bachelor of Psychology degree is your opportunity to understand all the things that determine human behaviour.

Topics covered in this degree include the way the brain works, how we learn, what our emotions are all about, how we process information to make decisions, why no two people are the same in how they think, feel and act, how our psychology changes from infancy through to old age, and the many kinds of mental disorder or illness that can arise. And this is just the beginning.

At UWS we strive to give you a thorough grounding in the core areas of psychology so you are equipped for a range of career options after graduation, including going on to become a practising psychologist. We also teach you how to do the research needed to discover more about human behaviour and answer questions about things we don't yet understand.

Course	UAC Code	Campus	Duration	ATAR
B Psychology	727500	Bankstown	4F/8P	80.95
Professional Recognition				
Completion of the B Psychology will fulfil the Psychology Board of Australia (PBA) and Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC) requirements for a four-year sequence in Psychology. The course satisfies the educational requirements for registration as a provisional psychologist with the Psychology Board of Australia (PBA). The course also meets the Associate Membership requirements of the Australian Psychological Society (APS).				

Key: B = Bachelor of; F = Full-time; P = Part-time. Note: part-time refers to study load, not to timetabling of evening classes.

The brain is still a mystery to us in many ways and some of you may want to go on to be researchers who solve some of those mysteries. In addition to the core subjects (units) we also offer electives in areas of research excellence such as health psychology, the psychology of language, and the psychology of religion.

As a four year degree, the Bachelor of Psychology gives you a thorough scientific understanding of psychology. Importantly, it is strongly vocational, equipping you with the specialist psychological and research skills you will need to enter the workforce as a Provisional Psychologist, or to proceed to advanced study.

## Core Subjects and Electives

To graduate with a Bachelor of Psychology, you will be required to complete 24 subjects (units), followed by either a Specialist Psychology Year or an Honours year.

The core subjects you may study in this degree include Brain and Behaviour, Introduction to Logical Thinking, Perception, Cognitive Processes, History and Philosophy of Psychology and Developmental Psychology.

There are eight elective subjects within the first three years of the Bachelor of Psychology. Electives can be chosen from other courses offered by the University of Western Sydney.

## Indigenous Australian Studies

Enrolment in the Indigenous Australian Studies (IAS) major, sub-major or units is available to all UWS undergraduate students who have open electives. Find out more at [studyias.com.au](http://studyias.com.au)

For detailed information about the course structure and subjects, visit [myfuture.uws.edu.au](http://myfuture.uws.edu.au)

### Further Studies

If you meet the requirements, the fourth year of this course is an Honours program involving specialised research. Fourth-year students not undertaking the Honours program will study a Specialist Psychology program comprising one core subject in psychological assessment, two electives, research methods, and an empirical research project presented as a thesis.

### Career Opportunities

As a graduate of the Bachelor of Psychology degree, you will enjoy a wide range of career possibilities, including challenging, rewarding roles in:

- » psychology or research positions in both government departments and the private sector in clinical, industrial, and organisational psychology
- » counselling psychology
- » vocational psychology
- » clinical psychology (with further study)
- » developmental disability
- » educational psychology
- » psychology and the law
- » media
- » human resources
- » community psychology
- » forensic psychology
- » sport psychology.



## Xuan Luu

### Bachelor of Psychology

Xuan Luu believes his experience as a university student has been greatly enriched by coming to UWS.

'I chose to study Psychology at UWS not only because the campus is close to home, but also because UWS creates a relaxed, comfortable, and friendly environment in which to study and learn – most notably, the great social life at UWS is a key part of this,' he says.

'Studying at UWS has exposed me to a myriad of different cultures, including my own, and this engagement with peers and academics from a diversity of backgrounds has really enriched my experiences as a university student. It has also opened up a vast amount of pathways for me – not only have I been able to work extensively with the University as a part of the course information staff, but I have also been able to really hone my vision of where I would like my career to go in the next few years.

'Studying Psychology at UWS has given me the chance to venture out into the community and engage with people real-time through volunteer positions particularly – I have found this to be invaluable to my progression both as a UWS student and as a future psychologist.

'I would highly recommend Psychology to anybody who is interested not only in how the human mind works and thinks, but also what causes people to do certain things, what causes them to tick, and how they can be so extensively affected by the things that life throws at them.'

'If Psychology is what you want to get into – it's a rollercoaster, so be ready for a fun challenge!'

# Bachelor of Arts (Psychology)

If your interest in psychology is tempered by a desire to understand its applications across the broad base of human endeavour, you should consider a UWS Bachelor of Arts, majoring in Psychology.

This degree offers a 12-subject (unit) accredited psychology sequence, comprising a major of eight subjects combined with a sub-major of four subjects. As it is accredited by the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council, it allows you to go on to apply for postgraduate study in psychology as a first step to becoming a practising psychologist.

In addition to covering the core areas in psychology, this course develops your communication and personal skills, as well as your creativity, capacity for independent thought, adaptability to new situations, and problem-solving skills.

