Welcome to Curtin

Curtin is a vibrant, young university where ideas and cultures combine to create a place of enthusiasm, endeavour and achievement.

When you choose Curtin, you are choosing an innovative, global university with extensive industry connections and campuses in Western Australia, Malaysia, Singapore, Dubbo and Mauritius. You’ll learn in technology-rich environments and feel inspired by our high-impact research spanning many areas including astronomy and planetary science, emerging technologies, economics, health, minerals, energy and sustainability.

THE SCHOOL OF PSYCHOLOGY

For more than 50 years, the School of Psychology has been committed to delivering excellence and innovation in education and research.

With the support of experienced, dedicated teaching staff and modern learning facilities, you will be prepared to excel in professional or academic fields of psychology, and aspire to expand humanity’s understanding of behaviour and the mind.

STUDYING AT POSTGRADUATE LEVEL

A postgraduate degree at Curtin can change your life. It will give you additional knowledge to advance your career, specialise in a particular area or take your career in a promising new direction.

Postgraduate options

Curtin offers postgraduate coursework and research qualifications. A graduate certificate is six months’ full-time study, a graduate diploma is one year of full-time study, and a master degree is one-to-three years’ full-time study. A research degree involves independent, original research and completion of a thesis, and may involve up to four years of full-time study.

Gain industry experience

Experiential learning is highly valued by employers. You will benefit from Curtin’s strong links to business and industry, working on real projects and research initiatives, undertaking internships and attending events and networking opportunities.

Convenient and flexible study

Course flexibility enables you to combine your current work commitments with study. Many courses allow domestic students to study full-time, part-time or online.

Financial assistance

You could be eligible to apply for a Curtin scholarship or other support such as FEE-HELP, employer-funded study or income tax deductions.

WELCOME TO CURTIN

EXPERIENCE PERTH

Located on the beautiful west coast of Australia, Perth is multicultural, prosperous and safe – an ideal destination for students and tourists alike.

AFFORDABLE LIVING

Perth has lower living costs than Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Adelaide.1

TRANSPORT

The metropolitan area is serviced with an extensive road network and easy-to-use public transport.

SHOPPING AND CULTURE

Perth is home to Elizabeth Quay, Forrest Place, Murray Street Mall and numerous galleries. Close to Perth, the port city of Fremantle is a great place to learn about WA history.

FOOD AND DRINK

Cafés and restaurants offer a variety of global cuisine. You can try the best of WA produce at Yagan Square, and find wineries, cheese shops and chocolate factories in the Swan Valley, WA’s oldest wine region.

ENTERTAINMENT

Perth hosts numerous domestic and international sports competitions, music concerts and festivals throughout the year.

NATURE AND WILDLIFE

There are many magnificent parks and gardens in and around Perth. Kings Park, which is larger than New York’s Central Park, showcases more than 3,000 species of WA’s unique flora. Caversham Wildlife Park has many Australian animals, including kangaroos you can handfeed.

AQUATIC AND COASTAL

Perth’s coast features breath-taking beaches and scenery. Don’t forget to visit Rottnest Island – a famous holiday destination near Perth that is home to the friendly quokka.

GET THE CURTIN EDGE

Curtin ensures you gain the knowledge and skills required to get ahead in today’s changing workplace.

WORK-INTEGRATED LEARNING
Learn through direct experience by undertaking a clinical placement. You will practise and improve on the clinical skills you have learned in class and work closely with other professionals, developing your communication and leadership qualities.

CAREER SUPPORT
Curtin Careers, Employment and Leadership can help you find part-time work in Perth to support you while you’re studying. We also offer career planning services to identify further study or career options, while our Global Careers service can connect you with employers around the world.
careers.curtin.edu.au

FACILITIES
Modern learning environments recreate real workplaces that enhance your studies.

Real-world clinics
Our on-campus adult psychology clinic and a child psychology clinic, located at the Health and Wellness Centre, provide services to members of the public and allow students to learn in a clinical environment.

Psychology Experimental Research Laboratories at Curtin (PERL-C)
Our PERL-C facilities provide advanced spaces for learning and research in psychology. You’ll have access to the latest technology, including EEG and eye-tracking equipment, which you can use to undertake a range of research activities.

Curtin Neurosciences Research Laboratory
This laboratory assists a multi-disciplinary research team to investigate ageing, non-invasive brain stimulation, rehabilitation of movement and cognition, Parkinson’s Disease, stroke and exercise. The team uses a range of experimental approaches and technologies to study the ways in which the human brain can change and how this affects behaviour and neuromuscular function.

