# Tutorial letter 001/0/2024

## Psychology Honours

# BROCHURE

| | |
|---|---|
| HRPYC81 | PYC4808 |
| HMPYC80 | PYC4809 |
| PYC4802 | PYC4810 |
| PYC4803 | PYC4812 |
| PYC4804 | PYC4813 |
| PYC4805 | PYC4814 |
| PYC4807 | |

## Department of Psychology

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION:**

This Brochure contains important information

Define tomorrow.

UNISA | university of south africa

# CONTENTS

**UNISA'S NEW APPLICATION AND REGISTRATION PHASES**

**APPLICATION PHASE**

First-time students at UNISA, current students who are registering for a new qualification and students who want to change their qualification must apply for admission on the prescribed form which is to be submitted together with the correct application fees, as well as the documents required for registration. Apply online: http://applications.unisa.ac.za

Once the data has been recorded, the system will allocate a student number which will be confirmed via e-mail, SMS or mail depending on the contact details indicated on your application form. A registration package containing the relevant information brochure(s) and registration form will be mailed to you.

**REGISTRATION PHASE**

Once a student number has been allocated to an individual, this student number will remain his/her student number at UNISA for all formal qualifications.

Honours students may apply online for registration after the registration period for the particular academic year has opened.

The registration form together with the minimum instalment required for registration, must be submitted before the relevant closing date. Students must please take note that certain degrees are by selection and have earlier closing dates than the normal registration closing dates. Any documents required for registration must be included here, if not previously submitted. **Kindly note that only <u>certified copies</u> of academic records issued by the Registrar of the University/Institution concerned are accepted for registration purposes. Degree certificates should not be submitted.**

All applications for master's and doctoral degrees will be referred to the Section: Postgraduate Qualifications, where they will be assessed before being referred to the relevant academic department where the Executive Committee will rule on admission.

If approved, students who have submitted their complete application (i.e. all required documents and minimum fees) will automatically be registered after admission has been approved. Other students will be informed of any remaining conditions to be complied with in order to finalise their registration. All other students will be informed of the outcome of their applications, and, where applicable, the minimum study fees paid will be refunded.

The process outlined above may be time consuming in some cases, especially when we approach the various closing dates when most applications are invariably submitted. It is, therefore, essential that prospective students apply well in advance, especially where deadlines set by employers and sponsors have to be met.

# 1     INTRODUCTION

This brochure contains information on Honours, Master's and Doctoral degrees in Psychology which prospective students should read carefully before applying for registration. Included are brief outlines of the Honours papers offered and the titles of the books which will probably be prescribed. The latest information regarding prescribed books appears in Tutorial Letter 101 for each module which is supplied to all registered students. Booksellers also receive this information.

Consult the following brochure:

- *study @ Unisa 2024*

Regarding the general rules for admission re-registration, duration of study, applications for cancellation, etcetra.

# 2     CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE UNIVERSITY

All correspondence in connection with registration, tutorial matters, fees, examinations, change of address and related matters should be addressed to <u>The Registrar (Student Admissions and Registrations</u>).

Correspondence on purely academic matters such as problems encountered in your studies, assignments, and appointments with lecturers, the syllabus and related matters should be addressed to the various module leaders or <u>The Honours Course Coordinator, Department of Psychology</u>.

Correspondence in connection with library matters should be addressed to <u>The Deputy Executive Director, Department of Library Services</u>.

**HONOURS ENQUIRIES**

sms         43578
E-mail:     study-info@unisa.ac.za

**MASTER'S AND DOCTORAL ENQUIRIES:**

E-mail:     mandd@unisa.ac.za

ALL CORRESPONDENCE SHOULD INDICATE YOUR STUDENT NUMBER <u>AND</u> YOUR INITIALS AND SURNAME IN CAPITAL LETTERS

**E-mail is the most efficient way of contacting the teaching team.** This only applies to enquiries of an academic nature. Please direct administrative enquiries appropriately. You can also contact your lecturers for the module via the myUnisa system. When you send an e-mail please remember to provide your personal details (e.g. name and student number) and the module code (PYC48..). Unfortunately, no study material can be sent to students by e-mail. You are also not allowed to e-mail your assignments or the portfolio to the University.

