

Bachelor of Psychological Science

Elective Stream Options 2026

The Bachelor of Psychological Science has two components: core psychology units and elective units (See Figure 1). All the core psychology units are compulsory. This document is intended to help you select your elective units.

What are electives?

In HY5, an elective is any 15-credit point unit offered by the university. You are required to complete ten elective units: 4 in first year, 2 in second year, and 4 in third year.

You are encouraged to do at least some of your electives as an *elective stream*. An elective stream is a sequence of units within the same discipline. For example, Community and Human Services or Criminal Justice are examples of disciplines that you could choose to do as an elective stream.

This document lists possible elective units organised into streams. This should make it easier for you to select units within a stream. However, you are not limited by the units contained in these lists. Each Institute in the university provides lists of units they offer and provides Unit Outlines for each so you can read about them.

You will find these lists on the Federation University website, under each of the Institutes, then in the Student Resources area.

How do I choose electives?

There are plenty of options to choose from for your electives, which is great as it gives you plenty of variety with what you can study, however, all that choice can make choosing difficult.

We'd encourage you to select at least some units in a stream of units from one or two disciplines. This gives you the opportunity to 'value-add' to your degree by having another area or two of specialisation. Think about vocational interests, possible career pathways, or even general interests that you would like to explore and select units in related areas that will enhance your academic transcript.

If you are unsure, you can use your first-year electives to explore a range of different disciplines, and then you may choose to follow a particular stream for your second- and third-year study.

When you look through the lists of streams below, you will notice that the number of units in each sequence varies. Thus, you may not be able to complete all your electives in a particular discipline. If so, you can pick units from a second stream, or individual units from streams, if you satisfy the pre-requisites.

Pre-requisites are units you must have completed before you can complete your chosen unit. Many units, especially intermediate (2000-level) and advanced units (3000-level) have pre-requisites. Thus, if there is a unit you would like to do, you might have to do another unit first.

Additionally, some units also have exclusions. Exclusions are units that prevent you from enrolling into another unit. For example, an exclusion for PSYCB2105 is BEHAV3004. If you have completed or are currently enrolled in PSYCB2105, you are not permitted to enrol into BEHAV3004.

Please note, not all electives are available every year. This is intended as a general guide only, and final units on offer can be viewed through MyStudentCentre.

How do I find out more about each unit?

To find out more about each unit, visit the 'Student Resources' section of each Institutes webpage: <https://federation.edu.au/institutes-and-schools>. Each Institute's webpage will provide links to 'Unit Outlines' where you can read a description of the unit, find out if it has any prerequisites, and other unit relevant information.

Important notes about choosing electives

- The options for electives vary between campuses, although any student can take online units (ODL)
- Units vary in how they are delivered. For example, some are fully online (ODL), some are a combination of online and face-to-face components, and a few have lectures and lab classes
- It is the students' responsibility to double check pre-requisites and exclusions

- **Note:** This guide is intended to support course planning and provide examples of how electives may fit within the course structure. Please note that unit offerings, delivery modes, campus availability and course requirements may change. If you have questions about elective choices or course planning, please contact your Academic Advisor.

What if I want to do an elective that is not listed below or if I have questions?

We're always happy to help and provide guidance. If you have any questions, please contact either the Academic Advisor at your home campus or the Course Coordinator:

Academic Advisors

Berwick: Upekha Miriyagalla | u.miriyagalla@federation.edu.au

Churchill: Garry Power | g.power@federation.edu.au

Mt Helen: Molly Branson | m.branson@federation.edu.au

Course Coordinator

Justin Timora | j.timora@federation.edu.au

Suggested Elective Streams.