The Perth campus is located just six kilometres from the city centre. Through our 20-year master plan, we’re transforming the campus as a contemporary cultural precinct that brings together higher education, business, technology, the arts and recreation.

LIVING ON CAMPUS
We offer more than 1,000 places to stay at our Perth campus. You’ll enjoy comfortable and tidy single or shared accommodation, free wi-fi, parking and an off-peak gym membership at Curtin Stadium.

Rooms are fully furnished and there are plenty of recreation facilities and support services, plus you’re in easy walking distance of your classes, the library, shopping centre, gym and public transport. You can also participate in a range of weekly activities and social events.
curtin.edu/housing

WELLBEING SERVICES
There is a range of confidential wellbeing services if you ever need help or advice, or you’re unsure where to find the support you need.

You can also consult a doctor, counsellor, physiotherapist and other health professionals at our campus-based medical centre and health and wellness clinics.
curtin.edu/personalsupport

CHILDCARE AND SCHOOLING
The Curtin University Early Childhood Centre is a popular on-campus child care facility for children under the age of five. We strongly recommend you apply for a place for your child as early as possible.
curtin.edu/earlychildhoodcentre

Subsidised schooling
If you’re an international student and have school-aged children, your children may be eligible to access government schooling at the same subsidised fee levels that apply to local students.
curtin.edu/familyfriendly

SECURITY AND PERSONAL SAFETY
Curtin provides a range of safety resources including swipe-card building access, 24/7 security patrols, well-lit pathways, after-hours security escort, a campus courtesy bus, emergency telephone stations and the SafeZone security app.
curtin.edu/safety

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curtin.edu/safety
This one-year degree provides advanced professional training in psychology.

It will equip you with education and training in the professional practice of psychology, and is designed to integrate coursework, research and placement components with an emphasis on experiential learning. You’ll receive a rewarding and relevant learning experience throughout the course.

You will develop a detailed understanding of the relationships between psychological theory, the scientific evidence-base for these theories, and the clinical applications of both theory and research. You’ll graduate able to operate from a scientist practitioner perspective, with well-developed knowledge of psychometric measurement, case formulation, treatment planning and intervention strategies.

ADMISSION CRITERIA

- A four-year Bachelor of Psychology or equivalent completed within the last 10 years, approved by the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council
- Meet Curtin’s English language proficiency requirements.

Entry to this course is competitive and shortlisted candidates will be interviewed.

For more information visit curtin.edu/master-psycho

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TUNING OUT THE FEAR

Did you know more people fear snakes and spiders than soaring heights or tiny spaces? For some, these worries are minor concerns. But for others, specific anxieties and fears can be debilitating. It is this type of fear – and specifically its “extinction” – that interests School of Psychology researcher, Professor Ottmar Lipp.

“Fear and anxiety are actually positive things, not negative,” Lipp explains. “If you were not afraid of things that are dangerous, then most likely you wouldn’t be here! The problem is that it can get out of hand.

“The statistics suggest that one in six Australians will develop an anxiety disorder in their lifetime. So it’s a significant problem.”

Over the past few decades, Lipp says great progress has been made in identifying and treating fears in the short term.

“However, the bad news is that relapse rates vary between 30 to 60 per cent of successfully treated participants.”

Lipp hopes to tackle this significant relapse rate through research that could enhance the long-term effectiveness of treatments.

Currently, anxiety can be treated via “extinction” learning, Lipp says. This occurs through increasing and continued exposure to the cause of the fear. For example, if a patient has a severe fear of dogs after being bitten by a dog in the past, the patient would be gradually exposed to a dog in a safe setting and encouraged to increase interaction with the dog over time.

However, the learning acquired in this treatment is context-specific compared to the original acquisition of the fear. Should the patient encounter a different breed of dog, for example, the fear can easily return.

To combat this, Lipp and his team have been trialling a new methodology called novelty facilitated extinction (NFE).

“The big idea is that rather than presenting the stimuli that created the anxiety alone, you pair them with a novel stimulus that is surprising.”

Professor Ottmar Lipp.

“The practical elements of this course have been phenomenal. We have been supported and taught how to administer psychological assessments, perform mental status examinations and implement a wide range of counselling skills. After refining these skills, we have been able to put them into practice by undertaking a practicum, which has dramatically increased our competency and confidence in the field.”

