

Diploma of Psychology

Example Course Plans for Students

The following are example course plans for students studying in the Diploma of Psychology.

Pathways

- Bachelor of Psychological Science

*** WAM requirements (WAM is the average mark obtained across all modules, including failed modules) may apply – please refer to course plans for more details.**

Planned Module Availability - Diploma of Psychology

Core Modules – Students must complete the following modules

Subject	Trimester 1	Trimester 2	Trimester 3
PPSY1HPM History, Philosophy and Methodology of Psychological Science	✓	✓	✗
PPSY1EFP Experimental Foundations of Psychology	✓	✓	✗
PSTA1PSY Statistics for Psychology	✗	✓	✓
PPSY1CFP Clinical Foundations of Psychology	✗	✓	✓

Elective Modules – Students must complete 4 elective modules from any diploma. We suggest some of the following modules

Subject	Trimester 1	Trimester 2	Trimester 3
HHBS1HBA Human Biosciences A	✓	✓	✓
HHLT1IPP Introduction to Professional Practice	✓	✓	✓
HHLT1CHS Communicating in Health Sciences	✗	✓	✓
BMGT1OBE Working with Others	✓	✓	✓

Required 0 credit point unit

All students are required to take and pass LTM1AIM Academic Integrity Module in their first trimester of study.

Suggested Example Course Study Outlines

Fast Track (Completing In 8 months / 2 trimesters)					
<i>Commencing Trimester 1, enter University in Semester 1 the following year</i>					
YEAR 1 (DIPLOMA)		COMPULSORY ONLINE SUBJECT (must be completed in your first trimester of study)			
		LTM1AIM			
		Academic Integrity Module			
	Trimester 1	PPSY1HPM (Core)	PPSY1EFP (Core)	Elective	Elective
		History, Philosophy and Methodology of Psychological Science	Experimental Foundations of Psychology		
	Trimester 2	PSTA1PSY (Core)	PPSY1CFP (Core)	Elective	Elective
	Statistics for Psychology	Clinical Foundations of Psychology			

Normal Track (Completing course in 12 months / 3 Trimesters)					
<i>Commencing Trimester 1, enter University in Semester 1 the following year</i>					
YEAR 1 (DIPLOMA)		COMPULSORY ONLINE SUBJECT (must be completed in your first trimester of study)			
		LTM1AIM			
		Academic Integrity Module			
	Trimester 1	PPSY1HPM (Core)	PPSY1EFP (Core)	Elective	
		History, Philosophy and Methodology of Psychological Science	Experimental Foundations of Psychology		
	Trimester 2	PSTA1PSY (Core)	PPSY1CFP (Core)	Elective	
		Statistics for Psychology	Clinical Foundations of Psychology		
	Trimester 3	Elective	Elective		

Recommended Electives

Students must complete 4 additional modules from any other diploma course. Suggested modules include some of the following:

- HHBS1HBA Human Biosciences A *(planned for all trimesters)*
- HHLT1IPP Introduction to Professional Practice *(planned for all trimesters)*
- HHLT1CHS Communicating in Health Sciences *(planned for Trimester 2 and 3 only)*
- BMGT1OBE Working with Others *(planned for all trimesters)*

When I transfer to La Trobe University I want to study

Bachelor of Psychological Science

Complete either of the above study plans, *AND*:

WAM requirement: 50% overall

Campus: Bundoora

Credits: 8 units

Module Descriptions

Core Modules

LTM1AIM Academic Integrity Module (online, zero credit point unit, all students must complete this unit in their first trimester)

This subject introduces students to the principals of academic integrity in the context of La Trobe University's values and policy. Students learn what their responsibilities are in relation to maintaining ethical standards in all aspects of academic work and the potential ramifications for academic misconduct according to the Academic Integrity Policy. Activities and quizzes are provided which are designed to develop and understanding of the concepts of cheating, plagiarism and collusion. Topics include an explaining of how the text-matching tool 'Turnitin' is used at La Trobe, and where to get help and where to go to develop referencing skills.

Assessment: Final Quiz (must achieve 8/10 to pass), Statement of Student responsibility (must achieve 10/10 to pass)

PPSY1HPM History, Philosophy and Methodology of Psychological Science

This subject introduces students to the philosophical, historical and methodological foundations of psychology providing them with a solid basis for understanding the nature of theoretical development of the discipline. This outcome is achieved by critically examining how theories are developed and used in psychology and examining how these theories are operationalised in experimental contexts. In teams, students will be required to develop and operationalise their own research question and present the results of this enquiry to the class.