Extra Behavioural Studies and Psychology					
Unit Code	Unit Name	Locations offered			
Sem 1		CHLL	MTH	BER	ODL
BEHAV2004	Forensic Behavioural Science	X	X	X	X
PSYCB3111	Psychology Undergraduate Placement*				X
Sem 2					
BEHAV2003	Behaviour in the workplace		X	X	X
EXSCI2173	Psychology of Sport and Exercise		X		
BEHAV3003	Health and Behaviour Change				X

*Entry to PSYCB3111 is by application only. Entry is determined by a combination of grades, placement availability, and suitability to the unit. Please see Moodle for more information

There are some BEHAV units that HY5 students *cannot* do. They are:

- BEHAV 2002: Abnormal Behaviour
- BEHAV 3004: Counselling Theory and Practice

Example elective structure 1: Extra Behavioural Science and Psychology

	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3
SEMESTER 1	PSYCB1101 Introductory Psychology A	PSYCB2102 Lifespan Developmental Psychology	PSYCB 3102 Abnormal Psychology
	PSYCB1003 Introduction to research methods in Psychology	PSYCB 2105 Counselling Theory and Practice	PSYCB 3109 Psychology Research: Advanced Analyses
	BEHAV2004 Forensic Behavioural Science	PSYCB 2106 Psychology, Culture, & Indigenous Australians	CHSUG3002 Counselling for individuals and families
	BSWUG1001 Introduction to social work, community and human services	CHSUG2001 Theories and practices for group work	PSYCB3111 Psychology Undergraduate Placement
SEMESTER 2	PSYCB1102 Introductory Psychology B	PSYCB 2103 Personality	PSYCB 3101 Psychological Testing and Assessment
	STATS1000 Statistical Methods	PSYCB 2104 Social Psychology	PSYCB 3112 Psychology Applied Project
	BEHAV2003 Behaviour in the Workplace	PSYCB 2107 Cognitive and Biological Psychology	CHSUG2004 Models of Case Management
	CHSUG1002 Interpersonal communication for professional practice	CHSUG1003 Theories and Models for Practice	BEHAV3003 Health and Behaviour Change

*Bold: Core unit

Community and Human Services					
Unit Code	Unit Name	Locations offered			
Sem 1		CHLL	MTH	BER	ODL
BSWUG1001	Introduction to social work, community and human services	X	X	X	
CHSUG2001	Theories and practice for group work	X	X	X	
CHSUG2003	Community practice approaches	X	X	X	X
CHSUG3001	Critical practice approaches	X	X	X	X
CHSUG3002	Counselling for individuals and families	X	X	X	
CHSUG3003	Health and wellbeing in diverse communities	X	X	X	X
Sem 2					
CHSUG1002	Interpersonal communication for professional practice	X	X	X	X
CHSUG1003	Theories and models for practice	X	X	X	X
CHSUG2004	Models of case management	X	X	X	X
CHSUG2005	Social policy and social change	X	X	X	X
BAXDC2004	Applied ethics in contemporary societies	X	X	X	X

Example Elective Structure 2: Community and Human Services

	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3
SEMESTER 1	PSYCB1101 Introductory Psychology A	PSYCB2102 Lifespan Developmental Psychology	PSYCB 3102 Abnormal Psychology
	PSYCB1003 Introduction to research methods in Psychology	PSYCB 2105 Counselling Theory and Practice	PSYCB 3109 Psychology Research: Advanced Analyses
	BSWUG1001 Introduction to Social Work, Community and Human Services	PSYCB 2106 Psychology, Culture, & Indigenous Australians	PSYCB3111 Psychology Undergraduate Placement
	BASOC1001: The Sociological Imagination	CHSUG2001 Theories and practices for group work	CHSUG3002 Counselling for Individuals and Families
SEMESTER 2	PSYCB1102 Introductory Psychology B	PSYCB 2103 Personality	PSYCB 3101 Psychological Testing and Assessment
	STATS1000 Statistical Methods	PSYCB 2104 Social Psychology	PSYCB 3112 Psychology Applied Project
	CHSUG1002 Interpersonal communication for professional practice	PSYCB 2107 Cognitive and Biological Psychology	CHSUG2005 Social Policy and Social Change
	CHSUG1003 Theories and Models for Practice	CHSUG2005 Social Policy and Social Change	BAXDC3004 Applied Ethics in Contemporary Societies