**Please note that you must only use your myLife e-mail address when communicating with the university. Make sure that it is activated.**

## 3    LECTURER(S) AND CONTACT DETAILS

### 3.1    Lecturer(s)

Only with the special permission of Senate may students register for not more than two undergraduate modules on the same level for non-degree purposes (NDP) concurrently with an honours course, provided that the NDP module(s) has a bearing on their honours studies, or that they submit a written justification which is acceptable to the University. Please note that students must apply <u>before the closing date for registration for the undergraduate module(s)</u> for permission for concurrent registration. Please refer to the brochure study @ *Unisa 2024* for the relevant registration dates.

## 4    OFFERING AN HONOURS PAPER IN ANOTHER SUBJECT

In the College of Human Sciences, students may replace one of the modules of their honours degree with an honours paper in another subject if the Chair of the Departments concerned are of the opinion that the students have sufficient background knowledge to be able to do that paper and it is in the best interest of the students. Written requests to do this should be submitted with your registration form to the Registrar (Student Admissions and Registrations).

## 5    HONOURS DEGREES IN PSYCHOLOGY

An Honours BA degree may be obtained in the subject of Psychology according to three different streams.

**Degree codes:**

Honours BA Psychology (Psychological Counselling)                          **99422-COU**

Honours BA Psychology (Community and Health Psychology)          **99422-CHP**

Honours BA Psychology (Applied Psychology for Professional Contexts)   **99422-APP**

## 5.1    Admission requirements

To be admitted, a student must have an appropriate Bachelor's degree with Psychology as a major and an average of 60% or more for Psychology 3.

Students who did not obtain an average of 60% or more for Psychology 3 will **NOT** be admitted into Honours in Psychology.

**Please note**: Due to the sharp rise in applications of students who fully comply with the admission requirements, we do not consider any applications which do not **fully comply** with the admission requirements as stated above.

Students who attended other universities must request their previous university to send their complete undergraduate academic record to Unisa. This should include percentages obtained (symbols are insufficient). An application for admission can only be considered if an academic record for Psychology 1, 2 and 3 has been received.

## 5.2    Curriculum

**Please note**:  Modules are not interchangeable between the various streams for the Hons BA Psychology degree.

## Three Compulsory modules

- Research Report (HRPYC81)
- Research Methodology (HMPYC80)
- Psychopathology (PYC4802)

**plus** **five modules** **from** **one** **of the following streams** (depending on the area of specialisation):

| Psychological Counselling (99422-COU) | Community and Health Psychology (99422-CHP) | Applied Psychology for Professional Contexts (99422-APP) |
|---|---|---|
| **PYC4814** Community Psychology: Ecologies of Knowledge | **PYC4814** Community Psychology: Ecologies of Knowledge | **PYC4804** Personology |
| **PYC4808** Ecosystemic Psychology | **PYC4804** Personology | **PYC4810** Psychology of Work |
| **PYC4805** Developmental Psychology | **PYC4808** Ecosystemic Psychology | **PYC4812** Sport Psychology |
| **PYC4807** Psychological Assessment | **PYC4803** Social Psychology | **PYC4813**: Cognitive Neuroscience |
| **PYC4809** Therapeutic Psychology | **PYC4805** Developmental Psychology | **PYC4807** Psychological Assessment |

## 5.3    Re-registration

The Honours degree in Psychology should preferably be completed in TWO OR THREE YEARS. However, students must meet the following **minimum requirements** to be allowed to re-register for the Honours course in Psychology:

Pass at least 36 credits in the first year of registration and in the second and subsequent year of study at least 48 credits annually.

Students who, at the end of the third year of study, have not passed the minimum required number of modules, can only be allowed to register again with the approval of the College Management Committee.

**The above are the absolute minimum requirements. A student should try to progress much faster.**

## 5.4     Number of modules

Since re-registration as well as admission to more advanced postgraduate studies partly depends on a good performance, a student should plan his or her studies to perform optimally (to complete the degree in a reasonable time period and to do as well as possible in the examinations).

**If you wish to register for all the required papers in your first year of registration** (although we strongly recommend that you should rather consider doing the degree in two or three years), **you should submit the following with your registration form**:

(1)     A statement that you are aware of the risks involved, that is, the heavy work load and the effect poor performance might have on selection for more advanced postgraduate studies.

(2)     A written explanation of your reasons for wishing to register for all the modules and how you will be able to cope with the work load.

See recommendation (a) under 5.6 with regard to factors to be taken into account.

