



Scientia Education Investment Fund Grants Final Report

Date: 31/07/2019

Title of project: Development of a fully online Graduate Diploma in Psychology (5331)

School/Faculty/Unit: School of Psychology/Faculty of Science

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[The completed report should be 8 pages in length]

1. Executive Summary

- Summarise the project, context, priorities addressed, outputs, key findings and recommendations (if relevant)

The project sought funding to prepare a fully online Graduate Diploma in Psychology (GDPsych). The GDPsych will enable graduates in other disciplines to complete an accredited UG sequence in Psychology, allowing them to progress to further accredited training in professional psychology (e.g. Honours, Masters and research degrees). The program is offered entirely online in part-time mode, with a target for recruitment of mature students wishing to up-skill or re-skill and will attract full fees. The program will be a significant net contributor to UNSW, the Faculty of Science and the School of Psychology teaching revenue.

This proposal lies firmly within objectives of the UNSW Scientia Educational Experience theme, supporting the following objectives in theme A2: Educational Excellence:

- Objective 2.1: Design, develop and deliver the UNSW Scientia Educational Experience UNSW as a leader in transforming our students and empowering them to become the best they can be;
- Objective 2.4: To establish UNSW as a global leader in technology-enhanced learning, positioning us as a preferred partner for others at the leading edge of innovation in higher education and digital service delivery.

The proposal also directly addressed the following SEI Educational priorities aligned to the 2025 Strategy:

- Allow UNSW to expand offerings to new students;
- Allow UNSW to significantly increase the efficiency of a course or program;
- Demonstrate the effectiveness of innovative technologies in achieving educational outcomes

Across the two years, we have developed all ten Graduate Diploma courses through the UNSW AIMS course and program approval procedures and have obtained the approval by the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC). We have recorded and edited the learning modules, formative and summative assessments and reading materials for all courses. We have established ongoing relationship with Cengage representatives who come to meet the program directors after each course in order to ensure that the Mind Tap and textbook resources are available and ready to use prior to the beginning of each course. The Mind Tap has been also integrated in Moodle as an external tool, allowing the course convenors and students easy access to the textbook and additional interactive lessons and quizzes.

In addition, we have finalised the timetable for enrolment, course delivery and census dates in line with the planned program progression for 2019 , 2020 and 2021 academic year. This timetable has been implemented in March 2019. The enrolment was opened in January 2019.

2. Outcomes and impact

- Describe the major achievements of your project in relation to the outcomes and deliverables.

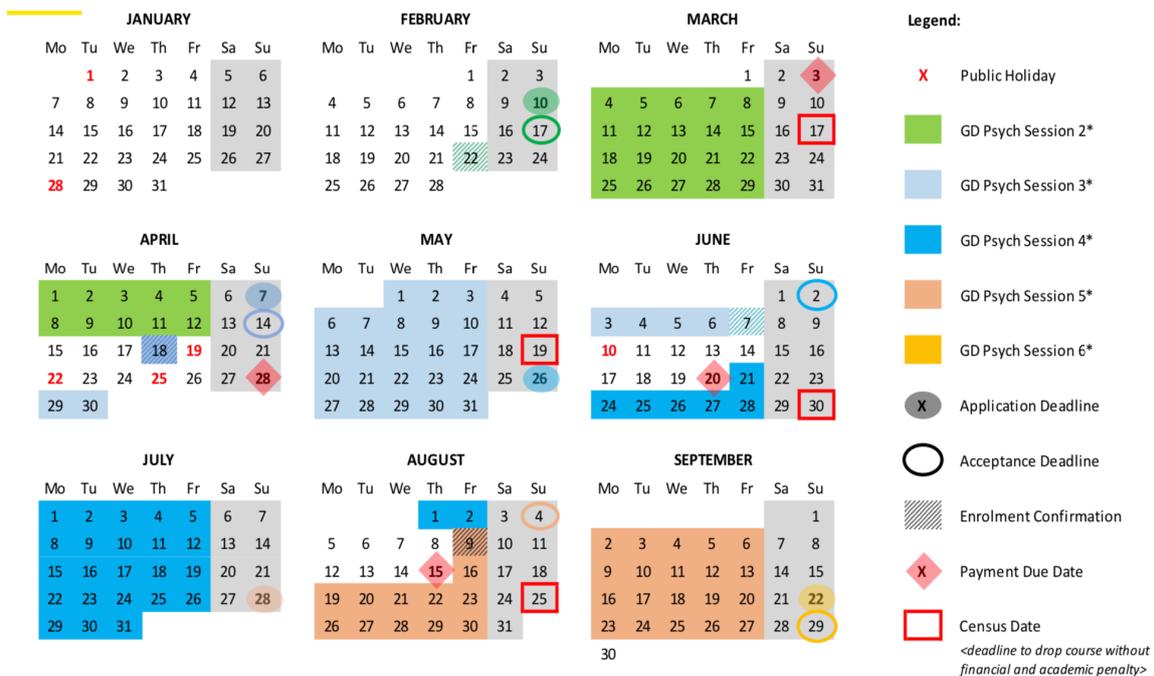
The program launched in February 2019. In the first 6 months since the beginning of the program we have enrolled three cohorts of students: 7 students were enrolled in the first cohort, 21 students were enrolled in the second cohort and 22 students were enrolled in the third cohort. We have run three of our 10 courses so far: Introduction to Psychology 1 (PSYC5001), Introduction to Psychology 2 (PSYC5002) and Data Analysis and Methods of Psychological Inquiry (PSYC5003).

