



**Faculty of Science**  
**School of Psychology**

**Graduate Diploma in Advanced Psychology**  
**(5332)**

**PROGRAM GUIDE**

*Last Updated 2 October 2025*

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## PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

Award Name:	Graduate Diploma in Advanced Psychology
Abbreviated Award Name:	GDipAdvPsych
Program Code:	5332
Program Type:	Postgraduate
Delivery Mode:	Online
Program Duration:	1 year full-time
Required Courses/UOC:	10 courses (total 48 UOC)
Program Commencement:	Hexamester 1 & Hexamester 4
Academic Calendar:	<a href="#">UNSW Hexamester Academic Calendar</a>
Number of Hexamesters/Year:	6
Hexamester Length:	6 weeks
Fees:	<a href="https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/fees">https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/fees</a>
APAC accreditation:	APAC-accredited Level 2 program
Pathway after completion:	APAC-accredited Level 3-4 program (eg Psychology Masters) (see <a href="#">APS Study Pathways</a> & <a href="#">APAC Registration Pathways</a> )

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### Program Directors & Program Authorities:

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### GDipAdvPsych General Enquiry:

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## IMPORTANT

This program is delivered using the [UNSW Hexamester Academic Calendar](#). The program's key dates and some policies may be different to those applicable to students enrolled in standard UNSW programs using the standard term-based academic calendar.

Students enrolled in the Graduate Diploma in Advanced Psychology should refer to the information in this guide book (available from [School's Postgraduate Resources Page](#)), the [5332 Degree Page](#), the Research Student Handbook provided in your Moodle course.

Please contact [psychonline@unsw.edu.au](mailto:psychonline@unsw.edu.au) for any enquiries relating to this program.

UNSW Sydney reserves the right to alter procedures, fees and regulations should the need arise. The university also reserves the right to discontinue or vary courses and sessions dates at any time without notice.

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Graduate Diploma in Advanced Psychology (GDipAdvPsych) is designed to enable students who have completed a foundational sequence in Psychology to consolidate and extend their existing knowledge of the theories, perspectives, and practices in psychology, in addition to undertaking a significant research project. A key purpose of the program is also to provide an academic foundation for students, particularly those with the intention of pursuing a career in the professional practice of psychology, to continue on to further post-graduate study (e.g. Masters).

Students will conduct a year-long, 24 unit of credit (UOC) independent research project under the guidance of an academic supervisor. This is to culminate in the production of a written thesis based on the project, which is subject to independent assessment. In addition, students will undertake 24 UOC of advanced-level coursework, comprising 3 core courses and 1 elective.

The research project is conducted over 6 hexamesters, and is divided into 6 units aligning with the major components of a research thesis: Introduction (over 2 hexamesters), Methods, Results (over 2 hexamesters), and Discussion/Thesis production. Potential options of focus area for the research project may include: psychopathology, mental health and well-being, social psychology, learning, cognition, personality, or developmental psychology. Content of the core coursework comprises statistical methods, the history of psychology, professional ethics, and evidence-based practice. The elective coursework component comprises advanced coverage of contemporary research and theory in a select range of topic areas that align with the expertise and research specialisations of academic staff.

The program is conducted 100% online and may be undertaken in one year full-time. Completion of the GDipAdvPsych will qualify students to apply for entry into APAC-accredited Level 3-4 programs (e.g. Masters).

The Graduate Diploma is designed to provide the appropriate training in Level 2 pre-professional competencies as defined by the accreditation standards published by the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC) on behalf of the Psychology Board of Australia (PsyBA). In doing this, it is specifically targeted at students seeking a pathway into professional practice (by subsequent training in a Masters-level program). Students wishing to progress instead to PhD programs are recommended to apply for the full-time, face-to-face Psychology Honours programs offered by the School of Psychology at UNSW.

## PROGRAM OBJECTIVES AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

These program outcomes are aligned with the Australian Qualification Framework Level 8 descriptors and the graduate pre-professional competencies listed by the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council.

Upon successful completion of this program, it is expected that students will be able to:

1. Contribute to psychological discourse and practice in a manner that is culturally appropriate, sensitive to the diversity of individuals, and upholds the values and ethics of psychology.
2. Produce original work in a variety of formats that synthesises a broad range of psychological concepts, theoretical perspectives, and empirical findings.

