

COURSE HANDBOOK 2026





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# Creating Thriving Minds for an Evolving World

A Message From Professor Tony Paolini, President and CEO

As you set out on this exciting journey into the world of psychology, we'd be genuinely thrilled to welcome you into our community of passionate learners and educators.

With purpose-built facilities and access to state-of-the-art technology, we're committed to creating a student experience that's accessible, engaging, and always evolving. All our psychology courses are APAC-accredited; a reflection of our focus on quality, integrity, and maintaining strong professional standards.

If you choose to take this next step with us, know that you won't be doing it alone. Our dedicated team is here to support you every step of the way, and we're excited about the possibilities that lie ahead for you at ISN Psychology. We can't wait to see how you grow, explore, and thrive.

We also wish to acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which ISN operates, the Wurundjeri People of the Kulin Nation. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

# Why Choose ISN Psychology?

We're a TEQSA-approved Institute of Higher Education, dedicated to supporting thriving minds in a rapidly changing world. At ISN, we're committed to advancing the field of psychology through comprehensive education, innovative research, and an academic experience that genuinely supports the diverse needs of our students.

You'll have the flexibility to choose how you study, with face-to-face oncampus classes as well as a dynamic blend of pre-recorded and liveonline learning options.

We also know that meaningful learning happens beyond the classroom. Through our clinical training facilities and broader psychology network, students gain valuable hands-on experience and placement opportunities that build real-world skills and confidence.

Our teaching and supervision team brings together experienced clinicians and researchers with backgrounds in both public and private practice. Many of our educators have also held leadership roles in academic and professional settings. Together, they offer a rich mix of expertise, insight, and support to help guide you throughout your studies and beyond.



#### COMPREHENSIVE AND FLEXIBLE

We use the latest technology and offer extensive facilities to support a well-rounded and engaging learning experience. You can begin your studies in either Semester One or Semester Two, with the option of choosing between full-time and part-time study.



# EXCEPTIONAL CLINICAL FACILITIES

Learn from peers of unmatched skill and expertise. We boast a broad psychology network as well as ISN affiliated clinical facilities that provide onsite skill-based practical training.



#### APAC ACCREDITATION

Discover, grow, and succeed in your career. Our courses are approved by APAC, ready to guide you on your journey to becoming an accredited psychologist in Australia.

# Doctor of Psychology (Sport & Exercise, Clinical)

This program is designed to prepare students for professional practice as both Sport & Exercise and Clinical Psychologists.

Students will leave ISN armed with a world-class body of knowledge on practical approaches in sport, exercise, and clinical psychology. The program includes a blend of traditional coursework, practical placements, and research components and our graduates are eligible to enter the PsyBA registrar program to pursue endorsement as Sport and Exercise Psychologists as well as Clinical Psychologists.

Advanced placements are typically undertaken in-person at an approved external host organisation or within our Melbourne or Sydney Advanced ISN Clinic. Our policies on placements available on our website, are a rich source of information to help guide students on our expectations.

We teach the leading edge of evidence-based techniques from across the world, and our graduates learn how to carefully monitor client progress to measure effectiveness and success in a holistic, informed approach.

**Entry Requirements:** Please see our website Policies for detailed information about entry requirements and expectations. In summary:

- Domestic students with Australian citizenship or Permanent Residency rights can apply, ISN cannot currently accept applications for international students.
- Successfully completed an APAC accredited four-year sequence of study or overseas qualification deemed equivalent by the Australian Psychological Society with a minimum weighted average WAM of 75
- Applicants must be eligible for registration as a provisional psychologist with the Psychology Board of Australia (PsyBA) which may have additional requirements including minimal English language standards.
- Successful candidates will also need to meet additional entry requirements, which may be changed from time to time, including police checks, working with child checks, evidence of immunisationstatus and appropriate professional indemnity insurance cover.
- Students who completed their undergraduate studies overseas but meet the domestic student criteria can apply for this course. ISN requires evidence of course equivalence in the form of an APS assessment document for all international qualifications.

# Career pathways

Graduates of the Doctor of Psychology (Sport & Exercise, Clinical) undertake placements in a number of settings including in various clinical psychology settings, sport and exercise organisations, schools, gyms, in the performing Arts, and private practice. This breadth of potential placement opportunities, and the experience they represent, position our students to hit the ground running in their careers.

