Entry Requirements
Applicants must have completed an APAC accredited undergraduate degree.

Application Method
1. Download University of Ballarat Direct Application Form from www.ballarat.edu.au/schools/school-of-health/psychology/psychology-bridging-program
2. Complete the Program Code XP0.
3. A certified copy of an academic transcript must be attached. The transcript must contain a statement that the degree has been completed.
4. An optional personal statement (maximum 400 words) pertaining to any hardship experienced during your undergraduate degree can be attached to the application. Certified copies of any verifying documents (e.g., medical certificates) should also be attached.
5. Applicants must arrange for two (2) academic Referee Reports to be completed. Also available via the link above.

Note. The University of Ballarat will not return the documents you submit with your application. Please do not submit original documents with your application.

Fees
The program is fee paying, paid in two instalments. Please note that government assistance (i.e. Fee-HELP) is not available for this program. For information regarding fees for this program please visit: www.ballarat.edu.au/fees

Closing date for applications
Applications close 13 January. Late applications may be considered, if places are available.

Contact
School of Health Sciences, Department of Psychology on
Telephone 1800 811 711
Email info@ballarat.edu.au
www.ballarat.edu.au/schools/school-of-health
www.ballarat.edu.au/programfinder

International Students
For further information contact:
Tel: +61 3 53 27 9018
Email: international@ballarat.edu.au
Or refer to www.ballarat.edu.au/international
Bridging program for Postgraduate Diploma of Psychology

The Bridging Program is a one year non-award program aimed at students who have completed an Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC) accredited undergraduate degree, but whose grade point average (GPA) is below entry requirements for the Postgraduate Diploma of Psychology at the University of Ballarat.

Students who successfully complete the Bridging Program with a GPA of 5.5 or above will be guaranteed a place in the Postgraduate Diploma of Psychology at the University of Ballarat in the following year.

Program Structure
The program consists of 7 compulsory courses, and one elective course. Credit will not be granted for any course.

Program Objectives
The primary objective is to provide students with a second opportunity to gain a GPA at or above the minimum entry requirements for the Postgraduate Diploma of Psychology at the University of Ballarat.

The program is designed to strengthen students’ understanding of core and advanced topics in psychology, as well as introduce students to the area of professional psychology.

Compulsory Courses

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<tr>
<th>(Semester 1)</th>
<th>Current Issues in Psychology</th>
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<tr>
<td>PSYCB 3107</td>
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This unit will consider three or four specialist topics in psychology, exploring the theoretical bases and key studies in each area. The aim is to introduce students to advanced and specialised knowledge of areas of particular interest to staff.

Consequently, topics covered will vary from year to year depending on staff availability but among the topics envisaged are Gay and Lesbian Psychology, Sleep and Biological Rhythms, Ageing and Mental Health; Organisational Leadership; the Psychology of Resilience and Sociobiological Perspectives in Psychology.

Cognitive Psychology

PSYCB 3104

Students will gain an understanding of the main areas of cognitive psychology: attention, perception, memory, language and thinking; and will become acquainted with research methods employed in the area. They will also be made aware of the practical value of the insights produced by cognitive psychology as they relate to their own actions, particularly remembering, problem solving and decision making.

Psychological Practice 1*

PSYCP 6008

Students will acquire skills and knowledge for psychological practice through the study of interpersonal, counselling and interviewing skills and models of psychological practice with an emphasis on cognitive-behavioural therapy. Students will undertake practice in counselling skills and be exposed to different psychological theories and their application in psychological practice.

There will also be an emphasis on the clarification of values and the importance of monitoring reactions to clients in psychological work with clients.

Psychology Review

PSYBR 0001

The aim of this course is to enhance student’s ability to assimilate theory and research from a particular topic area; to develop student’s capacity to see the area in its wider academic and social context; improve student’s ability to evaluate the contribution of psychological theory and research to the broad understanding of the behaviour in question; to reflect upon the nature and purpose of literature reviews in psychology; and to further develop writing skills.

Compulsory Courses (Semester 2)

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<th>Introduction to Research</th>
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<td>PSYCB2101</td>
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Students will study research methods and statistical techniques used in psychology. Topics will include, measurement, experimental designs, quasi-experimental designs, survey designs, sampling theory, observational research, applied research, report writing and research ethics.

Applications of various statistical tests including t tests, correlation, analysis of variance, multiple regression and some nonparametric tests will be explored.

Psychological Practice 2*

PSYCP 6109

Students will consider how the science-practitioner model informs psychological practice. Use of evidence based practice in psychological intervention will be emphasised in this course of study.

Students will also acquire knowledge of ethical, professional and legal issues for psychologists. Consideration will be given to how cultural and social issues impact on various facets of psychological practice.

Psychology Research Project

PSYBR 0002

The aim of this course is to enhance student’s ability to communicate the findings of a study to the psychology community via a journal article. On completion of this course the student will be able to assimilate psychological theory and research, develop an aim and hypotheses, analyse a data set, write a journal article following APA format, and demonstrate excellent writing skills.

Elective Courses (Semester 2)

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<th>Psychological Testing &amp; Assessment</th>
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<tr>
<td>PSYCB3101</td>
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Students will study the basic concepts and theories of psychological testing and assessment. They will also acquire an understanding of the practical and ethical principles of testing, and be introduced to the process of administering, scoring and reporting on selected tests.

Health Psychology

PSYCB3105

This course will explore health and illness within a bio-psychosocial perspective, fostering an understanding of the complex links between the mind and body in terms of preventing and treating illness. Students will also gain an insight into the research methods of special importance in the area and be exposed to the ethical issues inherent in research and practice in health psychology.

Philosophical Issues in Psychology

PSYCB3103

This course exposes students to some of the major debates within psychology as an academic discipline and as a professional practice. The principal philosophical debates concerning the appropriate form of explanation within psychology, the major ethical issues in psychological research and practice and the place of psychology within society as a practice and as an academic discipline will all be explored.

*PSYCP 6108 Psychological Practice 1 and PSYCP 6109: Psychological Practice 2 are courses from the Postgraduate Diploma of Psychology. Students who gain entry to the Postgraduate Diploma of Psychology will receive credit for these two courses.