3. Adapt high-level knowledge of psychological principles and practice for application across diverse, real-world contexts.
4. Communicate in a clear, empathetic, and responsive manner in the context of psychological practice and research via the application of foundational interviewing skills such as active listening, effective questioning, clarifying and reflecting, summarising and paraphrasing, and developing rapport.
5. Describe basic strategies for psychological assessment and critically evaluate the theoretical and empirical bases underpinning construction, implementation and interpretation of some of the more widely used psychological test instruments.
6. Compare how psychological intervention strategies can be applied across a range of contexts, and construct a critical analysis of these strategies with reference to relevant frameworks for legal and ethical practice.
7. Implement advanced research skills in the investigation of empirical questions relevant to the discipline of psychology, including review and consolidation of existing evidence, generating novel ideas and formulating solutions to complex problems with intellectual independence.
8. Apply critical and creative thinking skills to communicate a clear and coherent exposition of advanced theoretical knowledge and ideas within a specialised domain of psychology to a broad audience.

## ADMISSIONS & SUPERVISOR ALLOCATION

There is one entry point to the GDipAdvPsych program in 2025 in Hexamester 4 2025 and there are 2 entry points from 2026 in Hexamester 1 and Hexamester 4.

Applications for the program is submitted online through [UNSW Apply Online Portal](#).

The minimum requirement to apply into GDipAdvPsych is completion of an APAC-accredited Level 1 program within the last 10 years with minimum WAM 65.

Applicants who met the minimum entry requirements when applying and applicants with pending final term's results will have their applications be put on hold by UNSW Admissions Office and will be contacted by School closer to the program's commencement to input their preferences on available research topics.

School will do the final shortlisting of applications and issue offers to eligible applicants through UNSW Admissions Office prior to the commencement of each intake.

There will be short windows to submit preferences prior to final shortlisting and to accept offer and enrol into courses after offers being issued. Students must check their emails regularly so that they do not miss any communications & can take required actions by the given deadlines.

Failure to input preferences, to accept offer, and to self-enrol into courses by the given deadlines means that admission cannot be processed further and students must re-apply for next available intake.

**Admissions are very competitive, based on academic merit & students' preference nominations, and subject to supervisors' availabilities & School's resources.**

**Meeting entry requirements do NOT guarantee a place in the GDipAdvPsych program and submitting preferences do NOT guarantee that you will be allocated to any of your preferences.**

## PROGRAM STRUCTURE

Program duration is 1 year and it consists of coursework and research components.

Students must complete 10 courses (total 48 UOC) consisting of 4 coursework (24 UOC) and 6 research units (24 UOC), to be awarded the GDipAdvPsych.

The coursework component comprises 3 compulsory core courses and 1 elective course that cover advanced content pertaining to statistics, the history of psychology, ethics, professional practice, and selections from other domains of psychological inquiry.

The research component comprises 6 compulsory units that lead the students through the key stages of conducting a major independent research project and culminates in the production of a written thesis.

Below is the list of courses and its typical availabilities throughout the year (see [UNSW Handbook](#) for course descriptions; search using the course codes below).

**The School reserves the right to alter courses' availability as required without prior notice.**

### Typical Annual Courses Availability

Course		Hexamester					
		H1	H2	H3	H4	H5	H6
<b>PSYC5201</b>	Advanced Research Methods & Statistics (6 UOC)	X			X		
<b>PSYC5202</b>	History & Professional Ethics in Psychology (6 UOC)		X			X	
<b>PSYC5203</b>	Application of Psychological Practice (6 UOC)	X			X		
<b>PSYC5204</b>	Behavioural Neuroscience (6 UOC)					X	
<b>PSYC5205</b>	Mental Health & Illness (6 UOC)					X	
<b>PSYC5206</b>	Cognitive Science (6 UOC)		X				
<b>PSYC5207</b>	Social Psychology (6 UOC)		X				
<b>PSYC5208</b>	Research Project: Introduction Part 1 (3 UOC)	X			X		
<b>PSYC5209</b>	Research Project: Introduction Part 2 (3 UOC)		X			X	
<b>PSYC5210</b>	Research Project: Methods (6 UOC)			X			X
<b>PSYC5211</b>	Research Project: Results Part 1 (3 UOC)	X			X		
<b>PSYC5212</b>	Research Project: Results Part 2 (3 UOC)		X			X	
<b>PSYC5213</b>	Research Project: Thesis (6 UOC)			X			X

- Core Coursework (must complete all 3)
- Elective Coursework (must complete 1 of 4)
- Research Project (must complete all 6 without break & in order)

## PROGRAM DELIVERY & PROGRESSION RULES

Each course is delivered 100% online through [Moodle](#) for 6 weeks in each hexamester. There are 6 hexamesters per year.