We have developed all course content within the school. This independence in program design and development allows us to be fully in control and responsible for our content delivery. Using lessons and assessments designed in Moodle means that we are able to closely monitor students' progress and promptly intervene if our students need additional support, or additional recourses. In addition, this approach to the program design allows for a remarkable efficacy: all courses attended by the first three cohorts of students are convened by only two course convenors. These two course convenors have also created, designed and coordinated the creation and editing of the content for all ten courses.

- Discuss project impact – how and to what extent has the project impacted students, staff, faculty institution, and higher education as relevant to the project.

The program allows students to apply for entry into psychology honours and then postgraduate masters programs and to further progress towards a career as a registered psychologist, behavioural scientist, marketing research professional, mental health worker, academic, organisational consultant, school counsellor, human resource manager and social worker.

We have organised for six enrolment periods throughout the year, which offers more flexibility for students. The program key dates are presented in the figure below:



Our carousel enrolment system matches our intake dates and the courses are offered in line with the trimester model. Depending on when students start the program and the course offerings for the year, the school will manage students' enrolments by following the progression plan below:

COURSES OFFERINGS IN 2019

GD Psych Session	Session Dates	Courses Offerings
1	Not running in 2019	
2	4 March – 12 April 2019	PSYC5002
3	29 April – 7 June 2019	PSYC5003
4	21 June – 2 August 2019	PSYC5001, PSYC5004
5	16 August – 27 September 2019	PSYC5002, PSYC5005
6	14 October- 22 November 2019	PSYC5003, PSYC5006

Program Progression Plan for 2019 Commencing Students

Entry Point: GD Psych Session 2

GD Psych Session \ Year	1	2	3	4	5	6
2019		PSYC5002	PSYC5003	PSYC5001	PSYC5005	PSYC5006
2020	PSYC5007	PSYC5008	PSYC5009	PSYC5004	PSYC5010	

Entry Point: GD Psych Session 3

GD Psych Session \ Year	1	2	3	4	5	6
2019			PSYC5003	PSYC5001	PSYC5002	PSYC5006
2020	PSYC5007	PSYC5008	PSYC5009	PSYC5004	PSYC5005	PSYC5010

Entry Point: GD Psych Session 4

GD Psych Session \ Year	1	2	3	4	5	6
2019				PSYC5001	PSYC5002	PSYC5003
2020	PSYC5007	PSYC5008	PSYC5009	PSYC5004	PSYC5005	PSYC5006
2021	PSYC5010					

Entry Point: GD Psych Session 5

GD Psych Session \ Year	1	2	3	4	5	6
2019					PSYC5002	PSYC5003
2020	PSYC5001	PSYC5008	PSYC5009	PSYC5004	PSYC5005	PSYC5006
2021	PSYC5007	PSYC5010				

Entry Point: GD Psych Session 6

GD Psych Session \ Year	1	2	3	4	5	6
2019						PSYC5003
2020	PSYC5001	PSYC5002	PSYC5009	PSYC5004	PSYC5005	PSYC5006
2021	PSYC5007	PSYC5008	PSYC5010			

In addition to flexible enrolment throughout the calendar year, our courses are designed to allow students independent and self-paced learning. Students' progress is guided and monitored by our teaching staff who provide support in weekly face-to-face online tutorials. In addition, a highly experienced administrative officer helps students with all administrative matters and inquires regarding the program.

The program is a significant net contributor to UNSW, the Faculty of Science and the School of Psychology teaching revenue.

- Include the strategic priorities addressed.

The Graduate Diploma in Psychology project represents a key example of the Scientia education experience, combining technology, flexibility, excellence, and personalisation in an online world and its benefits map to a number of strategic priorities:

Allow UNSW to expand offerings to new students via:

- Increased opportunities for graduates to re-skill or up-skill their existing qualifications in a flexible manner, fully supported by one of the highest ranked Schools in the world;
- Increased opportunities for global engagement with UNSW programs and courses, and increased potential collaboration with our PLS Alliance partners.