*Bold: Core unit

Criminal Justice					
Unit Code	Unit Name	Locations offered			
Sem 1		CHLL	MTH	BER	ODL
CRJUS1285	Crime to punishment: processes and institutions	X	X	X	
CRJUS1286	Crime in contemporary context	X	X	X	
CRJUS2100	Australian criminal courts in international context	X	X	X	X
CRJUS2474	Policing in practice	X	X	X	X
CRJUS3202	Young people: risk to corrections	X	X	X	X
Sem 2					
CRJUS1287	Explanations of crime	X	X	X	X
CRJUS2475	Crime prevention, reduction and control	X	X	X	X
CRJUS2300	Punishment, penalty and rehabilitation	X	X	X	X
CRJUS2472	Locating crime in urban, regional and rural contexts	X	X	X	X
CRJUS3303	Justice responses to difference	X	X	X	X
CRJUS3478	Victims in the criminal justice system	X	X	X	X

Example elective structure 3: Criminal Justice

	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3
SEMESTER 1	PSYCB1101 Introductory Psychology A	PSYCB2102 Lifespan Developmental Psychology	PSYCB 3102 Abnormal Psychology
	PSYCB1003 Introduction to research methods in Psychology	PSYCB 2105 Counselling Theory and Practice	PSYCB 3109 Psychology Research: Advanced Analyses
	BEHAV2004 Forensic Behavioural Science	PSYCB 2106 Psychology, Culture, & Indigenous Australians	PSYCB3111 Psychology Undergraduate Placement
	CRJUS1285 Crime to Punishment: Processes and Institutions	CRJUS 2474 Policing in Practice	CRJUS2100 Australian Criminal Courts in International Context
SEMESTER 2	PSYCB1102 Introductory Psychology B	PSYCB 2103 Personality	PSYCB 3101 Psychological Testing and Assessment
	STATS1000 Statistical Methods	PSYCB 2104 Social Psychology	PSYCB 3112 Psychology Applied Project
	CRJUS1287 Explanations of Crime	PSYCB 2107 Cognitive and Biological Psychology	CRJUS3478 Victims in the Criminal Justice System
	CRJUS2475 Crime Prevention, Reduction and Control	CRJUS2300 Punishment, Penalty and Rehabilitation	CRJUS3303 Justice Responses to Difference

*Bold: Core unit

Biological and Nutrition Science					
Unit Code	Unit Name	Locations offered			
Sem 1		CHLL	MTH	BER	ODL
SCBIO1001	Principles of biology	X	X	X	X
SCCOR1200	Scientific communication	X	X	X	X
SCBCH1001	Introduction to nutrition	X	X	X	X
SCMED2010	Pathophysiology 1	X	X	X	X
SCMIC2001	General microbiology	X	X	X	X
SCMOL3020	Immunology	X	X	X	X
Sem 2					
SCBIO1020	Systems biology	X	X	X	X
SCCOR1300	Scientific practice	X	X	X	X
SCMED2011	Pathophysiology 2	X	X	X	X
SCBCH2002	Nutrition and metabolism	X	X	X	X
SCMOL2010	Mammalian genetics	X	X	X	X
SCMED3034	Histopathology and Haematology	X	X	X	X

