Overview

The purpose of Honours in the Faculty of Science is to enable students who have performed well at undergraduate level to deepen their knowledge of approaches, perspectives and traditions in their chosen scientific discipline and undertake a significant research project. Honours is a means for connecting undergraduate study with supervised independent research by consolidating and extending work completed in the undergraduate program and providing an academic foundation for students continuing on to a Masters by research or a PhD.

As part of the honours program students will be expected to complete a significant independent research project and may be expected to complete coursework. As the Faculty has a diverse range of disciplines the exact proportion of research-based work and coursework may differ by School. Students should refer to the plan pages in this Handbook for details of the different Honours programs.

In addition to conducting research and coursework students will generally also be expected to undertake Occupational Health & Safety (OH&S) training, attend and present seminars, write a literature review, and write a thesis.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Faculty</strong></th>
<th>Faculty of Science</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Campus</strong></td>
<td>Kensington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Study Level</strong></td>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Typical duration</strong></td>
<td>1 Years</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Delivery Mode</strong></td>
<td>Face-to-face</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Intake Period</strong></td>
<td>Term 1, Term 2, Term 3</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Academic Calendar</strong></td>
<td>3+ Calendar</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Minimum Units of Credit</strong></td>
<td>48</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Award type</strong></td>
<td>Bachelors Honours</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Award(s)</strong></td>
<td>Bachelor of Science (Honours) - BSc(Hons)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CRICOS Code</strong></td>
<td>080283K</td>
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Learning Outcomes

1. Research, enquiry and analytical thinking abilities including the ability to construct new concepts or create new understanding through the process of enquiry, critical analysis and problem solving, including constructing a research project, that demonstrates technical skills in research and design.

2. Identify and formulate solutions to complex problems with intelligence, initiative and judgement in scholarship that demonstrates coherent and advanced knowledge of the underlying principles and concepts in one or more disciplines, and knowledge of research principles and methods.

3. Capability and motivation for intellectual development; including capacity for creativity, critical evaluation, entrepreneurship and demonstrating a commitment to their own learning, motivated by curiosity and an appreciation of the value of learning.

4. Ethical, social and professional understanding including the ability to critically reflect upon broad ethical principles and codes of conduct in order to behave consistently with a personal respect and commitment to ethical practice and social responsibility, multicultural, cultural and personal diversity.

5. Effective and appropriate communication in both professional (intra and inter disciplinary) and social (local and international) contexts.

6. Teamwork, collaborative and management skills including the ability to recognise opportunities and contribute positively to collaborative scientific research, and to demonstrate a capacity for self management, teamwork, leadership and decision making based on open-mindedness, objectivity and reasoned analysis in order to achieve common goals and further the learning of themselves and others.

7. Information literacy including the ability to make appropriate and effective use of information and information technology relevant to their discipline.
Graduate Capabilities:

For more information on Graduate Capabilities, please click on this link.
Program Structure

Students must complete 48 UOC as a standalone program.

Honours Specialisations

Students must complete at least one of the specialisations below.

HONOURS:

ARCYBH | 48 UOC
Palaeoscience

AVIAAH | 48 UOC
Aviation

BABS BH | 48 UOC
Bioinformatics

BIOCFH | 48 UOC
Molecular and Cell Biology

BIOCGH | 48 UOC
Genetics

BIOSKH | 48 UOC
Biology

BIOSLH | 48 UOC
Ecology

BIOTBH | 48 UOC
Biotechnology

CHEMFH | 48 UOC
Chemistry
Enrolment Disclaimer

Unless advised otherwise by your program authority, you should follow the rules for the handbook for the year you commenced your program. You are also responsible for ensuring you enrol in courses according to your program requirements. myUNSW enrolment checks that you have met enrolment requirements such as pre-requisites for individual courses but not that a course will count towards your program requirements.
Related Programs

Bachelor of Science (Advanced Mathematics) (Honours) - BSc(AdvMath)(Hons)

3956 Advanced Mathematics (Honours)

Faculty: Faculty of Science
Campus: Kensington
Units of Credit: 192
Typical Duration: 4 Years

Read More

Bachelor of Advanced Science (Honours) - BAdvSci(Hons)

3962 Advanced Science (Honours)

Faculty: Faculty of Science
Campus: Kensington
Units of Credit: 192
Typical Duration: 4 Years

Read More
Admission Requirements

Entry Requirements

Admission Requirements and Process

Students are expected to have completed the requirements for a three year full-time undergraduate Bachelor degree typically with a minimum overall WAM (weighted average mark) of a credit, and completed a major within the desired honours discipline. However, the academic requirements for particular disciplines within Science may be higher due to the competitive nature of Honours in some disciplines and the number of Honours places available within a School. Disciplines may also have particular prerequisite requirements for entry into Honours, and may consider a student’s performance in their major area of study when assessing their eligibility for admission. Students must apply to the relevant School for admission into Honours, and admission requirements as well as the number of places available are determined by the Head of School or nominee. For details of the entry requirements for a particular discipline, please see the relevant plan entry in this Handbook.

To apply for admission to Honours, students should contact the relevant School for information on research projects, available supervisors, and entry requirements. Once students have located a suitable supervisor, they should lodge an application for Honours to the School by the advertised deadlines. Deadlines for these are found on the School’s webpages. Students who have not completed their undergraduate degree at UNSW, or completed their UNSW degree at least 6 months beforehand, will need to lodge two applications – one to the relevant School, and another to the UNSW Admissions Office.

