



Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC)

Accreditation assessment report University of Notre Dame Australia

2 September 2024



Contents

Context	3
Accreditation team.....	3
Assessment timeline.....	4
Findings	5
Accreditation status	5
Maintaining accreditation.....	5
Summary of findings	6
Conditions.....	7
Monitoring.....	9
Recommendations.....	11
Commendations.....	11
Assessment context	12



University of Notre Dame Australia – 2023 to 2027 Cycle

Context

Higher education provider	University of Notre Dame Australia
Academic organisational unit (AOU)	School of Arts and Sciences
Campus	Fremantle, Sydney
Assessment type	Monitoring Visit (out of cycle follow up)
Accreditation period	1 January 2023 to 31 December 2027
Accreditation standard	Accreditation standards for psychology programs (effective 1 January 2019, version 1.2)

Accreditation team

Role	Person
Team leader	Professor Jonathan Mason
Assessor	Professor Judith Gullifer
Assistant accreditation manager	Stephanie Korilis



Assessment timeline

Dates	Assessment activities
28 Aug 2023	APAC accredits Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3 programs with conditions
21 Dec 2023	School submits December 2023 progress report and material change notification
8 Jan 2024	APAC reviews December 2023 progress report and material change notification
13 Mar 2024	APAC assessment team meeting 1 (align progress report and material change notification)
28 Mar 2024	Provider submits further information
3 April - 5 April 2024	Provider hosts site visit and provides further information as requested
6 May 2024	Accreditation Assessment Committee (AAC) endorses draft assessment report
11 June 2024	Provider receives draft assessment report
5 July 2024	Provider submits rejoinder to draft assessment report
29/07/2024	AAC determines the accreditation outcomes
02/09/2024	APAC finalises the determination letter and assessment report



Findings

APAC thanks the University of Notre Dame Australia for their cooperation through the accreditation process.

Accreditation status

Maintaining accreditation

The following programs remain accredited until **31 December 2027**:

Program title	Campus	Level	Sequence	Program status
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology	Fremantle, Sydney	Level 1	1-3 year	Accredited with conditions
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology/Bachelor of Behavioural Science	Fremantle	Level 1	1-3 year	Accredited with conditions
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology/Bachelor of Counselling	Fremantle, Sydney	Level 1	1-3 year	Accredited with conditions
Bachelor of Human Resource Management/Bachelor of Arts in Psychology	Fremantle, Sydney	Level 1	1-3 year	Accredited with conditions
Bachelor of Law/Bachelor of Arts in Psychology	Fremantle, Sydney	Level 1	1-3 year	Accredited with conditions
Bachelor of Science Psychology	Fremantle	Level 1	1-3 year	Accredited with conditions
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) Psychology	Fremantle, Sydney	Level 2	4 th year	Accredited with conditions
Bachelor of Science (Honours) Psychology	Fremantle	Level 2	4 th year	Accredited with conditions
Master of Professional Psychology	Fremantle, Sydney	Level 3	5 th year	Accredited with conditions



Summary of findings

Standard 1: Public safety is assured		
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
✓	✓	Substantially met
Standard 2: Academic governance and quality assurance processes are effective		
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Not met	Not met	Not met
Standard 3: Program of study, design, delivery and resourcing enable students to achieve the required graduate competencies		
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Substantially met	✓	Substantially met
Standard 4: Students are provided with equitable and timely access to information and support		
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
✓	✓	✓
Standard 5: Assessment is fair, reliable and valid		
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Substantially met	✓	Substantially met



Conditions

Further evidence is required to demonstrate the Accreditation Standards are met.

Program levels	Criteria	Issues identified	Information required	Due dates
Level 3	1.4	External placements	A report demonstrating that sufficient and suitable external placements are in place for all students to ensure they are able to complete their programs in a timely manner. This report should include evidence that external placement providers have robust policies and procedures to deliver quality and safe placement opportunities.	31/07/2024
Level 3	1.7 and 5.5	Appropriately qualified staff	Evidence demonstrating that placement supervisors are appropriately qualified to supervise students on external placements.	31/07/2024
Level 3	1.8 and 1.10	Placement supervision	The following information is required for review: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a list of all students and details of their external placements, supervisors and their supervisors' qualifications. evidence demonstrating that students are receiving sufficient individual and group supervision during their placements. 	31/07/2024
Level 1	3.2, 5.1 and 5.2	Graduate competencies	Evidence demonstrating that interpersonal skills and teamwork (Foundational Competency 1.5) are taught, and student skills and competency are explicitly assessed as a required learning outcome throughout the program.	31/07/2024