# **Selection Process**

- Applications can be made on the application form available on our website, providing accompanying transcripts, personal statement and CV, and referee reports submitted through the <u>Psychology</u> <u>Reference Portal</u>. Applicants who meet the minimum entry requirements will be ranked on the basis of academic merit, relevant work experience and/ or training, and referee reports.
- Short-listed applicants will be invited to complete a psychological assessment and, in some cases, an interview to select candidates for the program.
- Please note this qualification may be subject to quotas and meeting the minimum requirements does not guarantee entry.

# Tuition and Course Structure

This doctorate course consists of core units, designed around a full-time study load of 3.5 years including seven 12 week semesters. Each unit is informed by cutting-edge best practice and taught, whenever possible, in a contemporary hybrid model combining online and in-person learning.

ISN Psychology has developed placement agreements with various organizations to provide dynamic opportunities for sport and exercise psychologists in training to:

- Work with clients on setting goals as additional service to compliment the coaches.
- Engage in small group psychoeducation on key psychological skills training topics as is relevant to the business.
- Run individual/group sessions aimed at such aspects as passive recovery (i.e. relaxation training).

Course work in the first year of the program will provide students with the academic foundations and therapeutic skills. Typically, the second year of the program has a strong focus on integration of skills through additional placements and advanced course units. In the third year of the program clinical psychology skills and placements are completed.

Students will complete a research thesis as part of the program in a sport and/or exercise or clinical focused area of research.

Each 10-credit point course work units (excluding placement and research units) requires 6 hours of personal study time per week (which includes assessment preparation and development) in addition to the timetabled workshop hours and direct engagement with learning content. In addition, students attend placement two days per week as timetabled. ISN offers part-time study plans and bespoke learning sequences to support student diversity and progress. For further information see our relevant policies located on our website.

Tuition fees are payable upfront or through FEE HELP for eligible students. For more information about tuition fees please visit our website, <u>isn.edu.au</u> or contact us on (03) 9008 1600.

#### **Full Time Year One**

#### Semester 1

	Unit Name	Credit Points	Tuition Fees
ISNP2201	Ethics and Professional Issues	10	\$4,217
ISNP2603	Psychopathology	10	\$4,217
ISNP2604	Advanced Psychological Practice	10	\$4,217
ISNP2205	Psychological Assessment	10	\$4,217
ISNP2206	Introduction to Cognitive Behavioural Therapy	e 10	\$4,217

#### Semester 2

	Unit Name	Credit Points	Tuition Fees
ISNP2202	Evidence Based Practice	10	\$4,217
ISNP2209	Placement 1	10	\$4,217
ISNP2213	Psychological Factors in Performance*	10	\$4,217
ISNP2611	Research Project 1	10	\$4,217
ISNP2214	Sport and Exercise Intervention*	10	\$4,217

100.0 Total AUD: \$42,170

<sup>\*</sup>These units are only available once per year. Students beginning their studies at the mid-year intake will take these two units in reverse order.

#### **Full Time Year Two**

Semester 1				
	Unit Name	Credit Points	Tuition Fees	
ISNP2216	Placement 2 (Sport & Excercise)	20	\$8,434	
ISNP2218	Research Project 2	10	\$4,217	
ISNP2217	Sport Medicine and Physiology*	10	\$4,217	
ISNP2210	Adult Interventions 1	10	\$ 4,217	

Semester 2			
	Unit Name	Credit Points	Tuition Fees
ISNP2222	Placement 3 (Sport & Exercise)	20	\$8,434
ISNP2225	Group Dynamics and Culture*	10	\$4,217
ISNP2624	Research Project 3	20	\$8,434

100.0 Total AUD: \$42,170

<sup>\*</sup>These units are only available once per year. Students beginning their studies at the mid-year intake will take these two units in reverse order.

#### **Full Time Year Three**

Semester 1			
	Unit Name	Credit Points	Tuition Fees
ISNP2601	Neuropsychology and Clinical Practice	10	\$4,217
ISNP2215	Placement 2 (Clinical)	20	\$8,434
ISNP2220	Advanced Interventions	10	\$4,217
ISNP2212	Assessment & Interventions with Children & Adolescend	- 10	\$4,217

Semester 2				
	Unit Name	Credit Points	Tuition Fees	
ISNP2221	Placement 3 (Clinical)	20	\$8,434	
ISNP2223	Adult Interventions 2	10	\$4,217	
ISNP2626	Research Project 4	20	\$8,434	

100.0 Total AUD: 42,170

<sup>\*</sup>These units are only available once per year. Students beginning their studies at the mid-year intake will take these two units in reverse order.