Students may enrol in a maximum of 9 UOC per hexamester. Students will study 6 UOC coursework and 3 UOC research unit in their first, second, fourth and fifth hexamesters. Students will study 6 UOC research unit in their third and sixth hexamesters.

Please note that this is an intensive full-time program of study with expected level of engagement of 30 hours per week on 9 UOC hexa and 20 hours per week on 6 UOC hexa.

Due to the intensive nature of the program, under no circumstances will overloading requests be granted.

It is recommended to keep outside work to minimum.

Progression through the program depends on when students start the program, choice of elective, and the progression rules.

The research units follow the progression of students' individual research projects, and hence, must be taken in sequential order (PSYC5208 – PSYC5209 – PSYC5210 – PSYC5211 – PSYC5212 – PSYC5213) without any break in one year.

For core coursework PSYC5201 Advanced Research Methods & Statistics:

- It is highly advisable to start the program with this course to provide foundation for research methods and results courses.
- It is highly advisable that students have completed this course prior to attempting PSYC5211 Research Project: Results Part 1.
- This course is a pre-requisite for, and hence, must be satisfactorily completed prior to attempting PSYC5212 Research Project: Results Part 2.

Credit transfer or Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is not available in this program.

Students have a maximum of 3 years to complete the program.

Students are expected to be aware of any time difference for tutorial times and assessments due dates & times (see [Assessment](#) section below).

If students are undertaking the program from overseas (outside Australia), students have the responsibility to ensure that they have stable access to the internet and are not prevented from accessing any of the online material, including library and open resources.

Typical program progression plan based on entry point and elective selection can be seen on the next page.

## Typical Program Progression Plan Based on Entry Point & Elective

### Entry Point: Hexamester 1

#### Option 1: Elective PSYC5204 or PSYC5205

Hexamester Course	H1	H2	H3	H4	H5	H6
Coursework	PSYC5201	PSYC5202	-	PSYC5203	PSYC5204 or PSYC5205	-
Thesis	PSYC5208	PSYC5209	PSYC5210	PSYC5211	PSYC5212	PSYC5213

#### Option 2: Elective PSYC5206 or PSYC5207

Hexamester Course	H1	H2	H3	H4	H5	H6
Coursework	PSYC5201	PSYC5206 or PSYC5207	-	PSYC5203	PSYC5202	-
Thesis	PSYC5208	PSYC5209	PSYC5210	PSYC5211	PSYC5212	PSYC5213

### Entry Point: Hexamester 4

#### Option 1: Elective PSYC5206 or PSYC5207

Year/ Course	Hexamester	H1	H2	H3	H4	H5	H6
Year 1	Coursework				PSYC5201	PSYC5202	-
	Thesis				PSYC5208	PSYC5209	PSYC5210
Year 2	Coursework	PSYC5203	PSYC5206 or PSYC5207	-			
	Thesis	PSYC5211	PSYC5212	PSYC5213			

#### Option 2: Elective PSYC5204 or PSYC5205

Year/ Course	Hexamester	H1	H2	H3	H4	H5	H6
Year 1	Coursework				PSYC5201	PSYC5204 or PSYC5205	-
	Thesis				PSYC5208	PSYC5209	PSYC5210
Year 2	Coursework	PSYC5203	PSYC5202	-			
	Thesis	PSYC5211	PSYC5212	PSYC5213			



## ENROLMENT PROCESS

Students are required to self-enrol into courses online via [myUNSW](#) (see [Enrolment Guide](#) on how to enrol and [Key Dates](#) for enrolment deadlines).

Students have the responsibility to self-enrol in the correct course sequence by each hexamester's [Enrolment Deadline](#) and to ensure that they are following the progression rules and are on track to complete the program.

**Any variation from typical program progression plan should be made in consultation at earliest opportunity with, and be approved by, UNSW Psychology. Please contact [GDipAdvPsych General Enquiry](#) for any questions about enrolment or progression.**

**Non-enrolment will lead to automatic withdrawal from the program after the census date.**

**Students who have been withdrawn from the program will need to re-apply for the program.**

## WITHDRAWING FROM A COURSE

You can drop your enrolled course via [myUNSW](#) until the AW Deadline (inclusive), which falls on Friday Week 6 in each hexamester. There are implications for your financial liability and academic record, depending on the timing at which you drop a course (see below for more details).

