



SCHOOL OF PSYCHOLOGY

Rules of Assessment and Progression for the Master of Professional Psychology & Master of Psychology (Clinical)

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Disclaimer

This document provides clarification and information specific to assessment and progression for Bond University's **HS-23107 Master of Professional Psychology** and **HS-23090 Master of Psychology (Clinical)** programs. While every effort is made to ensure accuracy and alignment with University policies and procedures, where any discrepancy occurs, University policy applies. The section titled Related Documents provides a list of relevant University policies and procedures. This document is subject to annual review and is approved in accordance with the University's Academic Governance Framework.

Approvals

Faculty Learning and Teaching Committee	9th March 2026
University Learning and Teaching Committee	26 March 2026

For queries, contact the **Head of School – Psychology**: psyc@bond.edu.au

1. Overview of the Master of Professional Psychology and Master of Psychology (Clinical) structure.

- 1.1. The duration of the **Master of Psychology (Clinical)** program is two (2) years full time, consisting of six (6) semesters. The duration of the **Master of Professional Psychology** program is eight (8) months full time, consisting of two (2) semesters. Both programs are classified as Level 9 under the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF).
- 1.2. Students are required to be enrolled full time within each semester of study, except for students re-enrolling in subjects which they have previously failed.
- 1.3. Students must be capable of adhering to the University's [Fitness to Study Procedure](#) and [Fitness to Practice Policy](#), including meeting the inherent requirements and expected standards of conduct, compliance, performance and capacity for safe practice. At times, there may be instances when aspects of a student's health, wellbeing and/or behaviours raise Fitness to Study and/or Fitness to Practice concerns. These concerns are managed in accordance with the University's [Fitness to Study Procedure](#) and [Fitness to Practice Policy](#).
- 1.4. Students returning to a Master of Psychology Program from a leave of absence (LOA), imposed suspension as a result of misconduct, or required leave under Fitness to Study or Fitness to Practice requirements, may have conditions placed on their enrolment. This may include, but is not limited to, a requirement to complete assessment/s to demonstrate recency of clinical skills/knowledge and ensure they are safe to practice prior to enrolment in a subject which includes placement experiences. Conditions may also include being required to pass all subjects in the enrolment period immediately following leave and/or students may be required to provide medical clearance prior to resuming studies. Such conditions will be advised to the student in writing prior to enrolment, as well as the consequences of failing to meet such conditions, which may include further conditions being imposed or exclusion from the program.
- 1.5. Students joining a different cohort for any reason (e.g. an approved LOA, repeat subject or alternative requirement subject) will do so on the understanding that the assessment criteria and standards of the cohort they join will be applied.
- 1.6. In accordance with the requirements of the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC), the **Master of Psychology (Clinical)** includes a minimum of 1000 placement hours comprising supervision, direct client activities (minimum 400 hours), and client-related activities. This involves two internship subjects and two externship subjects.

The **Master of Professional Psychology** includes a minimum of 300 hours of practicum and skills training, including supervision, direct client activities, and client-related activities (hereafter the word placement is used for both Master of Professional Psychology practicum and Master of Psychology placements). Successful completion of all placement experiences outlined below are required to complete the degree program.

Where a student leaves the Master of Psychology (Clinical) program prior to completion (either through voluntary withdrawal or due to academic exclusion or cancellation of enrolment), where they meet the requirements, they may be offered to exit with the Master of Professional Psychology.