Example structure 4: Biological and Nutrition Sciences

	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3
SEMESTER 1	PSYCB1101 Introductory Psychology A	PSYCB2102 Lifespan Developmental Psychology	PSYCB 3102 Abnormal Psychology
	PSYCB1003 Introduction to research methods in Psychology	PSYCB 2105 Counselling Theory and Practice	PSYCB 3109 Psychology Research: Advanced Analyses
	SCBIO1001 Principles of Biology	PSYCB 2106 Psychology, Culture, & Indigenous Australians	SCBCH1001 Introduction to Nutrition
	SCCOR1200 Scientific Communication	SCMED2010 Pathophysiology 1	SCMOL3020 Immunology
SEMESTER 2	PSYCB1102 Introductory Psychology B	PSYCB 2103 Personality	PSYCB 3101 Psychological Testing and Assessment
	STATS1000 Statistical Methods	PSYCB 2104 Social Psychology	PSYCB 3112 Psychology Applied Project
	SCBIO1020 Systems Biology	PSYCB 2107 Cognitive and Biological Psychology	SCMOL2010 Mammalian Genetics
	SCCOR1300 Scientific Practice	SCMED2011 Pathophysiology 2	SCMED3034 Histopathology and Haematology

*Bold: Core unit

Environmental Science					
Unit Code	Unit Name	Locations offered			
Sem 1		CHLL	MTH	BER	ODL
SCCHM1001	Chemistry 1	X	X	X	X
SCENV1002	Biodiversity Conservation	X	X	X	X
SCENV2100	Australian Fauna	X	X	X	X
SCENV 2200	Population and Community Ecology	X	X	X	X
SCENV2600	Geographic Information Systems	X	X	X	X
SCENV3912	Environmental assessment				X
SCENV 3110	Fire Ecology				X
Sem 2					
SCENV 1001	Environmental Studies	X	X	X	X
SCSUS1500	Sustainable Earth	X	X	X	X
SCENV2101	Australian Flora	X	X	X	
SCENV2804	Invasive Species	X	X	X	X
SCEN3802	Wildlife Ecology and Conservation	X	X	X	X
SCENV 3500	Climate and Environmental Issues in a Changing World	X	X	X	X

Example structure 5 – Environmental Science

	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3
SEMESTER 1	PSYCB1101 Introductory Psychology A	PSYCB2102 Lifespan Developmental Psychology	PSYCB 3102 Abnormal Psychology
	PSYCB1003 Introduction to research methods in Psychology	PSYCB 2105 Counselling Theory and Practice	PSYCB 3109 Psychology Research: Advanced Analyses
	SCENV1001 Environmental Studies	PSYCB 2106 Psychology, Culture, & Indigenous Australians	SCENV3912 Environmental Assessment
	SCCOR1200 Scientific Communication	SCENV2200 Population and Community Ecology	SCENV2600 Geographic Information Systems
SEMESTER 2	PSYCB1102 Introductory Psychology B	PSYCB 2103 Personality	PSYCB 3101 Psychological Testing and Assessment
	STATS1000 Statistical Methods	PSYCB 2104 Social Psychology	PSYCB 3112 Psychology Applied Project
	SCENV1002 Biodiversity Conservation	PSYCB 2107 Cognitive and Biological Psychology	SCENV3500 Climate and environmental issues
	SCCOR 1300 Scientific Practice	SCENV2804 Invasive Species	SCENV3802 Wildlife ecology and conservation

*Bold: Core unit

Exercise and Sport Science					
Unit Code	Unit Name	Locations offered			
Sem 1		CHLL	MTH	BER	ODL
EXSCI 1801	Anatomy & Physiology for Human Movement 1	X	X	X	
EXSCI1802	Foundations of Exercise Programming and Prescription	X	X	X	
EXSCI 1703	Motor Learning and Control	X	X	X	
HEALT1705	Psychosocial Aspects of Health Behaviour	X	X	X	
EXSCI 2008	Applied Biomechanics	X	X	X	
EXSCI 2171	Exercise Physiology	X	X	X	
EXSCI 2172	Functional Human Anatomy	X	X	X	
HEALT2174	Nutrition for Health and Exercise	X	X		
EXSCI3179	Assessment, Programming and Prescription 2	X	X		
EXSC2176	Inclusion Through Physical Activity	X		X	
Sem 2					
EXSCI 1701	Introduction to Biomechanics	X	X	X	
EXSCI1803	Anatomy & Physiology for Human Movement 2	X	X	X	
HEALT1706	Health and Physical Activity Promotion	X	X	X	
EXSCI 2173	Psychology of Sport and Exercise	X	X	X	
EXSCI 2174	Assessment, Programming and Prescription 1	X	X	X	
EXSCI 2177	Advanced Motor Control and Learning	X	X	X	
EXSCI 3173	Injury Prevention and Management in Human Movement	X	X		
EXSCI 3002	Physical Preparation in Sport	X	X		