Allow UNSW to significantly increase the efficiency of a course or program via:

- Increased revenue for UNSW to support the aims of the 2025 strategy (base estimate of \$10.44M/annum at full load);
- Increased revenue for the School of Psychology to invest very robustly in excellence in both research and teaching;

Demonstrate the effectiveness of innovative technologies in achieving educational outcomes via:

- Increased online and blended education-focussed staff within the School of Psychology (and within UNSW more generally), facilitating creation of education-focussed roles and delivery of the Scientia educational experience;
- Increased opportunity to re-integrate (assessed, analysed and demonstrably successful) aspects of the online offering back into the on-campus offerings to improve the Scientia experience for all students;

- Include the number of courses/programs/students likely to benefit from this project.

This program consists of 10 core courses; each course is worth 6 UOC and each course covers topics that are relevant and necessary for a carrier in psychology. Students must complete all 10 courses to be awarded the Graduate Diploma.

Introductory Courses

[PSYC5001](#) Introduction to Psychology 1

[PSYC5002](#) Introduction to Psychology 2

[PSYC5003](#) Data Analysis and Methods of Psychological Inquiry

Advanced Courses

[PSYC5004](#) Advanced Data Analysis and Methods of Psychological Inquiry

[PSYC5005](#) Behavioural Neuroscience

[PSYC5006](#) Psychology Across the Lifespan

[PSYC5007](#) The Individual, Culture and Society

[PSYC5008](#) Perception and Cognition

[PSYC5009](#) Abnormal Psychology

[PSYC5010](#) Psychological Assessment, Ethics, and Professional Skills

2. Dissemination strategies and outputs

- Describe the dissemination activities and events that have been implemented and/or being planned in the future.

We have created a GDPSYCH section of the School of Psychology website, which provides students with critical information about the program, including the following: entry requirements, how to apply, pathways for future study, program guide and structure, key dates for enrolment, census dates and fee payments and a personalised program progression map for students based on which intake they enroll in from 2019-2020.

The program information is available on the School of Psychology web site:

<https://www.psy.unsw.edu.au/future-students/graduate-diploma-psychology/program-structure/program-progression>

The Graduate Diploma in Psychology Program Guide link is also available on the School of Psychology web site:

<https://www.psy.unsw.edu.au/sites/all/files/5331%20GUIDE%20-%202019.pdf>

The Graduate Diploma in Psychology information is also available on the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC) website; it is currently listed as a bridging course for retraining in psychology. This has led to a number of students enrolling in the program.

The program has been presented at the UNSW Science Post-Graduate information session. Information about the program was presented along with information about the masters programs to both UNSW and non UNSW students.

Information about the program is available on the Apply Online UNSW application page. Students interested in fully online courses and programs are able to find all of the relevant and apply in one location.

The program will be officially advertised at the end of July, we have been working with the Science DEx representative to develop marketing material and to develop a strategy to advertise the program. We have waited for official advertising as we have had large enrolment numbers with no advertising and due to the intensive turn around for enrolments it was best to have the program systems set up and tested prior to advertising.

- Describe the outputs achieved until now and that are likely to occur as a result of this project.

In the first five months since the beginning of the program 30 students will have completed the three introductory courses (PSYC5001, PSYC5002, and PSYC 5003). Our students come from different professional and educational backgrounds and these introductory courses provide them with a knowledge of psychology as a scientific discipline that will allow them to acquire advanced content about research and application of psychology.

3. Evaluation of project outcomes

- Describe the evaluation strategy (formative/summative), tools and actions.

Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC) Approval (14 September 2018)

Having completed an assessment, APAC is satisfied that the under development program of study comprising the three year bridging sequence of psychology education with the Graduate Diploma in Psychology (Campus:Online) offered by University of New South Wales substantially meets the Approved Accreditation Standards for the profession. Under APAC regulations, accreditation must remain designated as conditional until the first students have graduated from the program.

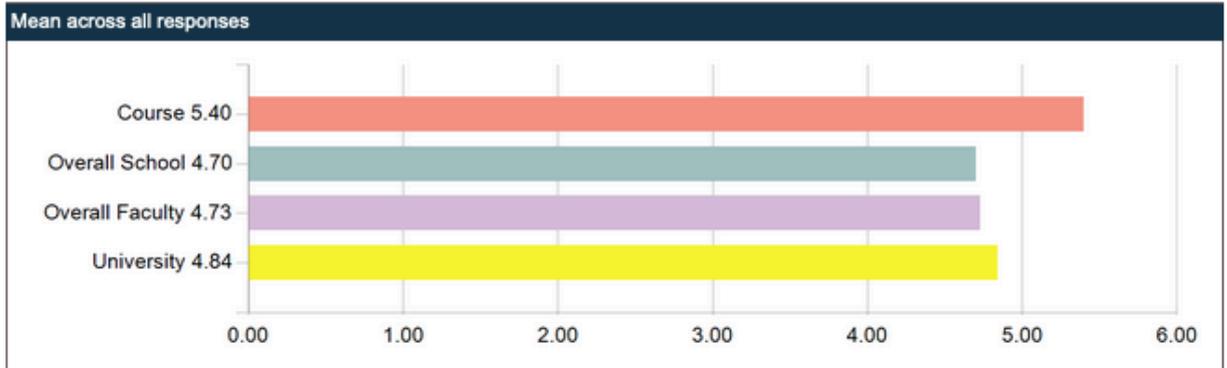
myExperience Student Satisfaction Survey

