

Guide for Studying Psychology Overseas on Exchange or as a Study Abroad Student

Who studies Psychology overseas?

Students frequently want to study Psychology overseas while completing a semester or year of Study Abroad or Exchange for credit to their University of Melbourne degree. Some of these students are completing a major or a minor in Psychology whereas others are completing Psychology subjects either as part of the discipline subjects of their degree course or as breadth subjects.

Before considering studying Psychology overseas you must determine whether you are eligible to study overseas. Details of this are available at:

<http://www.mobility.unimelb.edu.au/outgoing/apply/eligibility.html>

It is not possible to complete any part of your Honours year, Post-graduate Diploma in Psychology or professionally-accredited postgraduate Master of Psychology degree overseas.

Completing Psychology subjects as individual discipline or breadth subjects

The procedure for gaining credit is similar to that for students completing a Psychology Major or Minor overseas. In these cases, however, you may not need to be so concerned about finding subject equivalents to those taught here at the University of Melbourne as it is possible for unspecified Psychology credit to be recommended for subjects completed at overseas institutions that are not the equivalent of University of Melbourne subjects. (Note: Bachelor of Science students are not eligible to receive credit for psychology as breadth because psychology is considered to be science).

Which institution overseas?

Advice can NOT be given about which institutions students should consider for an exchange or study abroad program. You must decide which destination is best for you based on, among other things, the subjects available. Some of the exchange destinations that offer Psychology can be found at: <http://www.mobility.unimelb.edu.au/outgoing/disciplines/>.

If you are considering studying subjects overseas for credit to your major, minor or breadth sequence, you need to decide for which University of Melbourne subjects you want to gain credit (these may be compulsory or elective subjects) and select subjects at the overseas institution that you think are the equivalent of these University of Melbourne subjects.

To determine whether or not a subject is equivalent to a subject offered at the University of Melbourne, you first need to check the content of the University of Melbourne subjects. Subject descriptions, including the content statements, for all subjects are available from the Handbook online at <https://handbook.unimelb.edu.au/>. You should then select subjects that you think cover this specific content. If the overseas subject has any pre-requisites, make sure you have met them in the subjects you have completed or are completing here at Melbourne.

If you are going to be an Exchange student, you must ensure that the credit value of your proposed course of study meets the requirements for a full-time load at the University of Melbourne. This information is available from the Credit Load tab on the individual partner brochure pages on the Melbourne Global Mobility website at <https://programs.mobility.unimelb.edu.au/>.

Note that it is very difficult to find equivalent subjects for the two compulsory level 3 subjects, *Research Methods for Human Inquiry* and *Psychological Science: Theory and Practice*, as they have

content that is not usually combined within a single subject. Please bear this in mind when planning your overseas study, although discovering equivalents at appropriate overseas institutions would be welcome.

Also note the semesters in which subjects are taught and the impact that Study Abroad or Exchange will have on your course planning and course completion when you return to the University of Melbourne.

Getting subjects approved

Once you have selected the subjects you wish to study, please submit an online application to the Melbourne School of Psychological Sciences at <http://www.psych.unimelb.edu.au/study/study-abroad-and-exchange>

In some cases, recommendation can be made for credit to be granted for higher-level undergraduate subjects studied at overseas institutions as unspecified Level 3 Psychology subjects. This will be determined on a case-by-case basis after considering the details of the subjects.

You will be requested to provide the following details of the subjects you would like to study:

- subject name and code at the host institution
- name of institution
- credit value and how it is translated to Melbourne points
- content statement
- practical component requirement (please note that a prac component is essential for approval for a subject in your major)
- contact hours, e.g. number of weeks course runs for and hours per week
- assessment
- for specified credit you need to indicate for which subject you are seeking the credit

If you do not provide these details, your request for approval cannot be considered

How long does it take to get subjects assessed?

If you have provided all the information requested about the subjects, assessment of subjects may take up to 10 working days.

Approvals for credit from overseas study for Psychology

As a School, we only make recommendations that subjects are suitable for credit to a University of Melbourne degree. It is your home faculty that awards the credit and makes the final decision about what and how much credit you will receive from your overseas study.

Bachelor of Science students should note that they are not eligible to receive breadth credit for psychology.

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May 2015

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