Course	UAC Code	Campus	Duration	ATAR
B Arts (Psychology)	720510	Bankstown	3F/6P	70.00
	720518	Penrith	3F/6P	70.35

## Professional Recognition

Completion of the Psychology major and sub-major will fulfil the Psychology Board of Australia (PBA) and Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC) as a three-year sequence in psychology. Completion of a fourth year will satisfy the educational requirements for registration as a provisional psychologist with the Psychology Board of Australia (PBA) and the Associate Membership requirements of the Australian Psychological Society (APS). Both bodies require a further two years of study or supervised experience as a psychologist before granting full registration and membership.

Key: B = Bachelor of; F = Full-time; P = Part-time. Note: part-time refers to study load, not to timetabling of evening classes.

Your major and sub-major will be in psychology, but you can choose your electives from many other degree programs taught across UWS – broadening your abilities in cultural, historical and/or social analysis.

Alternatively, some students may have an interest in psychology without wanting to become a psychologist. By completing a Bachelor of Arts with just the eight-subject psychology major (that is not accredited), you can broaden your knowledge, making possible a wider range of more general career outcomes, outside of 'pure psychology'.

## Core Subjects and Electives

To graduate with a Bachelor of Arts (Psychology), you will be required to complete 24 subjects (units).

The core subjects you may study in this degree include Psychology: Human Behaviour, Psychology: Behavioural Science, Brain and Behaviour, Motivation and Emotion, Perception and Social Psychology.

There are up to four elective subjects within the Bachelor of Arts (Psychology). The elective component of the degree may be structured around other Arts specialisations, including media and visual cultures, Asian studies and international relations, cultural and social analysis, English text and writing, history and political thought, languages, education, or social ecology.

For detailed information about the course structure and subjects, visit [myfuture.uws.edu.au](http://myfuture.uws.edu.au)

# Double Degrees

## Further Studies

With the accredited sequence in psychology, an additional Honours year is available to high-achieving students. The application and proposal need to be provided to the relevant academic in the final year of your Bachelor degree. Information about Honours options or an alternative path to fourth year via the Postgraduate Diploma of Psychology will be provided to you as you progress through your Bachelor degree, or you can find out more at [myfuture.uws.edu.au](http://myfuture.uws.edu.au)

## Career Opportunities

With an accredited psychology sequence in the Bachelor of Arts, you can pursue many of the same career options made available by the Bachelor of Psychology, including roles in:

- » psychology or research positions in both government departments and the private sector in clinical, industrial and organisational psychology
- » counselling psychology
- » vocational psychology
- » clinical psychology (with further study)
- » developmental disability
- » educational psychology
- » psychology and the law
- » media
- » human resources
- » community psychology
- » forensic psychology
- » sport psychology.

Importantly, the Arts Psychology degree also opens doors to careers in fields such as:

- » politics and policy development
- » human resource consultancy
- » writing and communication
- » vocational assessment.

Your study options at UWS are increasing. Now you can tailor your studies to your specific goals by combining degrees. In 2012, the Bachelor of Arts (Psychology) can be combined with a Bachelor of Laws.

For detailed information about the course structure and subjects, visit [myfuture.uws.edu.au](http://myfuture.uws.edu.au)

Course	B Arts (Psychology)/B Laws	
UAC Code	725025	725030
Location	Campbelltown	Parramatta
Duration	5F	5F
ATAR	90.20	90.40

Key: B = Bachelor of; F = Full-time.

For more information  
please call the UWS Course  
Information Centre on  
1300 897 669 or email  
[study@uws.edu.au](mailto:study@uws.edu.au)

# Providing Support Through Scholarships

The University of Western Sydney is not only about obtaining an education. We challenge ourselves to engage students who will get involved and make a difference to the University and wider communities.

UWS has a unique set of scholarships on offer with many differing criteria. They reflect our strong commitment to academic excellence and opportunity for Greater Western Sydney students. Our scholarships support students who have diverse interests and skills, and who can and do make an active contribution.

UWS works closely with business, industry, and the community to ensure we offer scholarships that meet the needs of our students. Our scholarships provide our students with support and give them the opportunity to establish professional relationships while they study.

Take the time to examine our scholarships and make the most of your opportunities for success. For details on UWS Scholarships, including the eligibility requirements and how to apply, refer to [www.uws.edu.au/scholarships](http://www.uws.edu.au/scholarships) or call 1300 897 669.



## Danielle Maynard

### Bachelor of Psychology

Danielle Maynard never considered studying anywhere else than the University of Western Sydney.

'The campus is conveniently located for me and has a well respected Psychology program with some of the best educators I've come across,' she says.

'The educators associated with the Bachelor of Psychology are enthusiastic and are always thinking of new and interesting ways to pass their knowledge onto their students. They are also always approachable, accessible and organised. This ensures an interesting, satisfying and enjoyable learning experience.'