**More importantly, there will be implication on your progression in the program. In most cases, you will need to withdraw from the program and re-apply in the next available intake.**

**Please contact [GDipAdvPsych General Enquiry](#) as soon as possible if you have any concern in completing your enrolled course or if you need to withdraw from a course or the program.**

You can find the program's Key Dates from the [School's Postgraduate Resources](#) page or [UNSW Hexamester Calendar](#).

### On or before Census Date

The Census Date is the last day to drop a course without having to pay the tuition fee and without academic penalty.

If you drop a course on or before the Census Date:

- You will **not** be financially liable for the course.
- The course will **not** appear on your transcript.
- The course will **not** be included in the calculation of your Weighted Average Mark (WAM).
- The course will **not** be included in the calculation of your [academic standing](#).

### After Census Date and on or before the AW Deadline

If you drop a course within this period:

- You **will** be financially liable for the course.

- The course **will** appear on your academic transcript with a grade of [AW \(Academic Withdrawal\)](#).
- The course will **not** be included in the calculation of your WAM.
- The course **will** be included in the calculation of your [academic standing](#) and academic progression, as units of credit attempted but not passed.

### After the AW Deadline

You are not able to drop a course after the AW Deadline. You will be assigned the final mark and grade awarded to you by your Course Authority.

### Special Circumstances

In defined special circumstances, you can apply for [Fee Remission](#). If successful:

- The course fees (excluding SSAF) **will** be re-credited, remitted or refunded, whichever is applicable
- The course will **not** appear on your transcript
- The course **will** remain in your record with a grade of [PW \(Permitted Withdrawal\)](#)
- The course will **not** be included in the calculation of your WAM and will **not** count towards your [academic standing](#)

## STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

The Graduate Diploma in Advanced Psychology is an intensive program. The shortened length of teaching periods (6-week hexamesters) means that students must be able to complete all components of the course in a timely manner.

It is the responsibility of the students to ensure that they complete all of the assigned work in each weekly module, including the following: watching all lectures, attending 100% of the online tutorials (either synchronously or asynchronously), completing the readings, learning activities, assessment preparation and assessment tasks.

Students in research courses are also responsible to complete all online activities/videos and to attend weekly small group seminars and weekly one-on-one academic supervision meetings online.

Due to the intensive nature of the program, it is recommended to keep outside work to minimum.

### Attendance

Students are required to attend 100% of online contact hours in each course. Full attendance is required to ensure students are consistently working towards achieving the graduate competencies required by the APAC Accreditation Standards. These Accreditation Standards are incorporated in Program and Course Learning Outcomes.

The class tutorials and one-on-one supervisory meetings for the GDipAdvPsych are all held online, using Blackboard Collaborate Ultra, available on the Moodle course page. During tutorials, Convenor and students will have live discussions about the weekly materials in a webinar format. Students are strongly encouraged to log on at the time of the tutorial in order to participate in synchronous tutorial discussions. Logging on to attend the live tutorial class will also provide students with the opportunity to ask their Convenor questions about the course and assessment content.

If you are unable to attend the synchronous tutorial (live at the time of the tutorial), you will be required to logon and view the recorded tutorial and read the comments left by your fellow students. You must then post comments on the tutorial discussion board to indicate that you have participated in the tutorial in an asynchronous manner.

Tutorial attendance is monitored. Your name will be recorded when you log on to the synchronous tutorial class OR when you view the tutorial recording and post a comment if you participated in the tutorial in an asynchronous manner. Failure to meet the 100% specified attendance requirements may result in course failure.

Explanations for an occasional absence from a class or requests for permission to be absent from a class should be discussed with the Course Convenor, and where applicable, accompanied by a medical certificate.

## Moodle – Online Course Content

All courses in GDipAdvPsych program are delivered online through [Moodle](#) (also accessible via [myUNSW](#)). Course content will be made available from the first day of the hexamester and will be gradually added every week.

In your first hexamester in the program, you will be automatically enrolled into Student Essentials module in [Moodle](#). This module aims to help students familiarise themselves with university's resources, support services, rules and policies. The module has to be completed **by Sunday Week 4** of your first hexamester.

See [UNSW Moodle Support for Students](#) (including required System Requirements) and [The Student Essentials Module](#).

Please contact [GDipAdvPsych General Enquiry](#) if your course is not listed on Moodle once the hexamester has commenced.