## 5.5     Guidelines

Before you decide to register for the Honours degree in Psychology, consider the following:

(1)     Self-discipline and the ability to study independently are essential for success in this course.

(2)     The course is extensive and time consuming. To be successful, **students should start working right after registration.**

(3)     In order to be admitted to the examinations, you will have to submit a considerable amount of work of a satisfactory standard.

**Some students choose to enrol for all 8 modules of the BA Psychology Honours degree. This is NOT recommended. We encourage students to spread their studies over 2 years**

The academic work involved in all the Honours modules at Unisa is arduous and time intensive. As a rule of thumb, we encourage students 2 spread their studies over 2 years. We suggest that you take HMPYC80 (Research Methodology), PYC4802 (Psychopathology), PYC4807 (Psychological assessment) and one more module in the *first year*. In the *second year*, students are advised to take HRPYC81 (Research report) and the remaining three modules.

Note that due to excessive workload we find that many students who register for all modules in one year deregister from 4 modules during the middle of the year, at huge financial cost to themselves. The prudent and recommended course of action would be to register for 4 modules each year.

### 5.6 Selection modules

**NB**: The codes, comprising seven characters, which appear in the first column before the names of the modules, must be indicated on the registration form.

The curriculum comprises 3 compulsory modules (HRPYC81, HMPYC80, PYC4802) and a further 5 modules depending on the area of specialisation of your choice (see 5.2). **Students must register for the paper HMPYC80 (Research Methodology) in their first year of registration.** If they fail the module, they must re-register for the module until they have passed it.

The modules offered are the following:

| | |
|---|---|
| HRPYC81 | Research Project (**compulsory**) |
| HMPYC80 | Research Methodology (**compulsory**) |
| PYC4802 | Psychopathology (**compulsory**) |
| PYC4803 | Social Psychology |
| PYC4804 | Personology |
| PYC4805 | Developmental Psychology |
| PYC4807 | Psychological Assessment |
| PYC4808 | Ecosystemic Psychology |
| PYC4809 | Therapeutic Psychology |
| PYC4810 | The Psychology of Work |
| PYC4812 | Sport Psychology |
| PYC4813 | Cognitive Neuroscience |
| PYC4814 | Community Psychology: Ecologies of Knowledge |

We would like to make the following <u>**recommendations**</u> regarding your choice of modules:

(a) Our general recommendation is that students who have not previously studied at UNISA should register for not more than three modules in the first year of study and that experienced UNISA students should register for three or four modules.

When considering the number of papers for which you should register, you should take into consideration the following:

(i) previous level of academic performance;
(ii) ability to work hard, fast and consistently;
(iii) the time available for undisturbed study;
(iv) the time you will have to spend in collecting information, ordering books and writing assignments;
(v) experience of studying by correspondence;
(vi) the ability to discipline yourself and to study without continuous contact with lecturers and fellow students;
(vii) other aspects of your private or occupational life which may interfere with your study time (eg marriage, divorce, journeys, transfers, promotions and the resignation of colleagues);
(viii) the fact that your Honours mark will play an important role in your selection for master's studies.

(b)     Students who intend applying for admission to the studies in Clinical Psychology must, in accordance with the rules above, follow the Psychological Counselling stream in the curriculum.

Please note that only a very limited number of students can be accepted for more advanced postgraduate studies in Clinical Psychology.

## 5.7     Examinations

Admission to the examinations is obtained separately for each paper and depends on the submission of assignments. The specific requirements are set out in Tutorial Letter 101 of each paper, which all students receive as soon as their registration for the year concerned is accepted.

Please note: The examinations for Psychology Honours take place in October/November each year. Supplementary examinations are scheduled in January/February each year.

## 5.8     Retaining of credit and exemption

Subject to the requirements of General Rule (10.2.3), the exemption for an Honours paper shall not be granted by virtue of papers/modules passed for a completed Bachelor's degree.

## 5.9     Contents of modules

## HRPYC81     :     RESEARCH REPORT

This module contains a number of research topics. These topics come from the various content areas covered in the honours course. You are required to select one of the topics for a research study. You have to conduct the study and produce a research report in which you describe the study, report the results and discuss your findings. The research report has to be submitted for examination. In the report, you have to demonstrate that you are able to formulate a research problem, that you can conduct a study to address the problem and that you can report the findings of your study.