'The campuses at UWS are beautiful and green with plenty of vegetation and outdoor furniture. This provides for a very relaxing study environment. Many of the campuses also provide for a satisfying social experience through the provision of lounges and gaming facilities, such as pool tables. The libraries at UWS campuses also provide plenty of computers and resources. There are also many online facilities, such as journals. These can be accessed off-campus, which is extremely valuable when doing research for assignments.'

# Aspiring Leaders

Aspire Future Leaders at the University of Western Sydney™ is a unique professional development and personal enrichment program that has been specifically designed to cultivate and enhance the leadership qualities of students.

By being a part of Aspire, you will have the opportunity to be involved in:

- » the annual three-day Aspire Welcome Retreat
- » professional and personal development workshops
- » valuable networking opportunities with the professional community

- » VIP Invitations to UWS Open Days and other annual events
- » volunteering opportunities through community engagement
- » internships and work experience opportunities.

Aspire is an opportunity for young, talented people with leadership abilities and ambitions, to become part of an elite group of high-achieving undergraduate students. For details on the Aspire program and eligibility requirements, please refer to [serious.uws.edu.au](http://serious.uws.edu.au) or call 1300 897 669.

# Applicant Checklist



## Find out about our courses

# 1

- Read the information within this Guide
- Talk with Careers Advisors, your parents and teachers/mentors
- Refer to the Future Students site, visit [myfuture.uws.edu.au](http://myfuture.uws.edu.au)



## Talk to us

# 2

- Attend UWS events – find out more at [myfuture.uws.edu.au/events](http://myfuture.uws.edu.au/events)
- Call the UWS Course Information Centre on 1300 897 669 or email [study@uws.edu.au](mailto:study@uws.edu.au)
- Get the inside information on Alternative Entry Pathways to UWS, Triple Advantage and bonus points, Scholarships and Aspire



## Apply to UWS

# 3

- Apply through UAC, visit [www.uac.edu.au](http://www.uac.edu.au)
- Place your UWS Preferences
- Check your eligibility and submit a scholarship application, visit [www.uws.edu.au/scholarships](http://www.uws.edu.au/scholarships)

## For International Students

If you are an international student completing one of the following qualifications in 2011, you must apply through UAC International:

- » an Australian Year 12 in or outside Australia
- » an International Baccalaureate
- » a New Zealand National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) Level 3

All other international students must apply direct to the University of Western Sydney. UWS International application forms, 2012 International tuition fees and further information about studying in Australia can be found at [www.uws.edu.au/international](http://www.uws.edu.au/international)

If you have any questions about applying as an international student call 02 9852 5499 or email [internationalstudy@uws.edu.au](mailto:internationalstudy@uws.edu.au)

For international students, you can lodge your international student application online at [www.uac.edu.au/international](http://www.uac.edu.au/international)

The University of Western Sydney reserves the right at all times to withdraw or vary courses listed within this publication. Variations may include but are not limited to location of its courses on UWS campuses or other locations. In the event that a course within this publication is to be changed or withdrawn, applicants will be advised by mail to the address specified by them on their UAC application before the last date for the change of preferences for the main round. In respect of course location change, students should be aware of the need to accommodate such changes for the whole or part of courses for which they enrol. The University also reserves the right to update, amend or replace online versions of this publication without notice.

University of Western Sydney  
Locked Bag 1797  
Penrith NSW 2751 Australia  
[www.uws.edu.au](http://www.uws.edu.au)

Course Information Centre  
1300 897 669  
[study@uws.edu.au](mailto:study@uws.edu.au)

## See you at

- ▣ UWS Day Campbelltown, 7 June 2011
- ▣ Parent Information Evening, 7 & 14 July 2011
- ▣ UWS Open Day, 28 August 2011
- ▣ UWS Campus Tours, October 2011
- ▣ UWS Day Penrith, 9 November 2011
- ▣ Course Decision Day, 3 January 2012

More information: [myfuture.uws.edu.au/events](http://myfuture.uws.edu.au/events)

## Interact with us to experience UWS Life

- ▣ Visit the Future Students Site: [myfuture.uws.edu.au](http://myfuture.uws.edu.au)
- ▣ Visit the Events Mini-Site: [myfuture.uws.edu.au/events](http://myfuture.uws.edu.au/events)
- ▣ Find us on Facebook: [www.uws.edu.au/facebook](http://www.uws.edu.au/facebook) 
- ▣ Connect with us on Twitter: [www.twitter.com/UWSNews](http://www.twitter.com/UWSNews) 
- ▣ Take a Virtual Tour: [virtualevents.uws.edu.au](http://virtualevents.uws.edu.au)
- ▣ Watch our YouTube videos: [www.uws.edu.au/youtube](http://www.uws.edu.au/youtube) 
- ▣ Call the Course Information Centre: 1300 897 669
- ▣ Email the Course Information Centre: [study@uws.edu.au](mailto:study@uws.edu.au)