*BER and CHLL classes may not be offered in the regular 12-week structure, contact your Academic Advisor for further guidance.

Example structure 6 – Exercise and Sport Science

	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3
SEMESTER 1	PSYCB1101 Introductory Psychology A	PSYCB2102 Lifespan Developmental Psychology	PSYCB 3102 Abnormal Psychology
	PSYCB1003 Introduction to research methods in Psychology	PSYCB 2105 Counselling Theory and Practice	PSYCB 3109 Psychology Research: Advanced Analyses
	EXSCI1802 Foundations of Exercise Programming and Prescription	PSYCB 2106 Psychology, Culture, & Indigenous Australians	EXSCI2171 Exercise Physiology
	EXSCI1703 Motor learning and control	HEALT1705 Psychosocial Aspects of Health Behaviour	EXSCI2171 Applied Biomechanics
SEMESTER 2	PSYCB1102 Introductory Psychology B	PSYCB 2103 Personality	PSYCB 3101 Psychological Testing and Assessment
	STATS1000 Statistical Methods	PSYCB 2104 Social Psychology	PSYCB 3112 Psychology Applied Project
	EXSCI1701 Introduction to biomechanics	PSYCB 2107 Cognitive and Biological Psychology	EXSCI2175 Exercise Prescription 1
	EXSCI2173 Psychology of Sport and Exercise	HEALT1706 Health and Physical Activity Promotion	EXSCI3002 Physical preparation in sport

*Bold: Core unit

Arts and Humanities					
Unit Code	Unit Name	Locations offered			
Sem 1		CHLL	MTH	BER	ODL
BAIND1001	First Nations Histories (1788-1967)	X	X	X	X
BAIND2001	International Indigenous History	X	X	X	X
BAIND2003	Indigenous Inventions and Sciences	X	X	X	X
BADIG2002	Digital and Virtual Environments		X		X
BADIG2004	Children, Youth and Digital Media		X		X
BATCC1001	From Homer to Memes: the evolution and technologies of storytelling	X	X	X	X
BALIT2004	Literature and History	X	X	X	X
BATCC2005	Reading and Writing Poetry	X	X	X	X
BAWRT1002	Introduction to professional writing	X	X	X	X
BAWRT2004	Digital Writing	X	X	X	X
BASOC1001	The Sociological Imagination	X	X	X	X
SOCIO2001	Sociology of Families and Relationships	X	X	X	X
SOCIO2743	Sociology of Deviance	X	X	X	X
BAWRT2004	Digital Writing	X	X	X	X
Sem 2					
BAIND1002	Introduction to First Nations People of Australia	X	X	X	X
BADIG1001	Foundations of Contemporary Knowledge		X		X
BADIG2005	Australian Screen in Global Context		X		X
BATCC1002	Ways of Reading and Seeing	X	X	X	X
BALIT2005	Australian Literature	X	X	X	X
BAHIS1001	Global Histories				X
BAHIS1002	Introduction to Archival Research	X	X	X	X
BAWRT1001	Writing stories	X	X	X	X
BAHIS2007	Managing Heritage: Engagement and Education	X	X	X	X

BAXDC1005	Critical and Digital Literacy		X		X
BAXDC3004	Applied Ethics in Contemporary Societies	X	X	X	X
BATCC1002	Ways of Reading and Seeing	X	X	X	X
SOCIO2002	Sociology of Genders, Sexes, and Sexualities	X	X	X	X
BAXDC2004	Applied ethics in contemporary societies	X	X	X	X