#### **Full Time Year Four**

Semester 1			
	Unit Name	Credit Points	Tuition Fees
ISNP2627	Research Project 5	50	\$0

Course Total AUD: \$126,510

NOTE: All tuition fees are subject to annual CPI increases. Year on year fee increases will be indicated on this website each year prior to the start of the year in line with year on year Educational Consumer Price Index rises.

#### **Part Time**

There is no standard recommended part time sequence. Please contact your Course Coordinator if you are studying part time to develop an individualised plan.

<sup>\*</sup>These units are only available once per year. Students beginning their studies at the mid-year intake will take these two units in reverse order.

# ISN and Sport Psychology

The role of a Sport and Exercise Psychologist is multifaceted to accommodate the ever evolving sport and exercise industry. ISN will look to provide you with a placement that reflects the real- world work required by everyday individuals as well as elite athletes.

#### Master students will:

- Utilise ISN Psychology's training and teaching facilities;
- Have access to cutting edge technologyfacilities;
- Receive teaching from experienced clinicians and academics;
- Learn to apply principles of psychology, as well as sport and exercise psychology into practice;
- Be given the opportunity to be leaders in the field of Sport and Exercise Psychology; and
- Be eligible for registration with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) upon completion of the course, and can further their career prospects by commence a registrar program towards endorsement as a Sport and Exercise psychologist.

# Units

Each of the units of study are detailed below. Students should also refer to the relevant Unit Outlines located on Canvas.
Unit Descriptions and Assessments are subject to change.



#### **Ethics and Professional Issues**

#### **Unit Description**

In Ethics & Professional Issues students will become familiar with the requirements of State and Commonwealth acts relevant to psychological work, including relevant ethical codes and guidelines. They will learn how to apply the principles of these codes to their work and consider potential ethical dilemmas using an ethical decision–making model. The unit will also introduce students to other key concepts related to ethical and professional practice. These include: inter–professional learning, the use of technology (e–health) in psychological practice; the role of supervision, self–care, and reflective practice for maintaining professional competence; and cultural responsiveness and culturally safe professional practice in psychology.

#### **Unit Assessments**

- Assessment 1: Weekly to Fortnightly Engagement Tasks
- Assessment 2: Informed Consented Role Play
- Assessment 3: Case Based Essay

# **ISNP2202**

#### **Evidence Based Practice**

#### **Unit Description**

This unit will provide students with further understanding of the complexity of evaluating the quality of research, developing their critical thinking skills and understanding of statistical analyses and research methods, with a focus on applied practical interventions. The unit will provide learning and understanding around different psychological intervention approaches that are common in clinical practice, and consider the evidence-base supporting these treatments.

The unit will also provide students with an understanding of how these skills around reviewing empirically based literature and testing can be implemented in psychological practice.

#### **Unit Assessments**

- Assessment 1: Weekly to Fortnightly Engagement Tasks
- Assessment 2: Research Article Critique
- Assessment 3: Evidence Based Treatment Presentation

# **ISNP2603**

#### **Psychopathology**

#### **Unit Description**

The Psychopathology provides students with the knowledge and skills necessary to diagnose psychological disorders across the lifespan and in diverse client populations. The unit emphasises the development of a strong theoretical foundations in taxonomies of diagnosis and their application. Students will learn how to synthesise information from multiple sources to consider diagnoses, differential diagnoses, and comorbidities. These skills will support evidence-based intervention and monitoring protocols, preparing students for competent and ethical practice in diverse settings.

- Assessment 1: Weekly to Fortnightly Engagement Tasks
- Assessment 2: Diagnostic Assessment
- Assessment 3: Examination

#### **Advanced Psychology Practice**

#### **Unit Description**

Advanced Psychological Practice will build on counselling capabilities to develop skills in ethical and culturally-responsive problem identification, conceptualisation, and intervention planning. Students explore assessment interviewing, develop treatment plans from evidence-based conceptualisations, and monitoring and modifying treatment outcomes.

Exploration of both theory and practical application will support students to strengthen their knowledge of and operationalise the scientist-practitioner model.

#### **Unit Assessments**

- Assessment 1: Weekly to Fortnightly Engagement Tasks
- Assessment 2: Clinical Interviewing Role Play and Case Forumation
- Assessment 3: Risk Interviewing Role Play

### **ISNP2205**

#### **Psychological Assessment**

#### **Unit Description**

Psychological Assessment familiarises students with the principles of test construction and the principles, practices, methods, and procedures relating to a broad range of assessment measures and reporting of results of across age ranges. Students will demonstrate the ability to select appropriate tests including consideration of reliability and validity, administration considerations interpretation and reporting results. Particular consideration will be given to the specific assessment needs of clients across a range of contexts including cultural responsiveness and inter-professional considerations.

