



GENERAL INFORMATION

DPsych (with specialisation in Child Psychology)

1. INTRODUCTION

The DPsych (with specialisation in child psychology) programme includes course work which spans a period of three years, as well as a thesis (of limited scope) or three publishable articles. The programme is aimed at advanced scientific training for practising psychologists to enable them to act, upon completion, as specialists in the field of Child Psychology. This programme, however, does NOT lead to a specific registration category with the Board of Psychology.

Please note:

At a meeting of the APDC on 26 April 2018 it was approved that students who will enrol in 2019 for the current Doctor of Psychology with specialisation in Child Psychology, (academic plan code BC194800), will switch to the new Doctor of Psychology (Child Psychology) programme if and when it is accredited by the CHE. This will have implications on the credit allocation of the four modules since the latter programme will be a professional doctoral degree with a 60% research component.

2. RATIONALE

The overarching aim of the programme is to enhance the student's knowledge in the discipline of Child Psychology. The specific aims are:

- To obtain advanced scientific and theoretical knowledge in the various disciplines of Child Psychology.
- To contribute to the corpus of knowledge in a particular area of Child Psychology in the form of a thesis (of limited scope) or three publishable articles.

3. STRUCTURE, CONTENT AND PROPOSED OUTCOMES

The programme is structured in four broad categories, which also comprise the four modules of the programme.

Module	Content	Proposed outcomes on the successful completion the student should:
PSCT9100 Advanced Theoretical Foundations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advanced theoretical foundations of Developmental Psychology Theoretical foundations of Positive Psychology Specific issues in child development/intervention with children Cross-cultural interventions Ethics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrate advanced scientific and theoretical knowledge of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ethics involved when working with children and their families Issues in cross-cultural research in Child Psychology Quantitative and qualitative research methodologies A variety of theoretical foundations in Child Psychology Advanced theoretical foundations of various fields within psychology
PSCH9100 Current Approaches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child development Child psychopathology Psychological assessment Child psychotherapy Conceptual frameworks Integrated theoretical models Specific issues in child development/intervention with children Developmental paediatrics Neuropsychology 	<p>Demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advanced theoretical and scientific knowledge regarding children's normal and abnormal development Critically conceptualise a child's problem within relevant meta-theoretical models Critically plan and execute therapeutic interventions according to relevant models Apply specialised knowledge of the most current assessment techniques: emotional and cognitive
PSCP9100 Advanced Child Practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Neuropsychology (cont.) Developmental paediatrics (cont.) Pharmacology Specific issues in child development and interventions with children Children's rights Forensic child psychology 	<p>Be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply acquired neuro- and health psychology and psycho-pharmacological knowledge Demonstrate advanced knowledge of forensic child psychology Critically and scientifically apply knowledge with regard to current issues in intervention/research with children
RESEARCH PSCD9100 Thesis of limited scope OR PSCA9100 Three publishable articles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expert knowledge on quantitative and qualitative research methodology and data analysis 	<p>Demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applied research skills Scientific writing Contribution to the field of Child Psychology

4. NATURE OF THE PROGRAMME

This programme encompasses three years of structured course work. Three week-long contact sessions per year are scheduled, at three different times during the year. Students will be expected to attend all sessions. During these contact sessions students need to present seminars, case presentations, colloquiums and/or workshops on selected topics.

Students will be required to submit a research proposal on a relevant topic in Child Psychology at the end of the first year of study and to complete the research thesis (of limited scope)/articles by the end of the fourth year of study.

Lecturers selected for this programme are experts in their respective fields and include both internal and external lecturers. The language of instruction for the programme is English.

5. ASSESSMENT

In order to be successful in this programme, candidates will be required to:

- Attend **all** lectures and workshops.
- Submit and pass **all** tasks and assignments.
- Pass **all** annual summative assessment opportunities.
- Successfully complete a research thesis (of limited scope) or three publishable articles.

6. APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Prospective candidates must hold a master's degree in Clinical, Counselling or Educational Psychology and be registered at the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) or hold an equivalent international registration.
- A minimum pass mark of 70% in the master's degree is a prerequisite. Students with an average percentage between 65% and 69% for their masters' degree may apply to the head of the department for consideration.
- Prospective candidates must have at least **five** years of child practice experience **after** being registered as psychologists.
- The department will apply the necessary discretion, if applicable.

7. APPLICATION AND SELECTION

As the programme is labour intensive, student intake will only occur every three years. Since only a limited number of students can be admitted to the programme, a selection procedure will be followed. The first phase of selection is a screening process (paper selection), which is based on the prospective

candidate's application and referee evaluations. Prospective candidates will be notified whether they qualify for the next phase, which includes interviews and the evaluation of research skills.

Enquiries regarding the next selection process can be directed to dpsych@ufs.ac.za. If you need any further information or assistance kindly email Anneke Denobili at dpsych@ufs.ac.za or contact her on +27 51 401 9314. Electronic application documents are available at <https://www.ufs.ac.za/DPsych>

Closing date for the 2019 intake: 30 August 2018.

8. ESTIMATE COSTS

Information regarding tuition fees can be obtained from:

<https://www.ufs.ac.za/kovsielife/unlisted-pages/tuition-fees/tuition-fees-30>

Please bear in mind that there are various hidden costs not included in your tuition fees, such as:

- Loss of income, if in private practice
- Travel costs
- Accommodation costs
- Costs of textbooks and other academic reading materials
- Printing fees
- Research fees

9. GENERAL

Candidates invited to the second round of selection will attend the panel interviews at their own cost. They also have to submit an electronic copy of their master's dissertation **before** the panel interview at a date that will be announced.

Kind regards

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