- 1.7. The following subjects make up the **Master of Psychology (Clinical)** program:

Semester Offered	Credit Points	Subject Name	Subject Code	Placement Hours
January	10	Advanced Psychological Interventions	PSYC71-501	Coursework
May	10	Trauma Informed Approaches to Client Care	PSYC71-502	Coursework
May	10	Counselling Psychotherapies and Clinical Skills	PSYC71-503	Coursework
May	10	Advanced Psychological Assessment	PSYC71-504	Coursework
May	10	Research Methods, Professional Practice	PSYC71-505	Coursework
September	10	Psychopathology and Therapy: Adults 1	PSYC71-506	Coursework
September	10	Health Psychology	PSYC71-509	Coursework
September	10	Psychopathology and Therapy: Adults 2	PSYC71-607	Coursework

Semester Offered	Credit Points	Subject Name	Subject Code	Placement Hours
September	10	Psychopathology and Therapy: Family, Children and Adolescents	PSYC71-608	Coursework
January	10	Psychopharmacology and Pharmacotherapy	PSYC71-611	Coursework
January	20	Internship: Part A	PSYC72-735	Placement
May	20	Internship: Part B	PSYC72-736	Placement
September*	20	Externship I	PSYC72-737	Placement
January**	20	Externship II	PSYC72-738	Placement

* PSYC72-737 Externship I may be offered in January semester for students who had approved leave of absence or failed one placement subject.

** PSYC72-738 Externship II may be offered in September semester for students who had approved leave of absence or failed one placement subject.

1.8. The following table provides a list of **Master of Psychology (Clinical)** subject pre-requisites:

Subject Name	Subject Code	Subject Pre-Requisites
Advanced Psychological Interventions	PSYC71-501	Nil
Trauma Informed Approaches to Client Care	PSYC71-502	PSYC71-503 PSYC71-607 PSYC71-608
Counselling Psychotherapies and Clinical Skills	PSYC71-503	Nil
Advanced Psychological Assessment	PSYC71-504	Nil
Research Methods, Professional Practice	PSYC71-505	Nil
Psychopathology and Therapy: Adults 1	PSYC71-506	Nil
Health Psychology	PSYC71-509	Nil
Psychopathology and Therapy: Adults 2	PSYC71-607	Nil
Psychopathology and Therapy: Family, Children and Adolescents	PSYC71-608	Nil
Psychopharmacology and Pharmacotherapy	PSYC71-611	Nil
Internship: Part A	PSYC72-735	PSYC71-503, PSYC71-504, PSYC71-505, PSYC71-506, PSYC71-607, PSYC71-608
Internship: Part B	PSYC72-736	PSYC72-735
Externship I	PSYC72-737	PSYC72-736
Externship II	PSYC72-738	PSYC72-737

1.9. The following subjects make up the **Master of Professional Psychology** program:

Semester Offered	Credit Points	Subject Name	Subject Code	Placement Hours
May	10	Evidence Based Therapy and Counselling Practices Across the Lifespan	PSYC71-415	Coursework
May	10	Counselling Psychotherapies and Clinical Skills	PSYC71-503	Coursework
May	10	Advanced Psychological Assessment	PSYC71-504	Coursework
May	10	Research Methods, Professional Practice	PSYC71-505	Coursework
September	10	Psychopathology and Therapy: Adults 1	PSYC71-506	Coursework
September	10	Psychopathology and Therapy: Adults 2	PSYC71-607	Coursework
September	20	Professional Experience and Practice in Psychology	PSYC72-422	Placement

1.10. The following table provides a list of *Master of Professional Psychology* subject pre-requisites:

Subject Name	Subject Code	Subject Pre-Requisites
Evidence Based Therapy and Counselling Practices Across the Lifespan	PSYC71-415	Nil
Counselling Psychotherapies and Clinical Skills	PSYC71-503	Nil
Advanced Psychological Assessment	PSYC71-504	Nil
Research Methods, Professional Practice	PSYC71-505	Nil
Psychopathology and Therapy: Adults 1	PSYC71-506	Nil
Psychopathology and Therapy: Adults 2	PSYC71-607	Nil
Professional Experience and Practice in Psychology	PSYC72-422	PSYC71-415, PSYC71-503, PSYC71-504, PSYC71-505

1.11. Grading systems relevant to coursework and placement subjects in the Master of Psychology Programs are set out in Bond University (hereafter the University) [Assessment Policy](#) and [Assessment Procedure](#) (Schedule B).