**Prescribed book**

There is no prescribed book for this module.

## HMPYC80     :     RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The aim of the research methodology module is to offer practical skills that you would find relevant and applicable in your work, life and study environments. The module is structured around the development and evaluation of a research proposal. To achieve this outcome, you have to choose a research topic, plan a research project and write a proposal about your project. In the course of these events, you will learn about project management, research design, data collection and data analysis.

**Prescribed book**

Fouché, C.B., Strydom, H. & Roestenburg, W.J.H. (2021). *Research at grass roots: For the social sciences and human service professions (5th Edition)*. Pretoria: Van Schaick. (**Print ISBN**: 978-0-627-03821-1  9780627038211. **eBook ISBN**: 978-0-627-03822-8,  refer to https://www.vanschaiknet.com/book/view/509 )

**PYC4802     :     PSYCHOPATHOLOGY**

Psychopathology embraces the description, study and interpretation of abnormal behaviour according to various theoretical approaches such as the medical model, the psychodynamic model, the learning theories, the humanistic-existential perspective and the family systems perspective. Selected themes in child and adult psychopathology with emphasis on various contexts and South African society are studied.

Psychopathology is especially helpful to students wishing to pursue postgraduate work in the field of clinical counselling and research psychology.

**Prescribed book**

Burke, A. et al. (2019). *Understanding psychopathology: South African perspectives* (3rd ed.). Oxford University Press Southern Africa.
**ISBN**: 13: 9780190722562

**PYC4803     :     SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY**

Social psychology is the scientific study of the nature and causes of behaviour in social contexts or situations. In our course, we examine the fundamental connection between individuals and situations. Social psychological concepts such as identity, social cognition, attribution, attitudes, group processes, prejudice, aggression, pro-social behaviour, social influence and interpersonal relationships are addressed. In an applied section, students complete a research project on a topic of their choice under the guidance of a lecturer.

Social psychology serves as a useful background for clinical and counselling psychology and also for the psychology of work. In addition, applied social psychology addresses social and other problems in education, the health terrain and business.

**Prescribed book**

 Branscombe, N. R., & Baron, R. A. (2022). Social Psychology (15th ed.). Pearson Global Edition

**PYC4804     :     PERSONOLOGY**

This module comprises: (i) A multi-dimensional analysis and comparison of a spectrum of personality theories as well as a study of African perspectives on human functioning and (ii) practice in the application of personality theories.

The goal of this module is to convey to students a clear conception of the implications of various personality theories for human functioning and how these theories are applied in practice

**Prescribed book**

 Moore, C., Viljoen, H.G., Meyer, W., Hurst, A., Shantall, T. & Painter, D. (2017). *Personology: From individual to ecosystem* (5th ed.). Pearson South Africa.
ISBN: 9781928330967 (print book)
ISBN: 9781776100590 (eBook)

## PYC4805     :     DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY

Developmental Psychology is the study of human development over the entire life span, from conception to death. Developmental Psychology supplies important background information for students who would like to become clinical or counselling psychologists. Knowledge gained by studying developmental psychology is also most valuable for parents, teachers, social workers, as well as people in the health professions and in the business world or industry.

### Prescribed book

Kail, R. V., Cavanaugh, J. C. & Muller, J. (2019). *Human Development. A Life-span View (*1st South African ed.). Cengage. (ISBN978-4743-5957-2)

## PYC4807     :     PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

The module in psychological assessment provides the student with a grounding in psychometric test theory and illustrates the practical application of knowledge of psychological testing in situations such as the classroom, industry and clinical settings. The emphasis is not on how to use particular tests, but on responsible test use and meaningful interpretation of psychological test data.

Knowledge of psychological testing and the correct use of test results are a professional responsibility, as well as being of considerable personal interest. This paper is particularly relevant for students interested in professional training but will also be useful to anyone with an interest in the assessment of human functioning.

### Prescribed book

Foxcroft, C., & De Kock, F. (2023). *Introduction to psychological assessment in the South African context* (6th ed.). Oxford University Press.

## PYC4808     :     ECOSYSTEMIC PSYCHOLOGY

In this module, students are introduced to the cybernetic paradigm and ecological thinking about human behaviour. First and second order approaches to observation, description and research are explored, and the student's personal involvement in the observed processes are emphasised.