After the completion of each course the students are asked to complete My Experience survey regarding their satisfaction with different aspects of course delivery. So far, we have received evaluations only for PSYC5002 and they were very positive. The comparison statistics with the School of Psychology and the Faculty of Science averages is shown below.

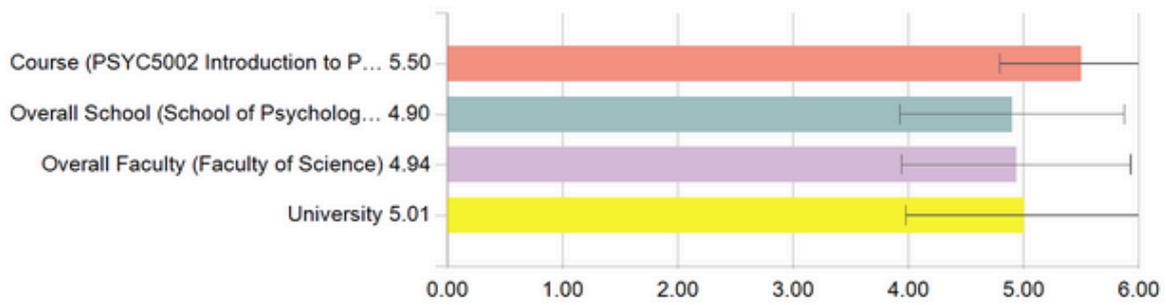
Comparison Statistics

Mean (average student responses between 1 and 6) and StandardDev (Standard deviation of student responses) are used for comparison statistics between Course, School, Faculty and University.

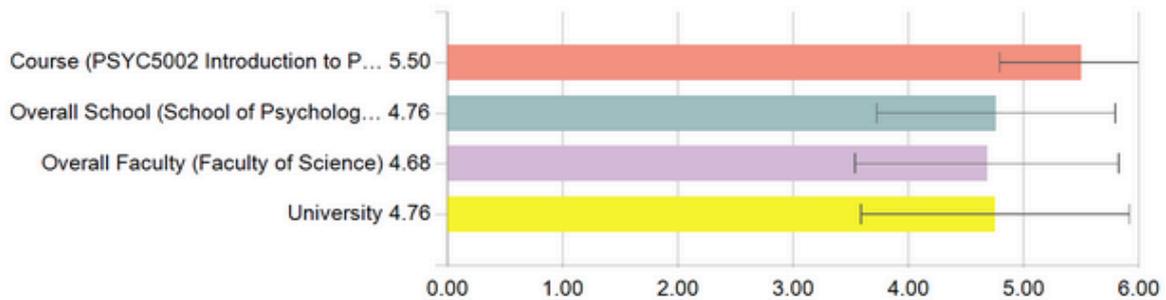
StandardDev



4. The assessment tasks were relevant to the course content

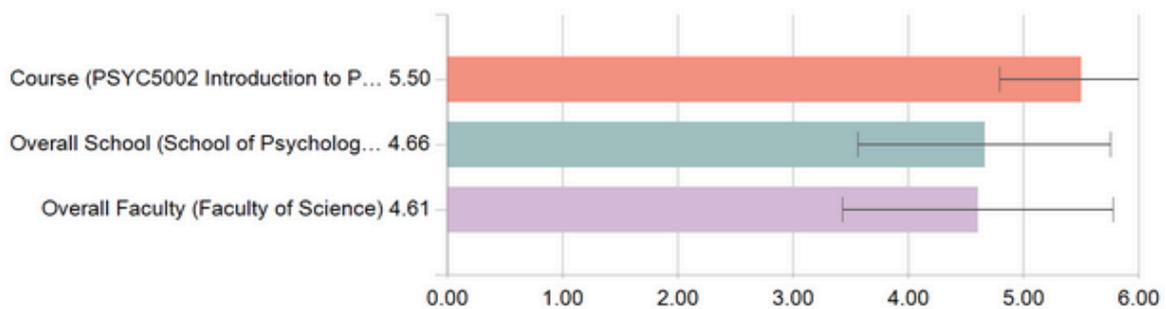


5. Overall I was satisfied with the quality of the course



Faculty of Science specific questions

1. The course was well structured



2. The teaching in this course was inclusive for students from diverse backgrounds