2. Responsibilities and Expectations of Students

2.1. During the completion of Master of Psychology Programs, students are responsible to ensure:

- Attendance, participation, and successful completion of all coursework, placement requirements. Expanded in Section 5.
- Registration as a provisional psychologist or psychologist with the Psychology Board of Australia.
- Fitness to Practice consistent with the Psychology Board of Australia Guidelines for Mandatory Notification of impaired practitioners and University [Fitness to Practice Policy](#).
- Compliance with the Psychology Board of Australia Code of Conduct.
- Actions are in accordance with legal obligations.
- Compliance with University [Student Code of Conduct Policy](#).
- Compliance with University [Master of Psychology Inherent Requirements](#).
- Compliance with Placement Guidelines A, B and C (available in Psychology Clinic Documents Sharepoint).
- Compliance with BUHAWC and Externship placement Agreements (available in Psychology Clinic Documents and BUHAWC - Clinic Intranet Sharepoint).

2.2. Upon confirmation of enrolment, students are bound by all University policies and procedures including the [Student Code of Conduct Policy](#), Faculty of Society and Design's protocols and rules (hereafter the Faculty), and associated program charter and inherent requirements.

2.3. Students who fail to adhere to academic and professional standards may be in breach of the [Student Code of Conduct Policy](#) and will be dealt with under the relevant associated procedure ([Student Academic Misconduct Procedure](#) or [Student General Misconduct Procedure](#)).

3. Master of Psychology Coursework Assessment and Progression

3.1. Coursework subjects are designed to provide students with the necessary theoretical knowledge, practical skill, and clinical reasoning ability to be successful in placements.

3.2. Coursework subjects are conducted on campus, and learning activities are based around seminars and include personal study hours, simulation experiences, interprofessional education, case-based learning, reflection activities, and workshops. Further details are available in the Subject Outlines via [Master of Professional Psychology \(HS-23107\) program web page](#) and [Master of Psychology \(Clinical\) \(HS-23090\) Program web page](#).

3.3. The assessment process for coursework subjects involves a variety of components, including but not limited to:

- Written tests / examinations
- Practical skills tests
- Oral presentations
- Report Writing
- Case Studies
- Journal / reflections
- Supervisor / Clinical Educator evaluations
- Systematic review reports

3.4. Rules of Progression (Coursework Subjects)

- There are several assessment items for each coursework subject. The Subject Outline (and associated iLearn site) for each subject state the Assessment Schedule. **All assessment tasks must be submitted by the due date unless an approved extension has been granted.**
- Students must achieve a competent grade for each assessment to be awarded an ungraded pass (UGP). An overall fail (UGF) in a coursework subject means that the student is unable to progress into the practice education/fieldwork placement subject and will be required to repeat the subject the next time the subject is offered.
- Should a student fail a coursework subject, they will be given the opportunity to repeat the coursework subject when it is offered next. Any further fails may result in being placed on Conditional Enrolment or Academic Exclusion ([Academic Progress Policy](#), Sections 4.4 and 4.5).

3.5. Deferred, Resit and Supplementary Coursework Assessment

Deferred and resit procedures in relation to coursework assessment will be managed in accordance with the [Assessment Procedure](#) (Schedules E3, E4 & E5). Grades will be applied consistent with the [Assessment Procedure](#) (Schedule B, Section 6). Due to requirements to meet all professional competencies prior to graduation, supplementary coursework assessments are not permitted.

- Resit Assessment

The resit assessment is a pass/fail assessment granted to a student who fails an assessment item within a subject. For resit assessments, students are eligible to resit the compulsory assessment component of the subject that caused them to fail in accordance with the Assessment Procedure (Resit Assessment Procedure, Schedule E5). Resit opportunities are outlined in each subject outline. In this instance, the student will be allocated a non-finalised grade of Remediation Granted (RM) and will be offered a process of remediation prior to their resit assessment.