Example structure 7 – Arts and Humanities

	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3
SEMESTER 1	PSYCB1101 Introductory Psychology A	PSYCB2102 Lifespan Developmental Psychology	PSYCB 3102 Abnormal Psychology
	PSYCB1003 Introduction to research methods in Psychology	PSYCB 2105 Counselling Theory and Practice	PSYCB 3109 Psychology Research: Advanced Analyses
	BASOC1001 The sociological imagination	PSYCB 2106 Psychology, Culture, & Indigenous Australians	BAWRT1002 Introduction to professional writing
	BAIND1001 First Nations Histories	BATCC1001 From Homer to Memes: the evolution and technologies of storytelling	BADIG2004 Children, Youth and Digital Media
SEMESTER 2	PSYCB1102 Introductory Psychology B	PSYCB 2103 Personality	PSYCB 3101 Psychological Testing and Assessment
	STATS1000 Statistical Methods	PSYCB 2104 Social Psychology	PSYCB 3112 Psychology Applied Project
	BAIND1002 Introduction to First Nations People of Australia	PSYCB 2107 Cognitive and Biological Psychology	SOCIO2002 Sociology of Genders, Sexes and Sexualities
	BADIG 1001 Foundations of Contemporary Knowledge	BAID2005 Australian Screen in Global Contexts	BAXDC1005 Critical and Digital Literacy

*Bold: Core unit

Business – Management and Marketing					
Unit Code	Unit Name	Locations offered			
Sem 1		CHLL	MTH	BER	ODL
BUACC1000	Fundamentals of Accounting and Finance	X	X	X	X
BUECO1300	Introduction to Economics	X	X	X	X
BUMGT1100	Introduction to Management	X	X	X	X
BUMGT1101	Entrepreneurship and Innovation			X	
BUMGT1103	Contemporary Human Resource Management	X	X	X	X
BUMKT2201	Consumer Behavior	X	X	X	X
BUMGT2104	Business strategy	X	X	X	X
Sem 2					
BUACC1101	Fundamentals of Law	X	X	X	X
BUMKT1200	Introduction to Marketing	X	X	X	X
BUMKT3204	Marketing Communication	X	X	X	X
BUMKT3205	Social Media Marketing	X	X	X	X
BUMGT3106	Human Resource Practice and Strategy	X	X	X	X
BEHAV 2003	Behaviour in the workplace	X	X	X	X
BUMGT3105	Leadership and Change	X	X	X	X

Example structure 8 – Business Management

	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3
SEMESTER 1	PSYCB1101 Introductory Psychology A	PSYCB2102 Lifespan Developmental Psychology	PSYCB 3102 Abnormal Psychology
	PSYCB1003 Introduction to research methods in Psychology	PSYCB 2105 Counselling Theory and Practice	PSYCB 3109 Psychology Research: Advanced Analyses
	BUMGT1100 Introduction to Management	PSYCB 2106 Psychology, Culture, & Indigenous Australians	BUMGT1103 Contemporary Human Resource Management
	BUMGT1101 Entrepreneurship and Innovation	BUMKT2201 Consumer Behavior	BUMGT2104 Business Strategy
SEMESTER 2	PSYCB1102 Introductory Psychology B	PSYCB 2103 Personality	PSYCB 3101 Psychological Testing and Assessment
	STATS1000 Statistical Methods	PSYCB 2104 Social Psychology	PSYCB 3112 Psychology Applied Project
	BUMKT1200 Introduction to Marketing	PSYCB 2107 Cognitive and Biological Psychology	BUMKT3204 Marketing Communication
	BEHAV2003 Behaviour in the workplace	BUMKT3205 Social Media Marketing	BUMGT3105 Leadership and Change

*Bold: Core unit