

Advanced Research specialisation

This specialisation is designed to provide students who have already undertaken substantial prior studies in a relevant area with the opportunity to focus on a significant research project in a related area.

Transfer between specialisations within this program is not possible.

Program objectives

General objectives

On successful completion of this program a graduate should be able to:

- identify, interpret and evaluate major issues of contemporary theory and practice in their discipline area
- comprehend and evaluate developments in a chosen discipline area and critically examine the relationships between such developments and contemporary theory
- apply a knowledge of the principles and ethics of research within their chosen discipline area
- identify research topics and undertake research using appropriate research methods and principles.
- report and disseminate research outcomes.

Specialisation Objectives

Applied Research specialisation

On successful completion of this program a graduate should be able to:

- apply extended knowledge, skills and research expertise in a specified field of scientific research building upon their three year degree
- plan and execute a substantial applied research project in their chosen discipline area.

Psychology Research specialisation

On successful completion of this program a student should be able to:

- apply extended knowledge, skills, and research expertise in the discipline of psychology
- clearly articulate the ethical and social responsibilities of psychology practice and research
- identify, interpret and critically evaluate major issues in contemporary psychological theory and research
- apply high levels of proficiency in psychology research including research planning and implementation, analysis, interpretation and evaluation of research results, and the presentation and communication of research findings to both specialist and non-specialist audiences.

Advanced Research specialisation

On successful completion of this program a graduate should be able to:

- extend and develop the research expertise and techniques of students entering the specialisation with a four year degree or equivalent
- plan and execute a substantial advanced research project in their chosen discipline area
- apply thorough research skills to be eligible to transfer (if desired) to a doctoral program from this specialisation.

Australian Qualifications Framework

The Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) is a single national, comprehensive system of qualifications offered by higher education institutions (including universities), vocational education and training institutions and secondary schools. Each AQF qualification has a set of descriptors which define the type and complexity of knowledge, skills and application of knowledge and skills that a graduate who has been awarded that qualification has attained, and the typical volume of learning associated with that qualification type.

This program is at AQF Qualification Level 09. Graduates at this level will have specialised knowledge and skills for research, and/or professional practice and/or further learning.

The full set of levels criteria and qualification type descriptors can be found by visiting www.aqf.edu.au.

Admission requirements

To be eligible for admission, applicants must satisfy the following requirements:

Application for Admission

The de

or

- completion of a 1.5 year Australian university Masters degree in a relevant discipline with a GPA of 5.0 out of 7.0 or above, or equivalent

or

- equivalent qualification and work experience in the related field of study as determined by the program coordinator

and

The Australian Commonwealth Government's contribution to program fees must be acknowledged on all published material relating to a research project via a statement identifying the support received through the RTP Fees Offset scheme.

Program structure

Applied Research specialisation

There are 12 units in the program. There are four coursework units which will include a research training course. Courses are normally at level 4 or above and are selected in consultation with the supervisor to reflect additional training complementary to the area of research to be undertaken. The research training course will consist of [SCI8103 Research Fundamentals and Ethics](#) or [HSC8050 Research Methodology for the Human Sciences](#) or [ENG8001 Engineering Research Methods](#) or equivalent (as approved by the Program Coordinator).

The remaining 8-unit research project will be undertaken in consultation with an approved supervisor. The first research project course [SCI9012 Master of Science Research Project B](#) is evaluated by a progress report and a thesis proposal.

The student will prepare a thesis based on independently conducted research. To successfully complete the thesis, students will be required to select a research topic, carry out supervised research on the chosen topic using an appropriate research method and present and defend the results. The Masters level thesis will be examined as per the Higher Degree by Research Thesis Examination Schedule.

The thesis topic may be drawn, depending on availability, from the areas of:

- Agricultural Science
- Applied Climate Science
- Astronomy
- Biology
- Computer Science
- Counselling
- Data Science
- Environmental Science
- Mathematics
- Midwifery
- Nursing
- Physical Sciences
- Psychology
- Spatial Science
- Sport and Exercise
- Statistics

Psychology Research specialisation

There are 12 units in the program. There are four compulsory Level 4 psychology coursework units.

The remaining 8-unit research project will be undertaken in consultation with an approved supervisor. The first research project course [SCI9017 Master of Science Psychology Research Project](#) is evaluated by a progress report and a thesis proposal.