This course will be useful to those who are interested in the professional MA courses as well as those who want to keep abreast of recent shifts in scientific thinking within psychology.

### Prescribed book

Becvar D. S. & Becvar, R. J. (2014). Family therapy: A systemic integration (8th ed.). Pearson Education Limited.

**PYC4809:    THERAPEUTIC PSYCHOLOGY**

This module introduces students to the study of the following:

* The counsellor as person and professional    * Ethical Issues
* Existential Therapy                            * Person-centred Therapy
* Gestalt Therapy                                * Reality Therapy
* Behaviour Therapy                              * Cognitive Behaviour Therapy
* Postmodern Approaches

In addition to the introduction to the above approaches, we expect that students should acquire an in-depth knowledge of a specific therapeutic approach of their choice and be willing to disclose how studying this approach affected their self-understanding.

We also require that students should become involved as a volunteer in any organisation which provides help to people in need. A compulsory assignment is set on this involvement.

This module will be useful for students who may eventually become counsellors or psychologists. Irrespective of their intentions, all students taking this module will learn about different therapeutic approaches, and we hope it can also add to gain self-insight.

**Prescribed book**

Corey, G.T. (2021). *Theory and practice of counseling and psychotherapy: A South African Perspective* (3rd ed). Cengage.

**PYC4810    :    THE PSYCHOLOGY OF WORK**

The Psychology of Work module comprises the application of psychological theory, principles and research to issues that are important to workers and management in organisations. The implicit point of departure is that the psychology of work is, in a sense, applied social psychology. In the practical component of the course, a student must describe aspects of their work situation.

Important issues that are given attention to are, amongst others, organisational behaviour; basic human processes; individuals in organisations; group processes; influencing others; organisational processes such as the work environment, organisational structure and design, and organisational change and development.

Psychology of Work is an extremely useful module for anyone working in a large or small organisation.

**Prescribed book**

Greenberg, J. (2011). ***Behaviour in organizations* (10th ed.).** Essex: Pearson Education Limited.

**PYC4812 : SPORT PSYCHOLOGY**

Sport psychology is an interdisciplinary field, involving both sport scientists and psychologists, which is not only aimed at helping sport participants to achieve maximal performance, but also to enhance the quality of their involvement in sport.

The goal of this module is to convey to students a clear conception of the foundation, depth, scope and practical application of sport psychology. Students with an interest in sport and exercise will find this module useful and interesting. Sport psychology has experienced increased growth and popularity, and we believe it will continue along these lines for years to come.

**Prescribed book**

Williams, J.M. & Krane, V. (Eds.). (2020). *Applied Sport Psychology. Personal growth to peak performance (8h ed.)*. New York: McGraw-Hill. (ISBN: 978 126 0575 569).


**PYC4813 : COGNITIVE NEUROSCIENCE**

Cognitive neuroscience is a fast-growing research field that lies at the intersection of cognitive psychology, neuropsychology, and neuroscience. The module introduces students to concepts, theories, and research techniques in this field. It presents an overview of neural structures and functions, describes the key imaging and electrophysiological methods used in cognitive neuroscience research, and acquaints students with core domains in this area such as attention, vision, memory, language, lesion studies, executive functions of the brain, and the social and emotional brain. This module will be useful to psychology students who are interested in the connection between cognition and neuroscience, and who want to acquire some knowledge of current research in this interdisciplinary area.

**Prescribed book**

Kalat, J. W. (2019). *Biological Psychology (13th ed),* Cengage Learning**.**

**PYC4814 : COMMUNITY PSYCHOLOGY: ECOLOGIES OF KNOWLEDGE**

The purpose of this module is to equip you with the necessary skills, competencies and values to gain an understanding of how knowledge is created and reproduced in and around communities, as well as in the discipline of community psychology. You will be able to interpret particular instances of community knowledge reproduction and creation in terms of broad historical discourses and ideologies, governing policies and protocols, interest groups (individuals, institutions and sectors), and relevant techniques. You will be able to characterise particular communities (including online communities and the community of teachers and learners) in terms of how they have been socially constructed and what the effect of different constructions might be.

**Prescribed book**

There are no prescribed books for this module.

**5.10 BPsych equivalent**

The BPsych Equivalence programme at Unisa was cancelled in 2013.