It is students' responsibility to stay up-to-date with course updates and announcements communicated via the Moodle page and UNSW email.

Students are expected to comply with all of the [Students Code of Conduct](#) as well as university rules, policies and procedures at all times.

## ASSESSMENTS

The GDipAdvPsych requires students to complete a wide range of assessment types, including a substantial written thesis based upon their individual research projects.

**Students are expected to complete all assessment tasks, except those specifically identified as optional. Failure to submit compulsory assessment will result in automatic failure of the course.**

For each course, check the Course Outline and refer to the assessment information uploaded by your Course Convenor in Moodle to make sure you are clear about what assessment tasks are required, the deadline for each, and how to complete or submit the assessment via Moodle.

The School takes no responsibility for assessments completed or submitted in ways other than specified in the provided instructions.

All assessments dates and deadlines are based on Australian Eastern Standard or Daylight Time:

- Australian Eastern Daylight Time (AEDT) is in use from the first Sunday in October to the first Sunday in April during Daylight Saving Time (DST);
- Australian Eastern Standard Time (AEST) is used during the remainder of the year.

It is the students' responsibility to make sure that they are working from a functional and compatible device which meets [Moodle's system requirements](#) with secure and stable internet connection and that they are referring to Australian Eastern Standard or Daylight Time for all assessments' due dates and times.

Misreading the assessment's deadline, miscalculation of time differences, internet/access/computer/technical issues will not be considered as grounds for misadventure and any Special Consideration request submitted on these grounds will be rejected.

Students must submit and present their own work in all assessments and provide appropriate referencing. Please see [Student Code of Conduct](#) section for information on how to avoid plagiarism & important notes on file sharing websites and the use of generative AI tools in your assessment.

## Types of Assessments for Coursework

### **(i) Individual Written Assignments**

Students will be presented with questions/topics/scenarios/data/scientific articles and will be required to write an academic essay or report to address the specified questions and to demonstrate understanding & critical analysis on the topic.

In most cases, the electronic version of the assignment should be submitted through the Turnitin link on Moodle for plagiarism checking.

See [Late Penalty](#) & [Special Consideration](#) sections below for information about possible extensions.

### **(ii) Group Work**

Students may need to work in pairs or groups for certain activities and assignments.

No extensions will be granted for group work.

### **(iii) Oral Presentations**

Oral presentations may take the form of live online presentations to the class and/or uploading videos of your oral presentation for your Convenor/class to view.

See [Late Penalty](#) & [Special Consideration](#) sections below for information about possible extensions.

### **(iv) Peer Review**

Students may be required to review their peers' work and performance based on specified marking rubric. The assessment provides opportunity for students to do objective evaluation and communicate constructive feedback in a clear and empathetic manner.

No extensions will be granted for peer review.

### **(v) Exams and Secured Quizzes**

It is students' responsibility to check the Course Outline for the dates & times of, and make themselves available for, these exams and secured quizzes.

See [Special Consideration](#) section below for information about possible supplementary assessment.

## Late Penalty

Failure to meet the submission deadline ("the initial deadline") will attract late penalty. Students can submit an assignment late for **up to 5 days (120 hours) after initial deadline**, but late penalty of 5 marks will be deducted for each day (including weekend days) it is overdue.

For example, if your assignment was marked 75, and you have submitted this assignment three days after the initial deadline, a penalty of fifteen marks will be deducted from your mark, and your final mark for the assignment will be 60.

The date it was submitted online via Moodle will be used to determine whether an assignment is overdue.

Assignment submitted late may not receive detailed feedback from markers.

**Assignment submitted more than 5 days (120 hours) after initial deadline will NOT be marked and will result in a mark of zero for the assignment.**

## Special Consideration

Students are expected to manage their time to meet assessment deadlines, to be available for their quizzes and exams, and to request extension/supplementary assessment as early as possible before the deadline.

You can apply for [Special Consideration](#) if you find that unexpected short-term illness, misadventure, or other circumstances beyond your control may prevent you from:

- Submitting your assignment or presentations by the deadline, or
- Completing/attending your quiz/exam online at the specified time & date

You must apply for Special Consideration as soon as possible after the issue occurs or at the latest, **within 3 working days** of the assessment due date and must provide the required supporting documents at the time of application. Failure to do so will result in your application being rejected.

The circumstances must have occurred during an important study or assessment period and lasted for 3 days consecutively or a total of 5 days, or prevented you from completing an assessment on a specific due date.