Unit Assessments

• Assessment 1: Weekly to Fortnightly Engagement Tasks

- Assessment 2: Practical Administration
- Assessment 3: Psychological Report

# **ISNP2206**

#### Introduction to CBT

#### **Unit Description**

Introduction to CBT introduces the main theories, concepts, techniques and application of cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) through formal teaching and private reading activities. Students will develop basic skills in applying CBT techniques appropriately for clinical intervention.

- Assessment 1: Weekly to Fortnightly Engagement Tasks
- Assessment 2: CBT Role Play
- Assessment 3: CBT Role Play

#### Placement 1

#### **Unit Description**

This unit aims to provide students with their first practical placement as a provisional psychologist. Placement activities will allow student to gain knowledge regarding working with clients in a practical setting. Students will learn about fundamental aspects of engaging in clinical practice, including ethical professional behaviour, professional communication and presentation, documentation, client management and follow-up, waitlist and triaging processes, and how to effectively build a therapeutic relationship from the first point of client contact. Students will have opportunities to observe or engage in actual clinical sessions with clients and learn how to conduct assessment interviews and treatment interventions. The placement will focus on allowing students to gain basic skills in assessment, psychological testing, intervention, and case conceptualisation, and basic counselling skills. Students will learn how to work in a culturally appropriate and responsive manner across a range of diverse populations and how to work within an inter-professional context with medical and allied health professionals. This unit outline should be read in conjunction with the Work Integrated Learning Handbook available on the learning management system.

#### Adult Interventions 1

#### **Unit Description**

Students must complete Semester 1 units prior to enrolling in ISNP2210. Adult Interventions 1 assists in preparing students for advanced placements by advancing knowledge of the theoretical underpinnings and process of culturally responsive psychological formulation, treatment planning, intervention and monitoring in adult clients. The unit also exposes students to the psychological theories and evidence-based interventions appropriate to a variety of disorders. Students explore these concepts using real world examples that highlight interprofessional perspectives and roles.

#### **Unit Assessments:**

- Weekly assessments
- Active tasks demonstrating advanced formulation and intervention skills.

# **ISNP2611**

#### **Research Project 1**

#### **Unit Description**

In this unit, students will develop the foundational components of their doctoral research project in Clinical and/or Sport and Exercise Psychology. The unit focuses on the conceptualisation, planning, and ethical preparation of an original research study. Students will identify a research topic of clinical or applied relevance, conduct a critical synthesis of the literature to justify their research aims and design, and develop a formal research proposal.

As part of the unit, students will also prepare an ethics application addressing key aspects of participant safety, informed consent, and data management. These tasks will establish the groundwork for subsequent research units, ensuring students are equipped to conduct ethically sound, methodologically rigorous, and theoretically informed research.

By the end of this unit, students will also develop a self-directed learning plan that identifies the skills required for their proposed project and outlines how these skills will be acquired in the following years.

Learning is primarily self-directed and supported through research seminars, supervisor guidance, and online resources.

#### Unit Assessment:

- Research Proposal
- Ethics Preparation and Submission
- Self-Learning Plan

# **ISNP2212**

#### Assessment and Intervention with Children and Adolescents

#### **Unit Description**

Students must complete INSP2201 – ISNP2206 prior to enrolling in ISNP2212. ISNP2212 Assessment and Intervention with Children and Adolescents advanced student's knowledge and applied skills in evidence-based psychological assessment, formulation, and intervention for children and adolescents. Students will critically evaluate empirical and theoretical literature to inform the development of case conceptualisations that reflect diverse developmental, cultural, and contextual factors. Emphasis is placed on the integration of research evidence, clinical expertise, and client characteristics to create comprehensive assessment and treatment plans that promote ethical and culturally responsive practice. Through a focus on cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT), students will learn to apply structured, evidence-based intervention protocols to a range of psychological disorders and presenting problems in young people. The unit promotes interprofessional collaboration, clinical reasoning, and self-reflexivity as essential components of competent and ethical practice. Learning activities and assessments are designed to bridge theory and practice, preparing students to deliver safe, effective, and developmentally appropriate psychological care in child and adolescent settings.

- Weekly assessments
- workshop presentations
- CBT role play.