We often get inquiries as to whether our Honours alumni students can register with the Health Professions Council of South Africa with the Honours degree at Unisa as a registered psychological counsellor.

The answer is **no**, it is unfortunately **not** possible to register as a "psychological counsellor" with a Unisa Honours degree in Psychology at the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA). Unisa does not offer this qualification.

All three the streams in the Honours in Psychology at Unisa are academic qualifications only that are registered with all relevant Education and Training Authorities in South Africa (SAQA, CHE, etc.). However, the honours degree is not registered as an applied professional qualification with the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) due to various supervision, internship and directed training requirements that we do not currently provide.

To register as register as a "psychological counsellor" you must complete a B.Psych equivalent programme (concurrent with a Honours in Psychology programme, or thereafter) at a registered instution. This also includes practical counsellor training and involves a 6 months registered internship, after which you can apply to the HPCSA for registration.

View a list of accredited universities and qualifications in South Africa in terms of training in psychology on the HPCSA website at
https://www.hpcsa.co.za/Content/upload/professional_boards/psb/accreditations/ACCREDITE_UNIVERSITIES_IN_SOUTH_AFRICA_20230815.pdf

Also see HPCSA Form 258: Framework for education, training and registration for Registered Counsellor
https://www.hpcsa.co.za/Content/upload/professional_boards/psb/guidelines/Form%20258-the-framework-for-education-training-registration-and-scope-of-Registered-Counsellors.pdf

And refer to the minimum standards for the training of a Registered Counsellor
https://www.hpcsa.co.za/Content/upload/psb/guidelines/Minimum_standards_for_the_training of Registered_Counsellor.pdf

For further information study the information and activities in the booklet Psychology@Unisa where you can lLearn more about the different fields related to psychology, and how you can prepare for career and study opportunities in these field.
https://www.unisa.ac.za/static/corporate_web/Content/About/Service%20departments/DCCD/Downloads/dccd_psychology_2023Sep_unisa.pdf

Also refer to other resources on the Unisa directorate: Counselling and Career Development website at https://www.unisa.ac.za/sites/myunisa/default/Learner-support-&-regions/Counselling-and-career-development/Downloads-and-podcasts. This site and department provides self-help resources such as documents, audio recordings, and videos to help you manage your career, Unisa studies, and personal development more effectively. You may also contact them for an appointment.

# 6 STUDIES FOR A MASTER'S DEGREE

Please note that an Honours degree does not automatically give you access to a Master's degree. Since only a few students can be accommodated for certain options, prospective

master's students are subjected to a strict selection procedure in which the following criteria play a role:

(a)     academic performance at undergraduate and particularly postgraduate level

(b)     personal and motivational profile as assessed by a selection committee.

**NB.**    If you do not obtain the 60% average or more for your Honours degree, the first time you do it, you will not be allowed to apply for any of our Masters Degrees. No second opportunity to upgrade marks will be permitted.


**ADMISSION TO MASTER'S STUDIES CANNOT BE GUARANTEED TO ANY STUDENT.**

## 6.1    MASTERS DEGREES

**Option 1: Dissertation**

The curriculum comprises a research proposal module and a dissertation on an approved topic, based on the student's own research. Academic achievement in the Honours course is taken into account when admission is considered. Prospective students must submit a research outline describing the nature of their intended research, to be approved by the Department before the student's registration can be finalised and before the research is started. Registration depends on the quality of the research outline; there is no selection procedure for this option.

Requirements for registration and guidelines for compiling a research proposal are provided in a guide obtainable from the Department of Psychology.

To pass, candidates must obtain at least 50% for the dissertation. To be awarded the degree with distinction, candidates must obtain at least 75%. In addition, a scientific article must be submitted with the dissertation.

Please direct queries about this option to MandDPsych@unisa.ac.za

**Option 2: Specialisation in Research Psychology: Course work and dissertation**

This option is being recurriculated. You can consult the website for updates in this regard.

Please direct queries to Ms N Masinga at masinnc1@unisa.ac.za

The Research Master's Degree is aimed at developing competency in psychological research. After completion of the Research Master's Degree and an appropriate internship, students may apply to the Health Professions Council of South Africa for registration as a Research Psychologist.

All master's and doctoral students are required to register for and complete a research module before registration for the dissertation/thesis can be finalised.

