Emeris

Bachelor of Arts Honours in Psychology



Faculty of Humanities

2 Years Distance Honours | NQF Level 8
120 Credits | SAQA ID: 105032 | HPSY0801

→ Online

Qualification Description

The Bachelor of Arts Honours in Psychology qualification is designed to develop high-level academic skills in the field of psychology. These skills include research skills (e.g. how to operationalise the measurement of complex processes); contextual awareness (e.g. social appropriateness); interpersonal awareness (e.g. the mechanisms of social communication and potential sources of interpersonal conflict); problem-solving skills (e.g. the ability to tackle a range of different types of problems and to employ a range of approaches to understanding problems); critical thinking and evaluation (e.g. to identify the shortcomings and pitfalls of a particular action); and the ability to explore issues from multiple points of view); higher-order analysis (e.g. identifying recurrent patterns in human activity); and, pragmatism (e.g. a pragmatic approach to work and problem-solving). All of these skills are scarce and promote employability.

Since the Bachelor of Arts Honours in Psychology programme is registered as an academic honours, which generally does not cover a practicum, one would not yet be positioned to register as a Psychologist, Counsellor or Psychometrist with the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) upon completion of this Honours programme. This Honours programme will, however, position graduates for admission into a professional Master's Degree training programme such as Clinical Psychology, Counselling Psychology and Research Psychology at another institution, after which, registration with the HPCSA is possible.

Who Is This Qualification Aimed At?

The Bachelor of Arts Honours in Psychology qualification is aimed at graduates who wish to build a deeper understanding of psychological theory, research, and practice. This qualification is ideal for individuals intending to pursue registration as a psychologist, careers in counselling, mental health, or human behaviour focused field, upon further postgraduate training.

DISTANCE (ONLINE)

CONTACT FULL-TIME

Admission Requirements

Minimum Admission Requirements	An appropriate Bachelor's Degree **OR** An appropriate Advanced Diploma provided that a 360 credit Diploma or appropriate equivalent has been completed.	Candidates must have completed Bachelor of Arts (BA) or Bachelor of Social Science or equivalent qualification(s), with one of the psychology disciplines at NQF Level 7 and a foundation research module at the undergraduate level, preferably at NQF Level 7. Those who have not completed a foundation research module at undergraduate level will be required to do The Introduction to Research SLP and need to be able to demonstrate an understanding of basic research before they can commence with their research report. Candidates are required to have a minimum final year average of 65% in final-year (NQF L7) Psychology modules. Those with a final year average of 60 to 64% in the core Psychology modules will be considered if they attained an average of 65% or higher for all final-year (NQF L7) level modules.
	International	A SAQA NQF L7 Evaluation Certificate in an appropriate field and meeting the additional admission requirements.

Additional Notes	Graduates of Emeris who do not meet the admissions requirements for admission to Honours can enrol for and repeat all or some of their NQF Level 7 modules in order to improve their marks so that they can meet the entry requirements for Honours. These graduate students will then receive an additional transcript after the completion of the repeat module(s), where the repeat module(s) will appear as a second iteration of the module(s) on the transcript. The marks from the second iteration can then be used for admission to Honours in the subsequent academic year. This option is only available to graduates from Emeris and does not apply to graduates from other HE institutions.

Scan the QR Code to learn more about Alternate Admission requirements for:
RPL | Mature Age Exemptions | USAf International Students | One module outstanding from a Higher Certificate *If applicable.

Curriculum Structure

Year 1							
Semester 1				Semester 2			
Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits	Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits
PSAS8111	Psychological Assessment	8	20	THIN8112	Therapeutic Interventions	8	20
The purpose of the module is to develop students' critical engagement with the technical, ethical, and multicultural issues that inform the design and implementation of psychological assessment measures. Students will become familiar with basic psychometric principles, as well as different assessment tools and their functions. Traditional and contemporary theories of child development, intelligence, neuropsychology, and personality are examined. Course content is structured across different contexts of assessment, namely early child development, cognitive and scholastic assessments, career counselling, clinical diagnostics, and organisational management. The focus is primarily on critical perspectives to provide a foundation for future postgraduate studies in which students focus on the manual administration of assessment tools.				The purpose of the module is to provide the student with a succinct overview of the divergent approaches to counselling and psychotherapy, beginning with the basic issues in counselling practice such as values, the therapeutic process, and ethical considerations. The student will become familiar with the key concepts of the approaches and will gain a working knowledge of the techniques and procedures of each, by applying the theories to a community health context within South Africa. The module will encourage students to think critically, and evaluate each theory from a multicultural perspective, highlighting the strengths and weaknesses of each when applied to diverse populations.			
Electives:	Students will choose between Developmental Psychology or Community Psychology. *Please note the availability of either the Developmental Psychology or Community Psychology modules will be dependent on student numbers, and campus resources.						

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Please note, details are correct at the time of publication.

Semester 1			
Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits
DPSY8111	Developmental Psychology	8	20
The purpose of this module is to develop an advanced and critical knowledge of the systematic, complex, successive and multifactorial changes that occur across the lifespan. Areas of concern and significance within the South African context, with regards to the impact on development will also be covered.			
CPSY8111	Community Psychology	8	20
The purpose of this module is to equip students with a strong conceptual and applied understanding of community psychology principles, methodologies and praxis. The course frames the historical development of community psychology as a socially responsive sub-discipline of psychology, recognising theoretical and methodological diversity within the field and divergence from mainstream approaches to mental health. With reference to the South African context, students engage with community psychology's explicit values and ideological orientation as an applied discipline, drawing links to critical psychology. As emergent psychological practitioners, the module develops the student's practical skills, critical thought and reflexivity so as to allow effective and meaningful community engagement. The module extends capacity for social analysis, theoretical synthesis and methodological application by calling upon students to devise and evaluate community psychology intervention programs in response to real-world problems.			