Program levels	Criteria	Issues identified	Information required	Due dates
Level 3 Fremantle campus	3.4	Sufficient staff	Evidence that the staffing profile is sufficient to support the achievement of the graduate competencies.	31/07/2024
Level 3	3.5 and 3.6	Learning and teaching resources and environments	Evidence demonstrating the following is required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> adequate, sufficient and confidential consultation rooms with appropriate recording facilities are made available to students to practice their skills and record their simulated placements. students have access to sufficient and adequate psychological assessment test kits for students to practice and use during their studies. 	31/07/2024
Level 3	3.9, 5.1 and 5.2	Inter-professional learning and practice	Evidence demonstrating the following is required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> unit outlines demonstrating how inter-professional learning and practice is included as a required learning outcome, teaching content and material demonstrating how inter-professional learning and practice is taught throughout the program, and Inter-professional learning and practice assessment information and requirements. 	31/07/2024
Level 3	1.5	Informed consent	Evidence demonstrating that external placement providers have a system to ensure that informed consent is sought from all clients receiving a psychological service.	30/09/2024



Program levels	Criteria	Issues identified	Information required	Due dates
All	2.2	External benchmarking	Evidence of an ongoing, systematic plan for external benchmarking exercises, and updates on the progress and outcomes of these exercises.	30/04/2025
All	2.3	External and internal input	Evidence of the Psychology Program Advisory Committee meeting minutes is required to demonstrate regular internal and external input from a range of representatives into the design and management of the programs.	30/04/2025
Level 1 Fremantle campus	3.5	Learning and assessment resources	Evidence that students have sufficient access to published resources to support their learning and development of the graduate competencies.	30/11/2024
Level 3	1.8, 1.9, 1.10 and 3.7	Placement hours	A range of de-identified completed student placement logbooks.	30/11/2024

Monitoring

Monitoring is required to ensure the Accreditation Standards continue to be met.

Program levels	Criteria	Issues identified	Information required	Due dates
All	2.1	Academic governance	Evidence of:	30/04/2025



Program levels	Criteria	Issues identified	Information required	Due dates
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how the new Discipline Head position will represent psychology within the School • its involvement and influence in decisions made to ensure there is relevance and quality of the programs. 	
All	2.4	Contemporary developments	Evidence of effective mechanisms to respond to contemporary developments in the programs is required upon completion of the review.	30/04/2025
All	2.5	Staff support	An update and evidence of the completed activities that staff have engaged in to support their research, teaching, and professional development activities.	30/06/2025
All	3.2, 3.9, 5.1 and 5.2	Graduate competencies	A range of de-identified samples of completed student assessments, including research projects demonstrating Pre-Professional Competency 2.5 and Professional Competency 3.17.	30/11/2024



Recommendations

The assessment team offers the following recommendations for continuous improvement.

Considering the evidence provided at the monitoring site visit, UNDA may wish to:

- Prioritise the individual and group supervision arrangements for students undertaking simulated and external placements (criteria 1.8 and 1.10).
- Expedite the implementation of its plans for learning resources (criteria 3.5 and 3.6).
- Consider upgrading the SPSS software to support students in their research projects (criterion 3.5).
- Explore opportunities to provide funding to Level 2 students to support their research projects (criterion 3.6).
- Increase the presence and engagement of the psychology discipline by creating a shared online community accessible by students studying on both campuses (criteria 3.6 and 4.5).

Commendations

The assessment team commends UNDA on its demonstrated ability on:

- The high level of support demonstrated by all academic teaching staff across all programs, including their commitment to providing an engaging and responsive learning environment.
- The well-planned and coordinated implementation and roll out of the Level 2 program.



Assessment context

In June 2022, the University of Notre Dame Australia's School of Arts and Sciences (School) submitted an application to the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC) seeking accreditation for a newly developed Level 1 Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Bachelor of Science Psychology, Level 2 Bachelor of Arts (Honours) Psychology and Bachelor of Science (Honours) Psychology, and Level 3 Master of Professional Psychology programs.

Following the 2022 initial accreditation assessment review, the program was accredited from 1 January 2023 until 31 December 2027, subject to eight conditions and one monitoring requirement. The monitoring requirement was imposed to allow a follow up visit to be undertaken by mid-2024 to ensure that the programs are rolling out as intended continue to meet the Accreditation Standards.

The School is currently delivering the first iteration of the programs; Level 1 programs commenced in 2022, and Level 2 and Level 3 programs commenced in 2024. At the time of the monitoring site visit, students had commenced the third year of the Level 1 program at the Sydney campus, first year of the Level 1 program at the Fremantle campus, and had a first intake for the Level 2 and Level 3 programs delivered at the Sydney and Fremantle campuses.

The monitoring visit focused on the outstanding conditions of accreditation against criteria under Standard 1 Public safety, Standard 2 Academic governance and quality assurance, Standard 3 Program of study and Standard 5 Assessment relevant to the rollout of the programs.