#### **Psychological Factors in Performance**

#### **Unit Description**

In this unit you will conceptualise a research topic relevant to Clinical and/or Sport & Exercise Psychology and then conduct a critical background literature review that will help you develop your systematic review proposal for Research Project 2 and form the theoretical framework of your final systematic review in Research Project 3.

#### **Unit Assessments:**

- Short Answer Questions
- Essay (3000 words)
- Class Presentation

# **ISNP2214**

#### **Sport and Exercise Interventions**

#### **Unit Description**

Sport and Exercise Interventions expands students' knowledge of psychological clinical interventions. This unit integrates prior learning on empirically based interventions like CBT and teaches students to apply basic strategies within a Sport & Exercise context. It also develops skills in intervention and treatment frameworks specific to Sport & Exercise psychology.

- Short Answer Questions
- Case vignette
- Exam

#### Placement 2 (Clinical)

#### **Unit Description**

Students must complete semester one units and ISNP2209 prior to enrolling. ISNP2215 Placement 2 (Clinical) will provide students with the opportunity to obtain experience and advance their skills as a provisional psychologist in a child, adolescent, or adult setting. Students will demonstrate their clinical competence in working with a wide range of clients, demonstrating cultural responsiveness and the ability to work effectively within a multidisciplinary team. Students are placed within external placement providers, or the ISN Advanced ISN Clinic, where they will see more complex and chronic client presentations across the lifespan. See our placement related policies available on our website for more information.

# **ISNP2216**

#### Placement 2 (Sport & Excercise)

#### **Unit Description**

This unit will provide students with the opportunity to obtain further experience as a provisional psychologist, in a sport or exercise setting. Students will undergo a placement in a sport or exercise organization (typically with a "host" such as a sport team or club, or recretaion facility such as a gym) and further their experience as a psychologist while advancing their specialist skills with Sport & Exercise populations.

#### **Sport Medicine and Physiology**

#### **Unit Description**

ISNP2217 Sport Medicine and Physiology explores the selected areas of sports medicine relevant to individuals involved in physical activity. Students will gain an understanding of human physiology with a focus on surface anatomy and the anatomical basis of common injuries. Further, students will learn about injury prevention and injury rehabilitation. Topics covered include prevention and rehabilitation of injuries, and management of chronic conditions such as pain and diabetes, as well as non-chronic conditions. The information provided in this unit will provide students with foundation knowledge of sports medicine and physiology when working in sport and exercise psychology populations across contexts and as a part of a multidisciplinary team.

- Short Answer Questions
- Case Studies Extended Responses

#### **Research Project 2**

#### **Unit Description**

In this unit, students will undertake a substantial review of empirical evidence relevant to Clinical and/or Sport and Exercise Psychology. Building on the proposal and ethics completed in Research Project 1, students will conduct a comprehensive review of the literature following relevant guidelines, which will form the foundation of their doctoral research and serve as Manuscript 1.

Students will also complete the Research Plan Review Milestone, presenting their project progress to an expert review panel. This review will include an update on completed work, plans for the next stages, data collection progress, and reflection on skills acquired in accordance with their learning plan.

Learning activities are largely self-directed and complemented by structured seminars and supervisory meetings.

- Research Plan Review
- Substantial Review of the Litreature

#### Placement 3 (Sport & Excercise)

#### **Unit Description**

SNP2222 Placement 3 (Sport & Exercise) provides students with the opportunity to obtain experience as a provisional psychologist, in a sport or exercise setting. Students will undergo a placement in a sport or exercise facility and further their experience as a psychologist and advance their specialist skills with sport & exercise populations.

# **ISNP2624**

#### Research Project 3

#### **Unit Description**

In this unit, students will begin the empirical phase of their doctoral research by conducting their first empirical study. The study will be designed and reported as a publishable manuscript that demonstrates methodological rigour, analytical precision, and relevance to the field of clinical or sport and exercise psychology. Students will apply appropriate quantitative or qualitative methods and interpret their findings in light of theoretical frameworks and existing literature. Students will also complete the Research Progress Review Milestone, presenting their project progress to an expert review panel. This review will include an update on completed work, plans for the next stages, data collection progress, and reflection on skills acquired in accordance with their learning plan.

Independent research will be supported through regular supervision and research seminars.