Note: this Honours program is the honours pathway from the following UNSW Science programs: 3980 Bachelor of Aviation (Flying), 3981 Bachelor of Aviation (Management); 3970 Bachelor of Science, 3925 Bachelor of Science and Business, 3965 Bachelor of Science (Environmental Management), 3987 Bachelor of Science (International), and 3991 Bachelor of Medical Science, and the associated dual degrees.

For more information about admission requirements for various UNSW programs, visit the following website(s):

Domestic Students
International Student
Program Requirements

Recognition of Prior Learning

UNSW Students may be granted Recognition for Prior Learning (RPL) which may or may not reduce the amount of learning required to achieve a degree at UNSW. Generally, RPL is only granted based on the completion of tertiary-level studies, but in exceptional circumstances may also include non-formal or informal learning such as professional experience. RPL will not be granted based on partly completed tertiary courses. All applications for RPL at UNSW are subject to UNSW Recognition of Prior Learning (Coursework Programs) Policy and Procedures. Students seeking credit for courses completed at another university are required to submit documentary evidence (course outlines, academic transcripts) to support their application, and to nominate the course(s) for which they seek credit. In addition, the following conditions apply for all UNSW Science programs (including the Science component of dual award programs): Specified course credit, i.e. credit granted for an exact or near exact equivalence to a course at UNSW, will not be granted when more than 7 years has elapsed from the successful completion of the course (or other learning) and the student’s commencement in the Science program. Where this time period is shorter it will be stipulated in the individual rules for the relevant program. Unspecified course credit (e.g. General Education or free electives) will not be granted when more than 10 years has elapsed from the successful completion of the course (or other learning) and the student’s commencement in the Science program. Students may only receive credit of up to a maximum of 50% of the coursework component of their Science program, excluding Honours. For most undergraduate programs this will be 72 UOC. For dual award programs that include a Science component, it will be a maximum of 50% of the Science component of the dual degree, excluding Honours. Credit for the other program will be assessed by the Faculty that administers that program. Applications for RPL will only be assessed for students who have accepted a place to study in a UNSW Science program. Students must formally apply for RPL unless they become a UNSW student as part of a formal Articulation Agreement. Applications for RPL should be made as early as possible in the student’s program. Students who are readmitted into a Science program after a period of unapproved absence or deferment, or after exclusion, will not necessarily retain credit for all units completed at UNSW prior to the absence if the date of completion of the units of study is greater than the 7 and 10-year rules outlined in points 1 and 2 above. In these cases, the credit retained will be decided by the Associate Dean (Academic Programs) in consultation (when necessary) with the Program and/or Course Authority.
Progression Requirements

Progression rules are in accordance with university policy.

For more information on university policy on progression requirements please visit Academic Progression.
Recognition of Achievement

University Medal

The University Medal is awarded to recognise outstanding academic performance by a bachelor degree student in line with the University Medal Policy and University Medal Procedure.

Honours Classes

At the completion of their Honours program students will be awarded an honours grading as follows {note: this is subject to UNSW Policy which is currently under review}:

- Honours Class 1: mark of 85 or greater
- Honours Class 2 Division 1: mark from 75 to 84
- Honours Class 2 Division 2: mark from 65 to 74
- Honours Class 3 or Pass: mark below 65

The calculation of class of award will be determined from the student’s weighted average mark for all of the courses (research-based and coursework) required for the program.

Please note that only courses completed as part of the Honours program will be included within an honours calculation.

Honours marks and gradings will be scrutinized at a School level as either part of an Honours Committee or School Assessment Committee to ensure consistency across sub-disciplines and cohorts. The Faculty will also review these marks and grades prior to the release of results.
Additional Information

Science Handbook Rules and Editions

Students must follow the program rules and requirements in the UNSW Handbook published in the year they commence their studies with the Faculty of Science.

Students who transfer from another UNSW Faculty into Science (for example, from a Bachelor of Arts into a Bachelor of Science) must follow the program rules and requirements in the UNSW Handbook published in the year of their transfer.

Students, who are readmitted to UNSW after a period of unapproved absence or deferment, or after exclusion, must satisfy the program rules in the Handbook published in the year of their readmission. In addition, these students may be subject to restrictions on which courses taken at UNSW may be counted on their return. In some cases, students returning from an unapproved absence may be required to repeat courses. See the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and Advanced Standing section below for more details. Students who take approved leave or deferment will follow the Handbook for the year of their original commencement unless otherwise approved by the Associate Dean (Academic Programs).

Faculty of Science Rules

The Faculty of Science has some rules that relate to all students enrolled in programs offered by the Faculty in relation to recognition for prior learning, general education, course exclusions, study load, and cross-institutional study. All students should read the information contained on the Faculty General Rules and Requirements page.
Program Fees

At UNSW fees are generally charged at course level and therefore dependent upon individual enrolment and other factors such as student's residency status. For generic information on fees and additional expenses of UNSW programs, click on one of the following:

Domestic Students
Commonwealth Supported Students
International Students

Additional Expenses

Resources required by students will be articulated in Honours Handbooks or Honours websites provided by the relevant School.
Pre-2019 Handbook Editions

Access past handbook editions (2018 and prior)

Pre-2019 Handbook Editions