



**APAC Accreditation Assessment Summary Report**

<b>Higher Education Provider</b>	<b>Western Sydney University (WSU)</b>
<b>Date of determination</b>	<b>30 October 2017</b>
<b>Standards version</b>	<b>June 2010 (Version 10); Rules March 2014, amendments May 30 2016</b>
<b>Programs of Study Assessed for Accreditation</b>	<b>Three year programs at Parramatta Campus:</b> Bachelor of Social Science (Psychology) Bachelor of Arts Bachelor of Psychological Studies (exit degree) Graduate Diploma of Psychological Studies  <b>Four year programs at Parramatta Campus:</b> Bachelor of Psychology (2017, to be taught out) Bachelor of Psychology (Honours) (from 2018)

This is a summary of the outcomes of an Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC) accreditation site visit to inspect the resources and facilities on the Parramatta campus of Western Sydney University (WSU) following the introduction of the above psychology programs on that campus. This summary highlights selected key features of the assessment. Comprehensive analysis of the assessment is contained in the full APAC Assessment report.

All the programs, taught on at least one of the other WSU campuses (Bankstown and/or Penrith), currently hold the grade of Accreditation without Conditions. The visit included meeting with the Acting Head of Discipline, six staff teaching into the programs, two students and two technical and administrative staff as well as inspection of the new Psychology laboratories available on the Parramatta campus.

The main changes since the cycle site visit in 2016 are the re-location of several members of staff to Parramatta as their 'home' campus and the commencement of students into the undergraduate program on that campus. As predicted student numbers have not increased hugely; rather the distribution of students in the Psychology programs is across the three campuses of Bankstown, Penrith and Parramatta. Staff still continue to teach across all three campuses, with all staff using a combination of face-to-face and on-line teaching. For example, if a lecturer gives a face-to-face lecture on one campus, then it is given at the other two in the same modality. Tutorials continue to be taught face-to-face. It is a very flexible system and ensures students have equivalent access to units, programs and facilities (all campuses have state-of-the-art technological resources and a library), receive an identical standard of teaching and course experience and are required to meet the same standards of academic performance with the same assessment requirements.

It is planned to deliver all four years of psychology at Parramatta in the future, and some 4<sup>th</sup> year students whose home campus was elsewhere were already conducting their research at Parramatta. The students were very enthusiastic about the program, the availability of staff and the resources.

Three professional staff are located at Parramatta. The purpose-built laboratory space had been designed by the Psychology technical staff and comprises six research/teaching labs with space in between each for recording and viewing purposes. These professional staff also commented on the high level of professional respect and collaboration between administrative and academic staff which leads to productive relationships and better student outcomes. It was noted that there is a high level of stability in the technical and administrative staff with most being employed at the University for many years.

The accreditation outcomes are unchanged from the previous assessment.

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



## APAC Accreditation Summary Checklist

for use with APAC Standards June 2010 Version 10; Rules 2014, amendments May 2016

**Name of the Higher Education Provider: Western Sydney University (Parramatta campus)**

**Date of Site Visit: 25 July 2017**

<b>Undergraduate 3-Year Sequence Programs of Study</b>	<b>Standard Number</b>	<b>Satisfied</b>	<b>Not Yet Satisfied</b>	<b>N/A</b>
Length	3.1.1	✓		
Program of Study Structure	3.1.2-5	✓		
Program of Study Content	3.1.6-10	✓		
Assessment	3.1.11-16	✓		
Awarding of Credit or Advance Standing	3.1.17-19	✓		

<b>Four Year Sequence Program of Study</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Bachelor of Psychology</b></li><li>• <b>Bachelor of Psychology (Honours)</b></li></ul>	<b>Standard Number</b>	<b>Satisfied</b>	<b>Not Yet Satisfied</b>	<b>N/A</b>
Program of Study Structure	3.1.2-5 /4.1.3	✓		
Program of Study Content (Years 1 - 4)	3.1.6-7 /4.1.4-7	✓		
Research Methods and Professional and Research Ethics	4.1.8	✓		
Research Project	4.1.9-15	✓		
Assessment	3.1.11-16 /4.1.16-17	✓		
Assessment of 4 <sup>th</sup> Year Research Project	4.1.18-20	✓		
Awarding of Credit or Advance Standing	3.1.17-19	✓		

**Authorised:**

Professor Simon Crowe

**Chair, Australian Psychology Accreditation Council**

**Date: 27 November 2017**