#### Unit Assessment:

• Research Progress Review

#### **Group Dynamics & Culture**

#### **Unit Description**

ISNP2225 Group Dynamics and Culture sets out to provide students with an understanding of the primary theories, models, and empirical research which underpins group dynamics and culture. The focus of this unit will also be how students can implement this knowledge when working within sport and exercise cohorts, as well as how this knowledge influences group sports and athletes psychologically. The information provided in this unit will assist students further in assessment, intervention, and case conceptualisation when working with sport psychology cohorts.

#### Unit Assessments:

- Class Presentation
- Essay
- Case Study

# **ISNP2601**

#### **Neuropsychology and Clinical Practice**

#### **Unit Description**

Neuropsychology and Clinical Practice introduces basic neuroanatomy and common neuropsychological disorders, along with their associated cognitive impairments and psychological manifestations. Students will develop skills in psychological assessment methods as they relate to evidence-based cognitive screening. The unit further highlights how interdisciplinary communication and cultural considerations can guide effective psychological interventions.

- Weekly assessments
- Case Report
- Group Presentation: Case conceptualisation.

#### **Advanced Interventions**

#### **Unit Description**

Students must complete ISNP2210 and ISNP2212 prior to enrolling in ISNP2220 (Advanced Interventions). ISNP2220 Advanced Interventions introduces students to a range of advanced, evidence-based psychological interventions. Students will develop an understanding of the principles underlying these advanced treatment approaches; learn the implementation of these therapies with complex client presentations and disorders; develop skills in assessing clients' suitability for interventions; and learn about advanced clinical practice issues. Students will develop an understanding and appreciation of interprofessional learning and practice when working with complex clients and the importance of understanding and engaging in culturally responsive and safe practice.

- Weekly assessments
- A group-based presentation
- Applied role play.

#### Placement 3 (Clinical)

#### **Unit Description**

Students must complete INSP2215 and ISNP2220 or ISNP2223 prior to enrolling in ISNP2221 (Placement 3). ISNP2221 Placement 3 (Clinical) will provide students with the opportunity to obtain experience and advance their skills as a provisional psychologist in a child, adolescent, or adult setting. Students will demonstrate their clinical competence in working with a wide range of clients, demonstrating cultural responsiveness and the ability to work effectively within a multidisciplinary team.

Students are typically placed within external placement providers where they will see more complex and chronic client presentations across the lifespan. See our placement related policies available on our website for more information.

#### **Adult Interventions 2**

#### **Unit Description**

Students must complete ISNP2210 and ISNP2212 prior to enrolling in ISNP2223 (Adult Interventions 2). ISNP2223 Adult Interventions 2 continues investigating intervention techniques for adults by critically evaluating the empirical research literature pertaining to a variety of clinical interventions. Students will demonstrate a working knowledge of a variety of empirically validated interventions, an ability to select appropriate and culturally responsive psychological techniques and knowledge of how to apply a variety of clinical interventions. Students will evaluate, in the context of day-today clinical practice, the effectiveness of a variety of interventions used in the treatment of adult psychological problems. Students will demonstrate their understanding of the application of interventions in a culturally responsive manner and knowledge of how to work effectively in interprofessional health teams.

- Weekly assessments
- Two recorded applied role plays.

#### **Research Project 4**

#### **Unit Description**

In this unit, students will advance their doctoral research by finalising the earlier stage of their study and designing and conducting a subsequent empirical investigation. This project will extend prior findings to provide greater depth and conceptual integration within the broader doctoral research program. Students will demonstrate advanced research design and methodological expertise, whether statistical or qualitative, and interpret results to a standard suitable for publication.

Students will also complete the Research Findings Review Milestone, presenting their project progress to an expert review panel. The review will include an update on completed work, plans for upcoming stages, data collection progress, and reflection on skills developed in accordance with their learning plan.

Learning is primarily self-directed, complemented by supervision and seminar-based discussion.

#### **Unit Assessments:**

Research Findings Review

#### **Research Project 5**

#### **Unit Description**

In this final unit, students will consolidate and integrate the concluding stages of their doctoral research program. Learning activities centre on refining earlier work and developing a doctoral thesis that demonstrates an original and significant contribution to knowledge and professional practice in Clinical and/or Sport and Exercise Psychology. The thesis will synthesise multiple empirical studies within a coherent theoretical and methodological framework that meets AQF Level 10 and institutional requirements. Students will engage with an external review process, responding to feedback to strengthen the scholarly contribution, methodological innovation, and translational relevance of their work. They will then articulate these contributions to an internal expert review panel. Learning is self-directed and supported by ongoing supervision and research seminars.

- Thesis Submission to External Review
- Thesis Presentation



# ISN Psychology

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