If a student undertakes a resit assessment and passes, they will be awarded a finalised grade of Resit Pass (RP). If a student undertakes a resit assessment and fails, they will be awarded a finalised grade of Resit Fail (RF) and will be placed on the 'Students Requiring Academic Support' register. Students who receive a final grade of Resit Fail (RF) will be eligible to apply to repeat the failed subject when it is next offered unless they have already failed it previously. Where the Resit Fail (RF) was due to serious concerns regarding a student's conduct, professional behaviour, or safety, the student will be referred for a Fitness to Practice assessment in accordance with the [Fitness to Practice Policy](#).

Resit assessments are to be scheduled by the lead educator, and the date of the resit assessment will be advised in writing via e-mail to the student. If a student is invited to undertake a resit assessment and is unable to do so on the scheduled date, the student will be awarded an ungraded fail grade for the assessment item and overall subject, and be required to repeat the coursework subject the following year, unless they provide a valid reason and supporting evidence.

Students are permitted resit assessments for no more than 50% of their enrolled subjects for any one semester. Exceeding the permissible resit assessments will result in recording the exceeded subject as an ungraded fail for the subject, and the student will be required to repeat the coursework subject the following year.

4. Master of Psychology Placements

- 4.1. Students in the Master of Psychology Programs undertake Practical Placement subjects as part of their professional studies. Students carrying out Placements must maintain sound academic results, adhere to program inherent requirements, and demonstrate an awareness of professional workplace expectations in their interactions with professional, academic, and administrative staff and with clients. Each placement subject is 15 weeks in duration and commences in Bond Week.

Practical placement subjects included in the Master of Psychology Programs

Subject Code	Subject Name	Location	Placement Hours
PSYC72-422*	Professional Experience & Practice in Psychology	BUHAWC	300
PSYC72-735**	Internship: Part A	BUHAWC	170
PSYC72-736**	Internship: Part B	BUHAWC	190
PSYC72-737**	Externship I	External community setting	320
PSYC72-738**	Externship II	External community setting	320

Key: BUHAWC = Bond University Health and Wellness Clinic
* Part of the Master of Professional Psychology Program Only
** Part of the Master of Psychology (Clinical) Program Only

- 4.2. The assessment process for professional placements involves a variety of components which are outlined in relevant subject outline and iLearn sites, including but not limited to:

- Clinical Folio
- Mid and final placement reviews
- Organisational project
- Psychological assessment report / Case Report
- Self-reflections of learning
- Records of supervision
- Completion of placement experience

Students need to pass all components to obtain an ungraded pass for each placement subject.

4.3. Rules of Progression (Professional Placement Subjects)

- All compliance requirements for placement subjects must be completed and submitted by published due dates in accordance with the Compliance requirements. Any student who has not met compliance requirements will not be allocated to a placement and will be referred to Program Director. This is likely to impact progression in the program. Compliance documents are accessible via the Master of Psychology iLearn Community page.
- Students enrolled in an externship professional placement subject are required to successfully complete a professional interview with the externship provider. If a student is unsuccessful with the interview, the University will endeavour to find an alternative placement, though this may not be until the next semester the externship subject is offered.
- Where a student fails to attend an externship interview or fails to exhibit professional behaviour consistent with the [Master of Psychology's Inherent Requirements](#), they will be referred for remediation (outlined in the Master of Psychology Student Guide). Assignment to another externship will only occur after successful completion of the remediation and will be offered during the semester the externship subject is offered. This will delay course progression.
- Students are expected to engage in regular supervision and formative evaluation throughout the placement, including self-evaluation and reflection. There will be a formative assessment at the halfway point, and a final

summative assessment. Supervisors and clinic staff complete evaluations using the Clinical Psychology Placement Rating Scale (CΨPRS) or Practicum Competencies Assessment Measure (PCAMS) rating systems and rubrics specified in iLearn.