## 6.2    MA in Clinical Psychology

### 6.2.1  Admission requirements

Students must hold an Honours degree in Psychology with an average mark of 60%. This is a two year full-time **course work** programme. Therefore, students should live within easy reach of

the main campus of the University for the duration of the course. Students are required to be available for training purposes five days per week.

## 6.2.2  Selection

Due to the intensive nature of the course, only a limited number of students are selected annually. A team of trainers conduct a preliminary paper selection to determine suitable candidates to be invited to appear before a selection committee in Pretoria. Applications for selection must reach the University before 30 June of the year prior to the commencement of the first year of the course.

Please apply online, and ensure that you submit all the necessary documentation (you will be informed what documents to submit in the online application). No hard copy applications will be accepted. An incomplete application will not be considered. You can access the online application at
https://unisapsychology.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_a4X2d88Gj7glng1
and the referee forms at
https://unisapsychology.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1YLHcA29DnWLACF

## 6.2.3  The course

The programme is comprehensive and runs over a two-year full time (face-to-face) period. The MA Clinical Psychology Degree is a professional degree that leads to registration with the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) as a Clinical Psychologist (under the auspices of the HPCSA, provided that you adhere to all the requirements of both the academic institution (Unisa) and the HPCSA, including that you pass and successfully complete the MA degree, successfully complete a 12-month internship at an accredited institution, pass the HPCSA board exam and complete a 12-month community service year).

## 7    REGISTRATION AS PSYCHOLOGIST AND STUDENT PSYCHOLOGIST

Students that are selected for training are required to register with the Health Professions Council of South Africa as Clinical Psychology Students before training can commence at the beginning of each academic year. According to Act 56 of 1974, only persons registered with the Health Professions Council of South Africa as psychologists may (1) use the title psychologist and (2) perform psychological acts for financial gain. Psychological acts include: Administering and interpreting psychological tests, personality assessment and any action aimed at personality change or modification (e.g., by means of psychotherapy).

The general requirement for registration is a Master's degree in Psychology and an internship of at least twelve months at an institution that is accredited by the Health Professions Council of South Africa as a training establishment. The current registration categories are: Research Psychologist, Clinical Psychologist, Counselling Psychologist, Industrial Psychologist and Educational Psychologist.

Further information regarding registration may be obtained from the Health Professions Council of South Africa.

# 8 STUDIES FOR A DOCTORAL DEGREE

## 8.1 Thesis

As is the case with the Master's degree by dissertation only, this programme involves planning and executing a research project under the supervision of the Department. The research is written in the form of a thesis. This degree does not include a course work component and is therefore available on a distance learning basis. The student registers when a supervisor, who has accepted his/her research outline, has been secured. The curriculum comprises a research proposal module (DPCHS01) and a thesis. The student must pass the proposal module before being allowed to do the thesis.

## 8.2 Doctoral Studies in Consulting Psychology

The programme is divided into two parts. The first part (first year) consists of a number of compulsory workshops presented over seven weeks through the year. Apart from the workshops, students are also required to develop a research proposal in the first year. The second part (second and subsequent years) consists of a research thesis. The degree is awarded in collaboration with the Department of Industrial and Organisational Psychology.

Applicants for this degree must be registered psychologists with work experience in an organisation.

All master's and doctoral students are required to register for and complete a research module before registration for the dissertation/thesis can be finalised.

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*Students must please take note that they <u>cannot</u> register with the HPCSA with only an academic Honours degree in psychology.*

**Refer to section 5.10  BPsych equivalent and potential registration as a "psychological counselor" with the HPCSA**

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## 9   TEACHING STAFF

**\*\* Prof  FT Silinda COD**
BA Social Sciences (UNISA), BA Honours Psychology (UNISA), MA Psychology  Research Consultation (UNISA), PhD (Unisa)

## PROFESSOR

Dos Santos MM    BSocSci (UFS), BA Hons (Unisa), MA (Unisa), DPhil (Unisa), PhD (UCN)

Dumont K         Diplom Psychologist (Friedrich Schiller University, Germany), PhD Psychology (Friedrich Schiller University, Germany)

Ferns I          BA (Hons) (RAU), MA, DLitt et Phil (UNISA)

Fourie ME        MA (Research) (US), DLitt et Phil (UNISA)

Papaikonomou M   BA, HED, BA (Hons) (UP), MA (Research Psych) (UP), DLitt et Phil (UNISA)

