



APAC Accreditation Assessment Summary Report

Higher Education Provider	University of Technology Sydney, Discipline of Clinical Psychology, Graduate School of Health
Date of determination	20 February 2015
Standards version	June 2010 ver 10
Programs of Study Assessed for Accreditation	Master of Clinical Psychology Master of Clinical Psychology/PhD

This is a summary of the outcomes of an APAC accreditation assessment of the Discipline of Psychology (the AOU) in the Graduate School of Health at the University of Technology Sydney and the Master of Clinical Psychology and Master of Clinical Psychology/PhD. This summary highlights selected key features of the assessment. Comprehensive analysis of the assessment is contained in the full APAC Assessment Team Report.

This assessment is the first assessment of its programs that are still under development with an anticipated first intake of February 2015. At the time of the visit and in preparing this report the University is still recruiting for a Head of Discipline in the Discipline of Clinical Psychology. Standard 2.1.6 is therefore not met as there is no full time Level E in the Discipline.

At the time of the visit the research milieu is becoming established (Standard 2.1.3) there are three academics with PhD's and there is a plan to recruit a senior academic at either level D or Level E to lead the research. The total FTE at the time of accreditation assessment is 4.2. The AOU will need to ensure that the appropriate level of academics are appointed with at least one Level E. Given that there are no Level D or Level E's Standard 2.4.8 and Standards 5.1.1-5.1.3 are not currently met. In addition it is not clear that there will be sufficient staff to provide the clinical supervision for the internal placement.

There are currently no students enrolled in the program, and an anticipated student intake of 30 to commence semester 1, 2015 which will equate to a student:staff ratio of 7.14:1.

Standard 2.1.4 (ii) cannot be fully assessed since at the time of the visit and in the absence of a Head of Discipline (HOD) the management of the Discipline has not been fully formalised. The current Acting

HOD does not have direct line management authority. He does however consult with the Head of School with respect to budgeting, resource and staffing matters and both consult with the Provost.

Standard 2.1.7 is met since in addition to Discipline specific APS Code of Ethics and Psychology Board of Australia Policies, there are several codes of ethical conduct with which UTS requires its staff to comply including national research standards, and state and national health acts and standards.

Standards 2.1.8-2.1.10 appear to be met since UTS policies for teaching and assessment are consistent with the national postgraduate guidelines for grading systems. All students must attain at least 50% in all courses before they can progress to graduation. There is a plan for monitoring the quality of courses and this will need to be checked once students are enrolled.

The extent to which the AOU will ensure regular quality review of teaching processes and education content will need to be checked at the next site visit.

The Discipline appears in general to be very well supported by administrative and technical staff. In addition the Discipline is well equipped with a suite of individual staff offices, a dedicated student computer space, test library and a central library. In addition the Discipline has its own Psychology Clinic which will open in March 2015.

The level of administrative support seems to be satisfactory with administrative staff appointed to manage recruitment, marketing and educational design as well as to assist with placements. A clinic administrator is currently being recruited and another administrative assistant (20% FTE) is also being recruited.

The AOU did not meet the requirements of Standard 2.4.6 as sufficient computers and work space was not provided to ensure adequate access for the Masters students.

The School has made a very good investment and the Discipline looks as though it will be very well stocked (with at least 10 of each WAIS and WISC). However the tests had not arrived at the time of the visit nor had an academic member of staff been allocated the responsibility for overseeing the Test Library. This will need to be checked at the next visit.

Since there are no students in the program as yet, these Standards (Teaching and materials: managing the learning process) cannot be fully assessed. It was noted however, that the brief course outlines provided at the time of the visit were outdated and that these need to be updated before the start of semester 1, in 2015 (Standard 2.6.3).

An appropriate advisory/ liaison and quality review committee has been established but until there are students in the program, there are none on the committee. Standard 5.1.4 is therefore not yet met.

The Psychology Clinic is housed in the new clinic on the Thomas St Building. The clinic was formally opened on May 10 and advertisements for clients are now being progressed. At the time of the site visit no clients had been seen in the clinic. It has sufficient consulting rooms, and provides some computer facilities and a very small space is being planned for the postgraduate students. This workroom will have five computers and this does not seem to be adequate. It would be much more secure to have space for the students within the clinic to work on their confidential client files.

The adequacy and security of the clinic and the provision of space for students will be reviewed at the next site visit (latter half of 2015).