The student will prepare a thesis based on independently conducted research. To successfully complete the thesis, students will be required to select a research topic, carry out supervised research on the chosen topic using an appropriate research method and present and defend the results. The Masters level thesis will be examined as per the Higher Degree by Research Thesis Examination Schedule.

Advanced Research specialisation

Candidates will be expected to conduct their studies in areas of science research that reflect the expertise of current staff in the Faculty of Health, Engineering and Sciences. Most research active staff are also members

of a USQ Research Centre. Details of current research programs and potential supervisors can be found on the [Research](#) webpage.

The emphasis of the program will be on developing the appropriate knowledge and skills to undertake independent research and professional practice. Accordingly, a major component of the program will be a supervised research project.

There are 12 units in the program. There is one unit of coursew

- [PSY4040 Psychological Interventions](#)
- [PSY4070 Assessment and Interview Skills](#)

The Psychology Research specialisation is offered on-campus and in external mode. Mandatory attendance at scheduled block course workshops during residential schools will be required on-campus in Toowoomba during the first year of the program. The number of days required at each workshop will depend on enrolment mode (number of courses taken per semester). The on-campus mandatory workshops/residential schools are generally scheduled during the Residential School period. Please refer to the [Residential School Schedule](#).

Applied Research and Advanced Research:

Elective course options within the Applied Research and Advanced Research specialisations may have residential schools and students should seek confirmation of the requirements when selecting their electives.

Exit points

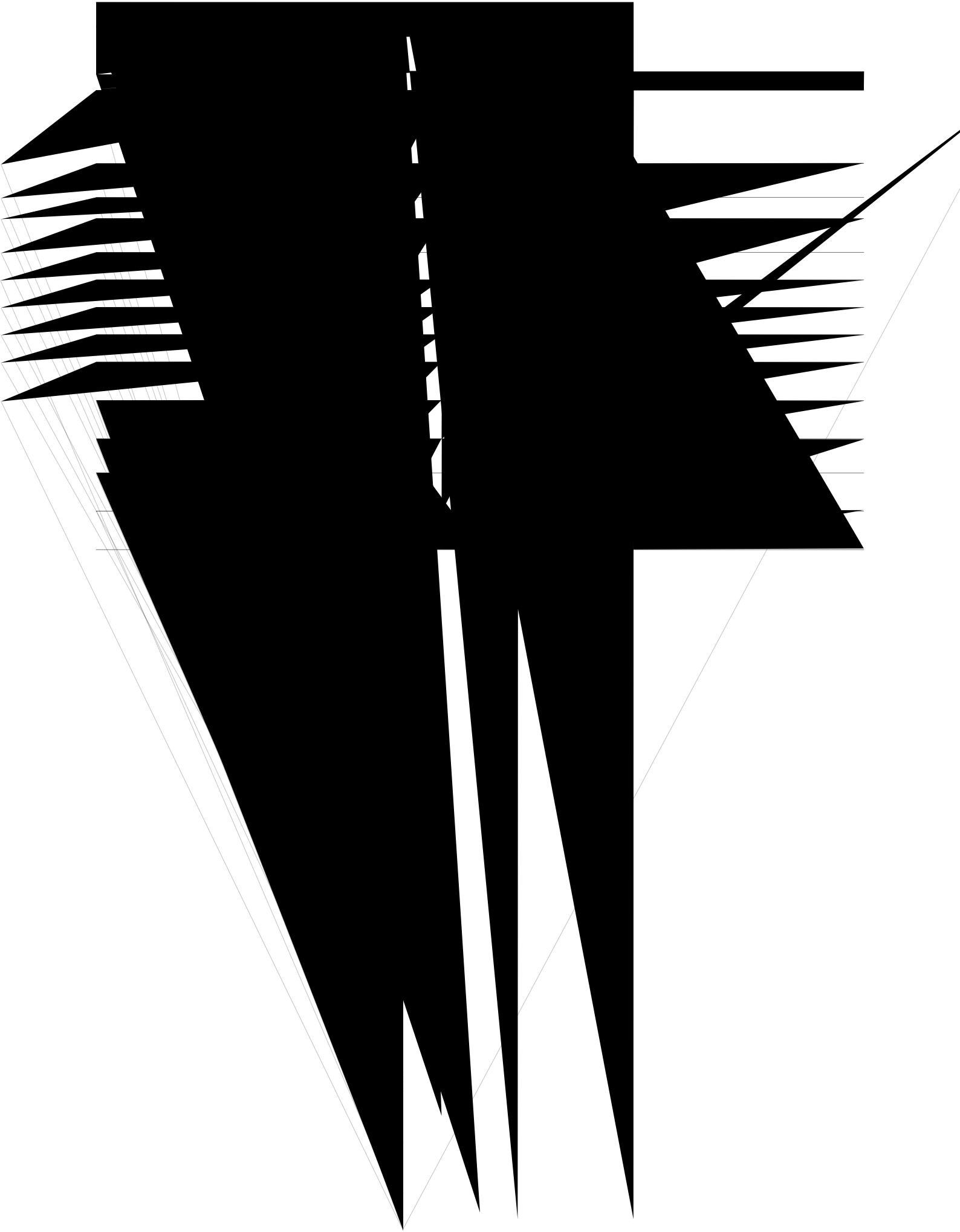
Students enrolled in the Applied Research specialisation, who have successfully completed four coursework units and wish to exit without completing the program, may seek, with approval of the Program Coordinator, to exit via the [Graduate Certificate of Science](#). Students must successfully complete this specialisation prior to application for entry to the PhD program.

