Overview

The Bachelor of Actuarial Studies (Honours) is a one year advanced undergraduate degree for high-achieving students which may be undertaken upon completion of the requirements of an undergraduate pass degree. The program enables students to expand and deepen their understanding of actuarial studies and develop highly sought after analytical, problem solving and research skills through undertaking a significant independent research thesis. The program may be a pathway into a PhD.

Program Benefits:

Competitive advantage, higher chances of immediately getting employed upon completion, increased career options - either in academia, business, government or applied research through gaining:

- Advanced analytical and problem solving skills required for specialist careers in business and government.
- Highly sought after research, project management and communication skills in as well as advanced knowledge of the relevant discipline.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Faculty</strong></th>
<th>UNSW Business School</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>
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<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</td>
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<td><strong>Academic Calendar</strong></td>
<td>3+ Calendar</td>
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<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 Actuarial Studies (Honours) -</td>
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<td></td>
<td>BActSt (Hons)</td>
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<td><strong>CRICOS Code</strong></td>
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Learning Outcomes

1. Present and defend their research in oral presentations and in writing.
   Scholars  Global Citizens

2. Plan and execute a piece of research with some independence.
   Professionals  Scholars  Leaders

3. Reflect critically on existing ideas and practice within the actuarial studies field.
   Leaders  Scholars  Global Citizens

4. Apply a highly developed understanding of the theoretical concepts and body of knowledge in actuarial studies and related disciplines to address a research topic.
   Scholars  Global Citizens

Graduate Capabilities:

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

Students must complete 48 UOC as a standalone program.

**Core Course**

Students must take 6 UOC of the following courses.

- **ACTL4003** | 6 UOC
  Research Methods in Risk and Actuarial Studies

**Thesis**

Students must take 24 UOC of the following courses.

- **ACTL4010** | 6 UOC
  Thesis (Actuarial Studies) A

- **ACTL4011** | 6 UOC
  Thesis (Actuarial Studies) B

- **ACTL4012** | 12 UOC
  Thesis (Actuarial Studies) C

**Prescribed Electives**

Students must take at least 18 UOC of the following courses.

- **ACTL4001** | 6 UOC
  Actuarial Theory and Practice A

- **ACTL4002** | 6 UOC
  Actuarial Theory and Practice B

- **ACTL4303** | 6 UOC
  Asset-Liability Management

- **ACTL5301** | 6 UOC
Models for Risk Management

ACTL5302 | 6 UOC
Risk and Capital Management

any level 4 Economics course

any level 4 Finance course

any level 4 Mathematics course

any level 4 Risk Management course

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.
Admission Requirements

Entry Requirements

To be admitted into the Bachelor Actuarial Studies (Honours) program, a student must have completed a pass degree, normally the Bachelor of Actuarial Studies degree or equivalent. A student in a dual degree may gain entry to the Bachelor Actuarial Studies (Honours) prior to completing the requirements for the dual degree program if they have completed 144 UOC including all requirements for the relevant major. Students who have completed a non-business degree with a major in one of the specified business areas, or a specified cognate area, may be eligible to complete honours within this program.

In addition to the above requirements set by the UNSW Business School for enrolment in the program, the School of Risk and Actuarial Studies expects applicants to:

1. Be eligible for exemption from all Part I courses from the Actuaries Institute;
2. Have a weighted average mark (WAM) of at least 80 in all core actuarial courses (the core courses are the ones that are considered for the purpose of exemption from the Part I examinations of the Actuaries Institute) in the degree in which they are currently enrolled;
3. Have a weighted average mark (WAM) of at least 80 in the degree in which they are currently enrolled.

Students who have failed a course within their pass degree will not gain entry to the Bachelor of Actuarial Studies (Honours) program.

The availability and willingness of a supervisor to work with the candidate is another important criterion for successful admission to the program. The number of students accepted to the Bachelor of Actuarial Studies (Honours) program is dependent on the availability of supervisors in the school. If there are more applicants than the school can accommodate, admission will be determined according to students' academic merit. Hence meeting the academic requirements of the program does not guarantee a place in the program. Mid-year entry is not permitted.

See Additional Information below for details on How to Apply.

Special Admission Requirements

Additional selection criteria for admission to this program:
Other: The pre-proposal is be used to evaluate the ability of the applicant in undertaking research and to assess whether the proposed research can be finished within one year.

The interview (a discussion with the Honours Coordinator) is used to assess a students knowledge of the proposed research topic and assess oral communication skills which are essential for communicating research progress and results during the honours year.

The Bachelor of Actuarial Studies Honours degree is a one year program and starts at the beginning of Session 1 and there is no mid-year intake.

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

Domestic Students
International Student
Program Requirements

Progression Requirements

Progression rules are in accordance with university policy.

For more information on university policy on progression requirements please visit Academic Progression.
Professional Outcomes

Professional Recognition
Graduates are eligible to apply for membership of various professional organisations according to the area of specialisation completed. For further information on professional recognition please contact UNSW Business School. [https://www.business.unsw.edu.au/professionalrecognition/undergraduate]
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 this honours program, students will be awarded an honours grade as follows:

- Class 1: WAM of 85 and over
- Class 2 Division 1: WAM of 75 to less than 85
- Class 2 Division 2: WAM of 65 to less than 75
- Class 3: WAM of 50 to less than 65.

The calculation of the honours mark is an average of results in all components of the honours year (i.e. 50% weighting to coursework and 50% weighting to thesis).

Standard UNSW practices regarding the University Medal apply.
**Additional Information**

**How to Apply**

All honours applicants, both domestic and international, apply for the disciplinary honours program via [www.apply.unsw.edu.au](http://www.apply.unsw.edu.au).

Documentation required:

For UNSW Applicants:

A 4-6 page pre-proposal outlining:
- title and topic of proposed research project
  - a motivation for this research project
  - a short review of the relevant literature
  - an outline of the proposed research questions and expected contributions
  - a discussion of the importance and significance of those expected outcomes
  - a signed EOI form signed by your proposed supervisor(s)
  - an up-to-date curriculum vitae

For non-UNSW Applicants:

In addition to the above you are required to contact the Honours Co-Ordinator in advance (at least one month) of the application deadline with documents 1 and 2, so a supervisor may be identified.

- A full transcript of all completed courses to date (including current semester enrolment)
- Proof of Part I completion or exemption eligibility
- Names and contact (phone number and email) of two academic referees, supporting your application
- Additional documentation as advised by the Honours Co-Ordinator

For more information contact the [Actuarial Studies Honours Co-Ordinator](mailto:actuarial.honours@unsw.edu.au)
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

The resourcing of these students is covered by the current resourcing for the existing 3502 program.
Pre-2019 Handbook Editions

Access past handbook editions (2018 and prior)

Pre-2019 Handbook Editions