Due to the intensive nature of the program, under no circumstances will an extension for assignments or presentations be given for longer than **3 working days** after the initial deadline.

Note, Supplementary Assessment are not always possible for mid-term exams and quizzes. If this is the case and your Special Consideration application is approved, an alternative arrangement will be implemented at the discretion of the Course Convenor. If a Supplementary Assessment is possible this will be held at a time specified by the Course Convenor.

Please see [UNSW Special Consideration](#) for information about when to apply, list of applicable circumstances, required supporting documents and how to apply.

UNSW operates under a **Fit to Sit/Submit** rule for all assessments. If a student wishes to apply for special consideration for an exam or assessment, the application must be submitted prior to the start of the exam or before an assessment is submitted. If a student sits the exam/submits an assignment, they are declaring themselves well enough to do so and are unable to subsequently apply for Special Consideration.

**NB: Due to the intensive nature of the GDipAdvPsych, it would be unreasonable to expect students that suffer misadventure/illness or other personal issues that lead to them missing more than two**

weeks of the program, to complete the course. Given the intensive nature of the course, students in this position would have missed over 30% of the course content and it would be unreasonable to expect students to be able to satisfactorily complete the course under these circumstances. In this situation, students will be required to apply for [Fee Remission](#) (see [Special Circumstances](#) section).

**NB:** Please be aware that not all courses are offered in every intake and some courses might reach full capacity before the enrolment deadline. You should check how withdrawal from or failure of a course may affect your program progression. This is of particular importance if you withdraw from/fail a course which is a pre-requisite for another course (PSYC5201 is a pre-requisite for PSYC5212) or from a Research Course which does not allow for any break in the sequence. There is no guarantee that you can be placed with the same supervisor upon continuation of your research project.

## ELS-Registered Students

**Students who are registered with UNSW Equitable Learning Services (ELS) must comply with the responsibilities indicated in their Equitable Learning Plan (ELP) for the adjustments to be granted.**

If your ELP authorises extensions for assignment submission, you do not need to apply for Special Consideration irrespective of the weight of the assignment. ***Instead, you are required to email the Course Convenor at least one week prior to the assessment deadline to request an extension***—unless the ELP specifically stipulates that you are not required to do so.

The period of extension cannot be longer than 7 working days after the initial deadline.

If the ELP does not include an authorisation for late submission, students are subject to the same rules applicable to other students (see [Special Consideration](#) section).

ELS-registered students who require educational adjustments with respect to group work should discuss their specific needs with their Course Convenor within one week of receiving their ELP and no later than the end of Week 1. We will do our best to accommodate these needs in accordance with the ELP, however it should be noted that APAC standards involve the demonstration of interpersonal and teamwork skills, which is often what is being assessed during group work.

ELS-registered students who miss any quiz or exam are required to submit Special Consideration request to request for supplementary assessment.

## Assessment Feedback

Assessments will be marked and returned to students within **10 working days** from the assessment submission date, unless otherwise indicated. Students will receive a mark for the assessment and written/audio comments from the marker. Students who would like further feedback on their assessment should contact the Course Convenor within 5 working days of the return of marks for the assessment.

## FINAL MARKS FOR A COURSE

Final marks for coursework courses are calculated from the summation of component marks for the course (with weightings indicated in the Course Outline). Students can view the final mark and grade for completed courses by viewing/downloading their Academic Statement from [myUNSW](#). Results for any hexameter will be available from 4pm on Release of Results day (see [program's Key Dates](#)).

### **Important note for research units:**

Assessments tasks submitted during the six research courses are formative tasks only, which are designed to give you an indication of your performance level as you progress. The formal, summative assessment will be the full thesis you submit at the conclusion of PSYC5213 Research Project: Thesis course. You will not receive a final mark for any of these courses. Rather, you will receive a thesis mark out of 100 that will contribute 50% of the final mark for the GDipAdvPsych program as a whole.

### **Review of Results**

A review of a Final Mark for a course may take one of two forms:

1. Checking of marks – an administrative check that all marks have been included in the final composite mark;
2. Re-assessment – an academic re-assessment of a piece of work.

When applying for re-assessment for any assignment through [Review of Results](#), students must first discuss their performance with the Course Convenor and obtain their approval to apply for the re-assessment – the student will need to include this approval in their re-assessment application, as an attachment. **Requests for re-assessment will not be considered without this approval.**

If the Course Convenor does not approve a re-assessment (e.g., because the marks given are consistent with a moderated system of marking criteria), and the student still believes that the mark they have received does not reflect their performance, they can make a [formal complaint through Student Conduct and Integrity Unit](#).