- Should concerns regarding the student's performance in relation to professional competencies and/or [Master of Psychology Inherent Requirements](#) be raised by the placement supervisor, the Clinic Director/Deputy Director and/or Program Director will develop and implement a remediation plan. The student will be placed on the 'Students Requiring Academic Support' register as per the [Support for Students' Policy](#). If there is insufficient evidence of remediation in response to areas of concern and/or significant safety concerns remain after a period of remediation, the placement may be terminated early. In this event, the student will receive a fail grade for the subject and referred for Fitness to Practice assessment. Where the Clinic Director or an externship provider terminates a placement due to serious concerns regarding a student's conduct, professional behaviour, or safety, the student will receive a fail grade for the subject and be referred for Fitness to Practice assessment. Continuation in the program will depend upon the outcome of the Fitness to Practice procedure.
- Resit grades are permissible for case presentations, organisational project, client consultation mid review and feedback form, and folios. Resit assessments are not permitted for final placement competency evaluations nor for the folio [PSYC72-422 Professional Experience & Practice in Psychology](#), [PSYC72-736 Internship: Part B](#), or [PSYC72-738 Externship II](#). In the event of placement failure, the student will be offered an opportunity to repeat the entire placement subject and all placement hours the next time the subject is offered in accordance with evaluation of program inherent requirements and [Fitness to Practice Policy](#).
- In the case of a failed placement, the student will be supported to a reasonable degree by assigned staff and resources via a remediation plan with goals to address areas of concern. The remediation plan will be developed by the Clinic Director/Deputy Director in consultation with the Program Director with recommendations for the student to engage in self-directed learning and activities to develop competency, safety, and readiness for placement at the level expected of a student at the point in the degree in which the failed placement occurred. Where the same concerns exist across both coursework and placement, Program Remediation will be implemented by the Program Director.
- A student is only able to repeat a Placement Subject **ONCE**. A second fail of any Placement Subjects will result in the student being excluded from the Master of Psychology program for unsatisfactory academic progress.
- A student who is unable to undertake a placement in the designated period should, in the first instance, meet with the Clinic Director / Deputy Director to discuss options for a modified study plan. A modified study plan in the Master of Psychology programs is likely to impact the students' program completion.
- Withdrawal from a placement is likely to result in delayed course progression and program completion time and graduation.

5. Attendance Requirements

Master of Psychology programs include intensive and weekly forums, workshops, and placement. This combination of learning opportunities is carefully designed and scheduled to guide students towards meeting intended program learning outcomes. Students are required to attend ALL scheduled sessions (ref: [Assessment Procedure](#) – Class Attendance and Participation Procedure, Schedule C).

- 5.1. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that they adhere to the Attendance requirements and be aware of their attendance status ([Assessment Procedure](#) – Class Attendance and Participation Procedure, Schedule C).
- 5.2. Students are expected to complete the 'Master of Psychology Leave Form' for any intended or unintended absence and email the Program Director for absence from the program and Clinic Director for absence from internship/externship. This form is located on the Master of Psychology Community iLearn site.
- 5.3. Students with an absence greater than 20% of scheduled days in a single subject will result in the student being placed on the 'Students Requiring Academic Support' register, and they will be required meet with the subject coordinator to discuss the implications in terms of both learning outcomes and Master of Psychology inherent requirements (Master

of Psychology Student Guide). Students who miss more than 20% of a subject's contact hours will be offered the opportunity to complete a remediation. If the lack of attendance is unexplained, this will result in referral for review by the Program Director.

- 5.4. Students who miss more than 40% of a subject may jeopardise their opportunity to pass the subject. Academic and Clinical staff reserve the right to award an Ungraded Fail (UGF) if remediation was unsuccessful in enabling students to demonstrate the required professional competencies or meet professional criteria. In such circumstances the student will be required to re-enrol in the subject the next time the subject is offered.

6. Students Requiring Support (Academic or Personal)

The School of Psychology is dedicated to shaping professionals who are distinguished, not just by their superior scientist practitioner skills but by their professionalism, adherence to ethics, empathy, communication, and collegiality.

The Faculty aims to ensure that students at risk of poor performance and requiring support are identified as soon as possible and that appropriate interventions are implemented and monitored by academic, administrative, and support staff ([Support for Students' Policy](#)).