Zachary Baldock
Master of Psychology (Professional)

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Additional requirements

You will be required to provide supplementary information with your application. For more information, visit curtin.edu/hs-admission-requirements.

You will also need to undergo health and criminal screenings before commencing any external placement, practicum or fieldwork. For more information on screenings, see page 7.

PROFESSIONAL ACCREDITATION

This course is accredited by the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council.

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THE FUTURE OF PROFESSIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

There is a growing need for psychologists in mental health roles in a variety of areas such as health, private practice, education, aged care, justice and disabilities. Job prospects for professional psychologists are positive, and into the future employment growth is expected to be strong.

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THE MASTER OF PSYCHOLOGY (PROFESSIONAL)

CRICOS CODE 084066J
DURATION 1 year full-time
STUDY MODE Full-time
INTAKE February
LOCATION Perth

This course has an earlier application deadline: curtin.edu/hs-application-deadlines.
Our research degrees enable you to conduct independent, original research under the supervision of a senior academic. You’ll be supported through the University’s facilities and industry partnerships, helping you turn your discoveries into real-world outcomes.

The following overarching research degrees encompass many specialist subjects:

- Doctor of Philosophy
- Master of Philosophy
- Master of Research

Find a supervisor at curtin.edu/postgrad-research

Alternatively, contact our Graduate Research School for more information:
Tel: +61 8 9266 5337
Email: GRS.FutureStudents@curtin.edu.au
Web: curtin.edu/postgrad-research

**PSYCHOLOGY RESEARCH**
The theme of neurosciences and behaviour underpins the School of Psychology’s research into the brain, human adaptations and functioning. Our researchers are currently focusing on preventing, supporting and treating chronic physical, mental and developmental health issues.

Research areas include:
- Cancer prevention
- Physical activity and wellbeing
- Emotion, learning and psychophysiology
- Clinical psychology

Findings indicate that Aussie Optimism reduces anxiety and depression symptoms and disorders, reduces suicidality, and increases family functioning, social skills and mental health in young children and pre-adolescents: curtin.edu/ausie-optimism

**THE POSITIVITY PROGRAM THAT’S HELPING AUSSIE KIDS HELP THEMSELVES**
Aussie Optimism is a series of school programs improving the mental health of children and pre-adolescents around Western Australia.

Developed by Associate Professor Clare Roberts, Associate Professor Rosanna Rannny and Dr Robert Kane, the evidence-based, universal program aims to promote children’s mental wellbeing and prevent depression and anxiety, which are ranked as the leading causes of disability worldwide.

In the program, children in years 1-8 work with their teacher to learn how to identify their feelings, evaluate their thoughts more accurately, empathise with their classmates and develop positive coping, social and self-awareness skills.

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**THE CRIMINAL RECORD SCREENING PROCESS**

Before applying for a health sciences course, you should be aware that some additional screening may be required.

**CRIMINAL RECORD SCREENING**

Many of our health sciences courses require you to undertake external placements, clinical practice or fieldwork involving contact with the public. External agencies, such as government departments, non-government agencies and hospitals, may require you to obtain a criminal record screening prior to undertaking any external placement, practicum or fieldwork. Please note that external agencies can vary their requirements without notice and may not always advise Curtin of these changes.

A criminal record screening may not necessarily preclude you from participating in any of the above. However, serious crimes of a violent or sexual nature, where the victim was under 18 years of age or elderly, or any offence that resulted in a jail sentence, may render a person unsuitable for employment and/or provision of services to clients.

If you are enrolled in a course that includes supervised practice (including research) in a clinical setting, you are required to undergo screening for and vaccination against a range of infectious diseases before beginning your placement.

If you test positive to a blood borne virus, you are advised to contact your course coordinator for career advice. You may also need to complete other requirements at your own cost, such as senior first aid training.

For specific details relating to these requirements, visit curtin.edu/healthfieldwork.

**WORKING WITH CHILDREN**
The Working with Children (Criminal Record Checking) Act 2004 aims to protect children from harm by introducing a high standard of compulsory national criminal record checking for people working with children in Western Australia.

As a health sciences student, you may be required to work with children between the ages of zero and 17 as part of your placement, practicum or fieldwork. Please note that external agencies can vary their requirements without notice and may not always advise Curtin of these changes.

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**PROVISIONAL REGISTRATION**

Students enrolled in the Master of Psychology (Professional) are required to gain provisional registration with the Psychology Board of Australia. For more information, visit psychologyboard.gov.au.