Students enrolled in the Psychology Research specialisation must successfully complete this specialisation prior to application for entry to the PhD.

Doctorate transfer

Students enrolled in the Master of Science (Research) Advanced Research specialisation, who wish to transfer without completing the program, may on the basis of outstanding performance, seek to transfer to the [Doctor of Philosophy](#), [Doctor of Applied Science](#) or [Doctor of Health](#). To be considered for acceptance into either of the above programs, students must have achieved all of the following:

- Completed at least 8 units within the Master of Science (Research) Advanced Research specialisation.
- A GPA of at least 6



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Vb^o	Pb j	Vb^o	Pb j	Vb^o	Pb j							
or												
ENG8001 Engineering Research Methods ^{&}		1,2,3				1,2						
Approved Course 1 ^{**}	1	1	1	1		1						
Semester 2												
Approved Course 2 ^{**}	1	2	1	2		2						
Approved Course 3 ^{**}	1	2	1	2		2						
Year 2												
SCI9012 Master of Science Research Project B ^{*~}	2	1,2	2	1,2			Pre-requisite: Student must be enrolled in the following Program: MSCR					
Semester 2												
SCI9014 Master of Science Research Project D ^{*~}	2	1,2	2	1,2			Pre-requisite: Student must be enrolled in the following Program: MSCR					
Year 3												
SCI9014 Master of Science Research Project D ^{*~}	3	1,2	3	1,2			Pre-requisite: Student must be enrolled in the following Program: MSCR					
Semester 2												
SCI9014 Master of Science Research Project D ^{*~}	3	1,2	3	1,2			Pre-requisite: Student must be enrolled in the following Program: MSCR					

Footnotes

- & Required for Spatial Science students and must be completed satisfactorily during the first semester of study. Students who have previously completed [SCI4405 Research Practice and Ethics](#) or [HSC8050 Research Methodology for the Human Sciences](#) or an equivalent course elsewhere, will be required to undertake an alternative course selected in consultation with the Program Coordinator.
- ** Approved courses may not be available on campus at Ipswich. Courses will normally be at level 4 or above and are selected in consultation with the project supervisor and approval of the Program Coordinator. Sport and Exercise: the recommended coursework courses are [SES8006 Advanced Exercise Programming and Rehabilitation](#) (The on-campus offer will not run in 2020), [SES8007 Advanced Exercise Assessment and Delivery](#) (compulsory residential school for external students) and [SES8008 Advanced Anatomy and Physiology](#) (compulsory residential school for external students), however an alternate course from within a relevant Science or Health and Wellbeing discipline, selected in consultation with the project supervisor, may be approved by the Program Coordinator.
- * Two units of credit
- ~ Pass/Fail course

Recommended enrolment pattern - Psychology Research specialisation (full-time)

Students are able to enrol in any offered mode of a course (on-campus, external or online), regardless of the program mode of study they enrolled in.

For students who wish to start the program in Semester 2, please contact the Psychology specialisation coordinator for a recommended enrolment pattern.

The Psychology Research specialisation may be studied externally, however mandatory attendance at the scheduled block on-campus workshops will be required on-campus in Toowoomba and/or Ipswich during the

the program. The number of days required at each block on-campus workshop will depend on enrolment mode. There are 8 compulsory courses (worth 12 units). The courses are as follows.