While a Test Library is in the process of being set up, the tests had not arrived at the time of the visit, therefore progress towards continuing to develop a more substantial test library will be reviewed at the 2015 site visit.

The ethics content of the program appears to be embedded and it is not obvious how the main ethics topics are taught (consent, confidentiality, boundaries etc). It will be necessary to demonstrate that the course contain and assess the content required by APAC Standard 5.1.12. Similarly there is no advanced research unit and so it is not possible to determine how the core research capabilities will be taught and assessed (Standard 5.1.12e)

Application documentation suggests that assessment of core capabilities Standards will be met, since there are no students in the program, the processes relating to these standards should be checked at the next site visit. While the documentation suggests that log book and assessment Standards will be met, since there are no students in the program, the logbooks and assessment processes will also be checked at the next site visit.

Standards for granting advance standing or credit, entry requirements, course length and structure are met.

At the time of the visit since there were not students yet in the program, it was not possible to evaluate the proposed coursework and practical training. It was not possible to ascertain whether the students would be able to meet the client hours as per the APAC Standards. It will be necessary for the assessors at the next visit to evaluate both the coursework and whether the Clinic has been able to recruit sufficient clients such that the students are able to meet the requirements for clinical psychology training.

Appropriate log books, and templates for recording supervised practice are in place, but until students are in the program, the extent to which these are signed etc. cannot be assessed. The Discipline appears to have an appropriate process for managing students who may not be succeeding in their professional practice. However since students have not yet begun their supervised practice, this could not be assessed against Standards 2.5 and 5.3.17-5.3.30. The Discipline is in the process of developing suitable placements in the field for the external clinical placements. The Discipline must ensure that it continues to develop its facilities and assessment practices to ensure that practical placement Standards are met.

The Discipline of Clinical Psychology (the AOU) at University Technology Sydney, the Master of Clinical Psychology and the Master of Clinical Psychology/PhD received a grade of Accreditation with Conditions.

The accreditation outcomes are summarised in the attached Accreditation Summary Checklist.



APAC Accreditation Summary Checklist

for use with APAC Standards June 2010 Version 10

Name of Higher Education Provider: University of Technology Sydney

Date of Site Visit: 22 December 2014

Accreditation of the AOU

Rules	Rule Number	Satisfied	Not Yet Satisfied	N/A
Section 5 – Accreditation Status	5.1-5.6		✓	

General Accreditation Standards	Standard Number	Satisfied	Not Yet Satisfied	N/A
The Psychology AOU	2.1.1-10		✓	
Multi-Campus Institutions	2.2.1-2			✓
Degree Nomenclature	2.3.1-13	✓		
Academic Staffing	2.4.1-11		✓	
Resources	2.5.1-12	✓		
Teaching and Materials: Managing the Learning Process	2.6.1-14		✓	
Special Arrangements for Offshore Teaching	2.6.15			✓

Fifth and Sixth Year Masters Program of Study - Master of Clinical Psychology and Master of Clinical Psychology/PhD	Standard Number	Satisfied	Not Yet Satisfied	N/A
Staffing	5.1.1-3		✓	
Advisory/Liaison and Quality Review Committee	5.1.4	✓		
Resources	5.1.5-8	✓		
Credit for Previous Study	5.1.9-11	✓		
Core Capabilities and Attributes – Knowledge of the Discipline	5.1.12(a)	✓		
Core Capabilities and Attributes – Ethical, Legal and Professional Matters	5.1.12(b)		✓	
Core Capabilities and Attributes – Psychological Assessment & Measurement	5.1.12(c)	✓		
Core Capabilities and Attributes – Intervention Strategies	5.1.12(d)	✓		
Core Capabilities and Attributes – Research and Evaluation	5.1.12(e)		✓	
Core Capabilities and Attributes – Communication and Interpersonal Relationships	5.1.12(f)	✓		



Core Capabilities Assessment	5.1.13-16		✓	
Log Book	5.1.17		✓	
Assessment	5.1.18-19		✓	
Entry Requirements	5.3.1-2	✓		
Length	5.3.3-4	✓		
Program of Study Structure	5.3.5-8	✓		
Coursework	5.3.9-10	✓		
Research	5.3.11-16	✓		
Practical Placements	5.3.17-30		✓	

Comments: A follow-up site visit will be conducted in 2015 when students have commenced the program

Authorised:

Professor John Dunn
Chair, Australian Psychology Accreditation Council

Date: 20 February 2015