Assessment: Minor Essay (10%), Major Essay (35%), Group Poster Presentation (10%), Exam (45%)

PPSY1EFP Experimental Foundations of Psychological Science

One of the most exciting things about studying psychology is that it is both a discipline like mathematics or geography and a practice like law or medicine. In this unit we will explore a number of core experimental approaches and findings in psychology which will orient the student to the science of the discipline. We will focus on how your brain works in creating your behaviour, how brain and behaviour change across the lifespan, how and why you are different from other people, how you sense the world and how you process and understand the information that arises from your senses.

Assessment: Minor Essay (10%), Group Oral Presentation (5%), Major Essay (35%), Exam (50%)

PPSY1CFP Clinical Foundations of Psychological Science

In this subject we explore clinical approaches in psychology, which will orient the student to the evidence underpinning the practice of the discipline. We focus on personality and what makes a person unique, how people work together in groups including couples, small groups or crowds and what happens to a person when they develop a mental illness and what we can do to treat these conditions. We also examine the processes that drive a person to do things that they do and how they feel about them, and examine the impact of culture on mental processing and the nature of intercultural diversity.

Assessment: Research proposal (10%), Online Quizzes (5%), Research report (35%), Exam (50%)

PSTA1PSY Statistics for Psychology

This subject is designed to introduce students to a range of statistical methods used in contemporary research. The material covered in this subject aims to help students understand statistical principles through the introduction of basic statistical procedures. This subject will also help students comprehend statistical analyses in scientific research papers. The statistical computing package SPSS is an integral part of this subject with weekly practice classes held in a computer laboratory.

Assessment: Assignments (20%), Computer-based class tests (30%), Exam (50%)

Suggested Elective Modules

HHBS1HBA Human Biosciences A

In this subject students will be introduced to the anatomical organisation of the body and the basics of cell structure and function. The fundamentals of the nervous and endocrine systems will then be explored in the context of mechanisms of physiological control. This information will provide the foundation for the study of the major organ systems of the body which include the respiratory, cardiovascular, renal, digestive, reproductive systems and metabolism. Underpinning these studies will be the concept of homeostasis and how it is maintained by integration of organ system functions

Assessment: Workshop Quiz (10%), Team and Workshop activities (10%), Collaborative testing (40%), Exam (40%)

HHLT1CHS Communicating in Health Science

Communication is a fundamental part of all aspects of health and human services. In this subject students will explore and expand their knowledge and skills in communication, including speaking and listening, reading and writing, interpersonal and public communication.

Assessment: Online test (10%), Speaking task (10%), reflective task (10%), written task (30%), Exam (40%)

HHLT1IPP Introduction to Professional Practice

Introduction to Professional Practice is a subject which will introduce you to the health care system; as a consumer participants, as a health and human services practitioner and as part of a health care team.

This subject also offers you the opportunity to reflect on your own experiences within the health care system, and to use this to analyse and develop your understanding of health and human services. Group work is an essential component of University studies, and you will explore the nature of group work and team based assessment, as used across all subjects. Concurrent with HHLT1IPP is HHLT1LHS Learning in Health Sciences, which covers academic skills such as referencing, academic writing and presentations, critical analysis, and academic integrity.

Assessment: Class Tests (20%), Case Study (20%), Essay (30%), Exam (30%)

BMGT1OBE Working with Others

Teams are the core of any successful business venture. Advancements in technology which has made the world a much smaller place facilitating cross country collaborations on various projects, where teams from multiple countries work together remotely to achieve the desired goals by collectively solving complex problems which require innovative solutions.

In this subject, you will learn how to form teams, set effective goals, develop interpersonal skills, focus on advanced communication techniques and attain the necessary skills needed for leading your teams towards organisational success, you will apply and evaluate the organisational behavioural theory to businesses plagued with issues like motivation, group decision-making, teamwork, and cultural diversity.

Acquiring these skills will make you a more effective employee/manager.

Assessment: Online quizzes (20%), Group Assignment (20%), Individual Assignments (20%), Exam (40%)