Semester 2			
Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits
PSPA8112	Psychopathology	8	20
The purpose of this module is to have students critically consider, on a theoretical and practical level, the classification, development, treatment, and prevention of psychological problems. It also aims to sensitise students to the impact of culture on the experience and expression of mental illness, and have the students engage with critical, current literature on psychological health and illness, particularly within the South African context.			

Year 2			
Semester 3			
Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits
REMS8421	Research Methodology and Statistics	8	20
The purpose of this module is to advance and develop students' knowledge and skills in research paradigms, designs, methods, analytical and statistical techniques and ethical issues for both quantitative and qualitative research in applied Psychology. This module is intended to develop students' knowledge and application of research competencies in psychological research in South African and global contexts.			
Year Long			
INRP8419	Independent Research Project	8	30
Students develop a proposal and write up the final independent research project under the guidance of a supervisor. The independent research report constitutes an integrated assessment of all knowledge acquired in the Research Methodology and Statistics module.			

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Further Study Pathways

The successful completion of the Bachelor of Arts Honours in Psychology qualification (HPSY0801) enables you to progress into the following qualification/s subject to meeting the admission requirements:

- Master of Philosophy in Arts qualification (MPIA0901)
- Any other Masters in public universities and abroad.

Career Opportunities

The qualification focusses on four core and aligned fields within Psychology, namely: psychopathology, therapeutic interventions, psychological assessment as well as one of the following electives: developmental psychology or community psychology, depending on availability. All of these areas of study will have a sustained focus on their utility in the South African context, and the contribution that they can make to address the challenges currently faced in South African society. These core aspects of psychology are presented in five respective modules carrying the names of these aspects (Psychological Assessment, Psychopathology, Therapeutic Interventions and Developmental Psychology or Community Psychology).

Examples of possible career opportunities for graduates include:

- Clinical Psychology/Counselling/Therapy (with further postgraduate studies)
- Human resources (with further studies)
- Teaching (with further postgraduate studies)
- Community worker
- Marketing or advertising
- Research
- Academia (Lecturing and tutoring)
- User experience designer (with further education and training)
- Customer care consultant (with further company-based training)

System and Software Requirements

- Reliable internet connection (we recommend 5-10 GB of data per month and an internet speed of at least 0.15 Mbps)
- Desktop PC or laptop with at least an i3 processor and 4GB RAM memory
- Windows 11 or macOS 10.15 (Microsoft Office 365 is available as a free download for students), and Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge Chromium or Firefox
- A working webcam and microphone
- An uninterrupted power supply is also highly recommended.

Exams are written at an exam centre and in some instances online. These details will be specified in your Programme Assessment Schedule (PAS).

Graduation and Completion Requirements for This Qualification

In order to be awarded this qualification, you must have achieved a minimum final year mark of fifty percent (50%) for all 6 modules in the curriculum.

As a distance (online) student, this qualification is structured to be completed over 2 years. The maximum time for completing a qualification full-time is double the minimum time associated with the qualification, and for part-time an additional year is allowed.

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Where Assessments Are Written in Person

- For students based in South Africa, online students may select any Emeris campus as their Examination Centre.
- An alternative examination centre is only permissible for students studying abroad and those located in a province of South Africa where there is no campus. If there is no campus within reach, an alternative venue will need to be sourced by you. For non-Emeris venues, there is an alternative venue levy per module.

What Are the Benefits of a Distance (Online) Qualification?

The distance (online) delivery mode provides you with the agility of studying towards a tertiary qualification asynchronously, at different times from different locations. Distance students need to commit to approximately 20-25 hours a week for distance engagement (most of which is after hours) with material and assessments to succeed.

Here are some of the benefits you can expect:

- A sequenced online learning environment that allows you the ability to manage your learning experiences flexibly and autonomously.
- A learner guide designed to lead you through the module material and learning outcomes, empowering you to effectively pace your learning in preparation for assessments.
- Our Learning Management System is designed to break up your learning units into manageable sections which include various activities to support learning.
- Module expert online lecturers that facilitate module teaching and learning support through various technology enhanced mediums.
- Student Relations Specialists provide administrative and operational guidance and support throughout your academic journey.
- A professionally registered Student Wellness Manager/Counsellor available for short-term, primary counselling services. Additionally, the Student Wellness Manager/Counsellor hosts various webinars and virtual talks on topics that promote a balanced lifestyle as you pursue your academic goals.

How Will Emeris Support Your Online Learning as a Distance (Online) Student, and How Will It Help Prepare You for the Working World?

Our distance teaching and learning approach is designed to allow you the freedom to self-govern your learning experiences according to your individual needs. You are at the centre of your own learning journey, and by offering curated engagement opportunities, we partner with you to:

- Engage with subject material
- Build understanding
- Develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills
- Manage your work, life and studies
- Succeed in your personal, professional, and academic goals.

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Apply Online

After your application is submitted, we will review your documentation and provide an outcome regarding your chosen study.

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