Please note that if you request a re-assessment of your result, this will include a check of the addition of marks.

A review of results may result in the mark going up or down.

The Review of Results request must be submitted online **no later than 5 working days** after the return of the piece of work or after the course results are officially released for the hexameter, whichever is earlier. All marked work returned to students must be kept in case it is needed for re-marking.

See [UNSW Review of Results](#) page for more information about the process, including the list of circumstances that are not accepted as valid reasons to apply.

## **COURSE EVALUATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

Courses are periodically reviewed and students' feedback is used to improve them. Feedback is gathered using various means, including [UNSW myExperience](#) survey.

## **PROGRAM COMPLETION**

To qualify for the award of the Graduate Diploma in Advanced Psychology:

1. Students must have previously completed an APAC-accredited undergraduate or bridging sequence in Psychology
2. Students must have completed all 48 UOC of the GDipAdvPsych program
3. Student must achieve at least a Pass (50 or better) for their overall program grade

Graduates of the program will be graded as follows:

- High Distinction: Mark of 85 or greater
- Distinction: Mark of 75-84
- Credit: Mark of 65-74
- Pass: Mark of 50-64

The calculation of the class of award is determined from the student's weighted average mark for all courses (research-based and coursework) required for the program.

## Professional Recognition

The GDipAdvPsych program offers graduates a Level 2 (pre-professional) qualification in Psychology, accredited by the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council. This is equivalent to an honours-level degree. At this level, graduates are qualified to apply for APAC-accredited Level 3-4 (professional) programs in the pathway towards practicing professionally as a psychologist (e.g. Masters). In addition, graduates of the GDipAdvPsych are eligible for associate membership of the [Australian Psychological Society \(APS\)](#).

## STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

The University is committed to the pursuit of excellence in learning, teaching and research, and to community engagement. The Student Code sets out the University's expectations of students with respect to their academic and personal conduct and outlines the University's responsibilities to students.

**Students are expected to familiarise themselves with the Student Code Policy, which incorporates the Student Code, and the Student Misconduct Procedures. They are available at: [UNSW Student Conduct & Integrity](#)**

## PLAGIARISM: ESSENTIAL INFORMATION FOR AVOIDING PLAGIARISM

### What is plagiarism?

[Plagiarism](#) is presenting someone else's thoughts or work as your own. It can take many forms, from not having appropriate academic referencing to deliberate cheating.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

- **Copying:** Using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This includes copying materials, ideas or concepts from a book, article, report or other written document, presentation, composition, artwork, design, drawing, circuitry, computer program or software, website, internet, other electronic resource, or another person's assignment, without appropriate acknowledgement.
- **Inappropriate paraphrasing:** Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original structure and/or progression of ideas of the original, and information without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.
- **Collusion:** Presenting work as independent work when it has been produced in whole or part in collusion with other people. Collusion includes students providing their work to another student before the due date, or for the purpose of them plagiarising at any time, paying another person to



perform an academic task and passing it off as your own, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work. This should not be confused with academic collaboration.

- **Inappropriate citation:** Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.
- **Self-plagiarism:** "Self-plagiarism" occurs where an author republishes their own previously written work and presents it as new findings without referencing the earlier work, either in its entirety or partially. Self-plagiarism is also referred to as "recycling", "duplication", or "multiple submissions of research findings" without disclosure. In the student context, self-plagiarism includes re-using parts of, or all of, a body of work that has already been submitted for assessment without proper citation.

## More Information

In many cases plagiarism is the result of inexperience about academic conventions. The University has resources and information to assist you to avoid plagiarism.

### ***How can Academic Skills Centre help me?***

The Academic Skills Centre assists students with understanding [academic integrity](#) and how to not plagiarise. They also hold workshops and students can book one-on-one appointments (see [UNSW Academic Skills](#)).

### ***What is Student Essentials Module?***

This online module is a compulsory requirement for all commencing students to be completed by Sunday Week 4 of their first hexameter. The module covers important topics on academic & library skills, academic integrity, enforcing respect & safety. The module aims to help students familiarise themselves with university's resources, support services, rules and policies (see [The Student Essentials Module](#)).