Nel JA           BA (Hons) (Soc), BA (Hons) (Psych), MA (Research Psych) (UP), MA (Clin Psych) (UNISA), DLitt et Phil (UNISA)

Terre Blanche MJ  BA (Hons) (UP), MA, DLitt et Phil (UNISA)

Van Der Merwe P   BA (UNISA), BA (Hons), MA, DLittet Phil (UNISA)

Van Eeden R       BA (Hons) (UP), MA, DLitt et Phil (UNISA)

## ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

Cakata Z     BA (University of the Western Cape), BA  Hons (Psychology) (University of the Western Cape), MA Psychology (University of the Western Cape), PhD Psychology (Unisa)

Laidlaw C    BA (US), BA Hons (Psychology) (Stell), MA Clinical Psychology (NMMU)PhD (Unisa)

Mojapelo-Batka M   BA (Hons) (UNISA), MSc (Clin Psych) (Medunsa), PhD (Psych)(UNISA)

## SENIOR LECTURER

Gumani MA   DLitt et Phil (Psychology) (UNISA)

Themistocleous N   BA (UNISA), BA Hons (Psychology) (UNISA), MA Clinical Psychology (UNISA), PhD. (Unisa)

Moodley JK  BA (Psychology) (UKZN), BSocSci (Hons) (Psychology) (UKZN), MA (Psychology) (UKZN), PhD (Critical Health Psychology) (WITS)

Letsoalo DL    BA (Social Sciences), BA Hons (Psychology), MA Clinical Psychology, PhD (UL)

RF Sigamoney    BA Psychological counselling; (Hons) Trauma Counselling (Psych); Masters (Pych); PhD (Psych); PhD (Theology)


Van Zyl FN  BSocSci Psychology (UP), BSocSci Hons, Psychology (UP), MA Clinical Psychology (UNISA), PhD Psychology (UNISA)

Erasmus HC  BSc (UP), BPsych (Community Mental Health) (UP), MA (SocSci) (Research Consultation), Unisa

Mbatha K    BA (Hons) Psych (UNISA) MA (Research Psychology) (Unisa)


## LECTURER

Du Rand D   BSocSci (Psychology) at UP, BA Hons (Psychology) UNISA; MA (Clinical Psychology) at UNISA

Hagen SN    BA (Hons)Psych (UNISA), MA (Research Consultation) (UNISA)

Nonhlanhla    BA (UWC), BA Honours Psychology (UWC), MA Psychology (Cum Laude: Khumalo    Unisa)

Kruger DJ    BA (Hons) (UP), MA (Research Psych) (UP)

Gordon EL   Bsc Human Life Sciences (Stellenbosch), Hon BSC Psychology (Stellenbosch), MSc Research Consultation (UNISA), PhD (Unisa)

Maseko S    BA Sports Psychology (UJ), BA Honours Psychology (UJ), MA (Psychology Research Consultation) (UNISA)

Masinga, N. C.    BSc (UNISA); PGD Marketing Management (UNISA); BSc (Hons) Psychology (UNISA); MSc (in Psychology in Research Consultation) (UNISA)

Modutla KM  BSc, BSocSc (Hons) (Uniwest), MSc (Clin) (Medunsa)

Mojapelo CK BA Psychology (UJ), BA (Hons) Psychology (UJ), MA Clinical Psychology (UNISA)

Mokgatlhe PB  BSocSc (SW), BSocSc (Hons) (Uniwest), MSc (Clin Psych) (Medunsa)

Nekhavhambe VM  BA (Psych) (Monash), BA Hons (Psych)(NMMU), MA (Research Psychology) (NWU), PhD (Unisa)

Palakatsela RB    BA (SS) (Hons) (Psych) (UP), MA Research Psychologyn(UNISA)

Semenya BM    BA (Hons) (Vista), MA (Clin Psych) (UP)

Simelane FZ        BA (Psychology), (Unisa) BA Hons (Psychology) (Unisa), MA (Research Psychology) (Unisa)

Skosana GM        MA (Psychology)(RAU), PhD (Unisa)

Shirinda-Mthombeni K  BSc (Hons)Psych (Medunsa), MSc (Psychology) (UNISA)

Mbatha ML   BA (Hons)Psych (UNISA)

Simango J   BA Psychology (UJ), BA Hons (psychology) (UJ), MA Social and Psychological Research (WITS).