**AHPPRA REPORTING**

Under national law, it is a requirement that Curtin notifies the Australia Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPPRA) if it believes a student may place members of the public at risk as a result of a health impairment or criminal history. Curtin or its staff may also make a voluntary notification if a student has been charged, convicted or found guilty of an offence punishable by an imprisonment of 12 months, or contravened a condition of their student registration. Students who have impairments or a criminal record that has resulted in imprisonment are required to self-report to AHPPRA.

ahppra.gov.au

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ahppra.gov.au
SCHOLARSHIPS AND FEES

SCHOLARSHIPS
You may be eligible for a scholarship to support your study. Sign up to the scholarships email alert to make sure you don’t miss an opportunity.

scholarships.curtin.edu.au

FEES
Tuition fees
Tuition fees are calculated on a semester basis. Fees are subject to annual increase and are calculated according to the credit points within a course. Indicative course fees for the 2020 commencement year are available from September 2019.

curtin.edu/fee-calculator

Student Services and Amenities Fee
The Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF) is used for supporting a variety of student services and amenities. SSAF does not apply to international students.

curtin.edu/amenities-fee

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
Postgraduate study is an investment in your future. If you are concerned that you cannot afford postgraduate study, there are several options for financial assistance you can explore.

Employer-paid study
Your employer may help you with the cost of postgraduate study. Many organisations have employee-education policies designed to share the costs of education that is mutually beneficial.

FEE-HELP
If you are an Australian citizen or a New Zealand Special Category Visa holder or a permanent humanitarian visa, you may be eligible for the Australian Government’s FEE-HELP loan for all or part of your tuition fees.

curtin.edu/fee-help

Tax benefits
If there is a direct connection between your postgraduate course and your current employment, you may be entitled to an income tax deduction for tuition fees and expenses.

ato.gov.au

STUDY OPTIONS
Curtin offers flexible study options to help you manage work and family commitments. You can study full-time, part-time or online, subject to availability.

To study full-time, you must enrol in three or four units per semester (75 or 100 credits), while part-time study involves as few as one or two units (25 or 50 credits) per semester.

If you study online, you will complete the same coursework and assessments as students who study on campus.

APPLYING AS A DOMESTIC STUDENT
You are a domestic applicant if:

• you are an Australian citizen,
• Australian dual citizen or New Zealand citizen, or
• you are a permanent resident of Australia,
• you hold an Australian permanent humanitarian visa.

curtin.edu/pg-apply

APPLYING TO CURTIN
Applying as an international student
You are an international applicant if:

• you are not a citizen of Australia and New Zealand, or
• you are not a permanent resident of Australia, or
• you are required to hold a student visa to study in Australia.

curtin.edu/int-apply

PREVIOUS LEARNING
You may have undertaken previous study or work experience that matches the knowledge required for some of your Curtin course units. If so, we encourage you to also apply for credit for recognised learning (CRL), which exempts you from having to study certain course units.

Getting CRL means you could finish your degree in less time.

curtin.edu/pg-crl

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY
The admission criteria of all Curtin postgraduate courses include English language proficiency. Some courses have specific and higher English requirements than others.

curtin.edu/english-proficiency

Curtin English
Completing a program at our Curtin English language centre will help you meet the English language proficiency. If you receive an offer to study at Curtin but don’t meet the English requirement, you may qualify for a free 10-week program.

english.curtin.edu.au

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curtin.edu/pg-apply

Course content
Note that some course units are common to undergraduate and postgraduate courses and classes may therefore include undergraduate and postgraduate attendees.

This publication is available in alternative format on request.

Disclaimer
Information in this publication is correct at the time of printing but is subject to change. Curtin University reserves the right to change the content and/or method of assessment, to offer tuition fees of any unit of study, to withdraw any unit of study or program that it offers, to impose limitations on enrolment in any unit or program and to vary arrangements for any program. For the latest information about courses and fees, visit study.curtin.edu.au.

This material does not purport to constitute legal or professional advice. Curtin accepts no liability for any injury, loss or damage (including direct, consequential or economic loss or damage) however caused and whether by negligence or otherwise which may result directly or indirectly from the use of this publication.

International students
Some information in this publication may not apply to international students. International students studying in Australia on a student visa must study full-time, on-campus and satisfy specific entry requirements. Some course units, entry requirements, course availability and in-country requirements. Refer to international.curtin.edu.au for further information.

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