- 6.1. Students Requiring Academic or Personal Support may be identified through unsatisfactory academic performance, poor behavioural, and/or professional attributes, including but not limited to the following:

- Academic performance

Unsatisfactory academic performance as determined by performance in formal assessments and examinations as ratified by the Board of Examiners (BOE) at the end of each semester. Unsatisfactory academic performance in placements can also be determined by the Clinic Director / Deputy Director in consultation with the Program Coordinator and/or Head of Program and ratified by the BOE.

- Attendance

Unsatisfactory attendance at scheduled learning sessions.

- Professionalism

Behaviour which is consistently unprofessional, disruptive, volatile, or otherwise not aligned to the [Master of Psychology Inherent Requirements](#), [Psychology Board of Australia Code of Conduct and Professional Competencies](#), [Bond University Student Charter](#) and/or [Student Code of Conduct Policy](#) including health related matters which are not professionally self-managed.

Behaviour which is considered in breach of any applicable documents which define or outlines professional behaviour, personal behaviour, fitness to practise, ethical behaviour or conduct established by organisations hosting students on placements.

- Fitness to Study and Fitness to Practice

Students must familiarise themselves with their responsibilities under the Fitness to Study Procedure and Fitness to Practice Policy. Students are expected to meet these expectations, including meeting the inherent requirements and expected standards of conduct, compliance, performance and capacity for safe practice. At times there may be instances when aspects of a student's health, wellbeing, and/or behaviours raise Fitness to Study and/or Fitness to Practice concerns. These concerns are managed in accordance with the University's [Fitness to Practice Policy](#).

- English Language Proficiency

In accordance with the guidelines of the Australian Health Practitioner Regulatory Agency (AHPRA) Psychology Board of Australia students must demonstrate proficiency in verbal communication in English to a standard that allows fluid, clear, and comprehensible two-way discussions for patient care, tailored to the local English-speaking audiences.

6.2. Support for 'Students Requiring Academic Support'

- Students identified as requiring academic support will be placed on the Faculty's 'Students Requiring Academic Support' register and will be required to participate in remedial and/or support activities. The remedial and/or support activities may include but are not limited to the following:
 - Attendance with the Academic Skills Centre.
 - Scheduled meetings with Supervisor, Subject Coordinator, Clinic Director, Program Director, Head of School, or other Faculty supports.
 - Engagement with a plan formulated by the staff to address the learning requirement to meet required Competencies and Inherent Requirements.
- The Faculty aims to ensure that students in need of support are identified as soon as possible and that appropriate supports are implemented. Students in need of support may be also identified through borderline academic performance, communication, behaviour and/or professional attributes identified through academic performance, behaviour and /or professional attributes which whilst not warranting placement on the Faculty 'Students Requiring Academic Support' register are deemed to be of borderline status and may still be identified as appropriate for referral to additional support services.

7. Related Documents, Links and References

[Academic Progress Policy](#)

[Assessment Policy](#)

[Assessment Procedure](#)

[Academic Programs Policy](#)

[Review of Results Procedure](#)

[Fitness to Practice Policy](#)

[Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)

[Fitness to Study Procedure](#)

[Student Code of Conduct Policy](#)

[Master of Psychology Inherent Requirements](#)

[Support for Students Policy](#)

[Gender based Violence Prevention and Response Policy](#)

[Gender based Violence Prevention and Response Procedure](#)

Abbreviations:

AHPRA	Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency
APAC	Australian Psychology Accreditation Council
BOE	Board of Examiners
BUHAWC	Bond University Health and Wellness Clinic
NYC	Not Yet Competent
SASQ	Student Affairs and Service Quality
UGP	Ungraded Pass
UGF	Ungraded Fail

Other University Policies & Procedures / Faculty Protocols and Rules:

University policies and procedures and Faculty protocols and rules are housed on the [Policies and forms](#) page of the Bond University website.

Useful Links and References:

[AHPRA Psychology Board of Australia Code of Conduct and Professional Competencies](#)

[APAC Standards](#)

[Australian Qualifications Framework](#)