### ***What is Turnitin?***

Turnitin is a checking database which reviews your work and compares it to an international collection of books, journals, Internet pages and other students' assignments. The database checks referencing and whether you have copied something from another student, resource, or off the Internet. Oftentimes, students are asked to submit an electronic version of their work into Turnitin, but academics can also use it to check a student's work when it is being marked. You can find out more about Turnitin from [UNSW Moodle & Turnitin Assignments](#).

### ***What if plagiarism is found in my work?***

If plagiarism is found in your work when you are in the introductory courses, your Course Convenor will offer you assistance to improve your academic skills. They may ask you to look at some online resources, attend the Academic Skills Centre, or sometimes resubmit your work with the problem fixed. However more serious instances, such as stealing another student's work or paying someone to do your work, may be investigated under the Student Misconduct Procedures.

Repeated plagiarism (even in the introductory courses), plagiarism in the advanced courses, or serious instances, may also be investigated under the Student Misconduct Procedures. The penalties under the procedures can include a reduction in marks, failing a course or for the most serious matters (such as plagiarism in a thesis) can result in suspension from the University.

## Important Notes on File-sharing Websites

There are some file-sharing websites around that specialise in buying and selling academic work to and from university students. Examples of such websites include but are not limited to:

- Course Hero;
- Nexus Notes;
- StudyMode; and
- Thinkswap

You should be aware that you would be committing plagiarism if you download a piece of work from these websites and present it as your own either wholly or partially.

If you upload your original work to these websites, and if another student downloads and presents it as their own either wholly or partially, you might be found guilty of collusion—even years after graduation.

Your work may be posted by others unbeknownst to you. The surest way to avoid putting yourself at risk is to take care to not share your work with another student. If you stumble across your work online, the School of Psychology recommends you take action to have it removed at the earliest opportunity.

These file-sharing websites may also accept for purchase course materials, such as copies of lecture slides and tutorial handouts. By law, the copyright on course materials, developed by UNSW staff in the course of their employment, belongs to UNSW. It constitutes copyright infringement, if not plagiarism, to trade these materials.

## Important Notes on ChatGPT & Other Generative AI Tools

Generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools have become commonplace in the past 12 months. Tools like chatGPT are large language models, which are trained on the contents of the internet, and used to generate text in response to user prompts. There has been much discussion in higher education circles about the potential of these tools to assist students with completing written assessment at university.

Lecturers in the School of Psychology design assessment to help you attain the competencies prescribed by APAC, the psychology accreditation body that oversees all psychology programs in Australia. These competencies emphasise psychology as a scientific discipline, research methods, values and ethics, critical thinking, and scientific communication skills. In the vast majority of cases, using generative AI tools like chatGPT to complete your assessment will not aid you in gaining these competencies. In fact, the output from tools like chatGPT is often inaccurate, overly general, and poorly referenced.

Your Convenor will make it clear in course outlines and/or assessment guidelines the extent to which they allow you to use chatGPT (or similar tools) to complete each of your assessments. Most assessments in the School of Psychology will allow no assistance or simple editing assistance only.

## STUDENT COMPLAINTS AND GRIEVANCES

The School is committed to the University policy of providing a fulfilling and rewarding learning and research experience that enables students to achieve their full academic potential, and will seriously listen to complaints and resolve them as quickly as possible. The resolution procedures ensure that students are able to air legitimate complaints, knowing that they will not suffer detriment or disadvantage as a direct result of making a complaint.

If students have a grievance, they should first attempt to resolve it with the individual concerned. If that fails, the next step is to take the matter to the Course Convenor or Program Director within a reasonable period of time. Beyond this, the next step is to take the matter to the School Grievance Officer and then to the Head of School (email [psychonline@unsw.edu.au](mailto:psychonline@unsw.edu.au) for contact details).

If the matter is still not resolved, then you can seek advice about your options from the [Student Conduct and Integrity Unit](#).

The full University complaint policy can be found on: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/complaints>

## EQUITABLE LEARNING SERVICES (ELS)

Students who have a disability or a health/mental health concern that may impact their studies or require some adjustment in their learning and teaching environment are encouraged to discuss their study needs with the Course Convenor prior to or at the commencement of the course, or with an Equitable Learning Advisor in [Equitable Learning Services \(ELS\)](#).

Issues to be discussed may include access to materials, signers or note-takers, the provision of services and additional examination and assessment arrangements. Early notification is essential to enable any necessary adjustments to be made.

Students are required to email a copy of their Equitable Learning Plan (ELP) to the Course Convenor as soon as they receive it.