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What (else) can I do with a major in Psychology?

Diana Edwards

Careers Consultant – Melbourne Careers
Centre

Slides available:

<http://psych.unimelb.edu.au/study/careers>



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What we'll cover

- Options
 - *Employment*
 - *Graduate/further study - related to Psychology*
 - *Graduate/further study - new directions*
- Resources - to research careers and courses



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Other discussions re careers with a Psych major

- University of Melbourne:
<http://psych.unimelb.edu.au/study/careers>
- Australian Psychological Society:
<http://www.psychology.org.au/studentHQ/careers/other-careers/>



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Still considering 4th year Psychology?

- Study pathways to becoming a Psychologist:
<http://www.psychology.org.au/studentHQ/studying/study-pathways/>
- Selection into 4th year at Melbourne:
<http://psych.unimelb.edu.au/study/fourth-year>
- Searching for alternative 4th year programs:
<http://www.psychologycouncil.org.au/course-search/australia/>



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Psychology in perspective

A highly robust foundation for a great many (if not all) careers, making use of.....

- core understandings about human behaviour
- skills in quantitative reasoning and research methodology
- skills in using ‘evidence’ to inform understanding/decisions
- general rigor in analysis and problem-solving



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Thinking about what would suit you

- What sector is of most interest? ie what sorts of issues? what sorts of clients? for what purpose? eg business, health, education, community, personal development, protective services....
- What type of work activity would suit you? eg service delivery/face-to-face, technical, big picture roles such as policy, research, promotional/advocacy.....

Employment

Most careers require graduate or further study (trend to professional preparation at graduate level); however, there are employment opportunities post-Bachelor degree:

- Jobs in general job market
- Graduate Employment Programs

NOTE: While there are job types typically associated with Psychology, there may be other possibilities for individuals – depending on interests, skills and experiences



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Jobs in the general job market - Psychology related

- market and applied social research - consultancies
- human resources – particularly in recruitment
- program, policy and research support in community organisations (Note – casework roles require training which includes face-to-face work and/or significant voluntary experience)
- customer service in human services agencies eg TAC, NGOs)
- student services in higher education eg disability support, student advising
- general management (via management trainee programs)
- research assistant roles (though more likely with 4th year)



Recent positions acquired by Psych majors – examples

- Human Resources Consultant (*local government*)
- Management Trainee (*bank*)
- Research Assistant (*hospital*)
- Marketing Assistant (*market research company*)
- Project Assistant (*mental health support organisation*)
- Integration Aide (*regional college*)

Recent positions acquired by Psych majors – more examples

- Sleep Scientist (*hospital*)
- Tutor (*residential college*)
- Science Demonstrator (*high school*)
- Weight Loss Consultant (*private business*)
- Project Coordinator (*youth mental health support organisation*)
- Welfare Officer (*community organisation*)

Graduate Employment Programs

- Positions for new grads which include significant training and development; typically for 12-18 months
- Generally offered by large commercial organisations and government
- Tend to recruit students early in final year to commence following January – but recent graduates can apply

More info:

http://careers.unimelb.edu.au/student/find_a_job/professional_and_graduate_work



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Graduate Employment Programs

Organisations recruiting Psychology majors:

- Government Departments – State and Commonwealth – for careers in policy and public sector management
- Commercial organisations specifically targeting Psychology - roles in HR with large corporates eg Qantas, Shell, Telstra, or market and social research with consultancies eg Forethought Research
- Commercial organisations open to all grads - for general business roles and consulting eg banks, management consulting firms



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Careers requiring graduate or further study – related to Psychology

Key sectors:

- Community Services and Personal Development
- Protective Services
- Health
- Business
- Education

NOTE: Course examples given in following slides

- Specific courses mentioned are examples only of possible courses
- Important to research courses yourself to get full range of options (see next slide)

Researching courses

To search for courses at any level, at all institutions, anywhere in Australia:

myfuture (government careers reference website):

<http://www.myfuture.edu.au/tools-and-resources/study-or-training-options/coursesearch>



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Community Services and Personal Development

- **Social Work** - UoM course requires 40 hours relevant paid or voluntary work; and 100 points of Social Science studies – broad interpretation of Social Sciences
- **Community Services** eg families, youth, drug & alcohol, disability, mental health - various TAFE Cert IVs or Diplomas
- **Counselling/Psychotherapy** eg Master of Clinical Counselling ACU; private training organisations eg Cairn Millar; some graduate courses may not be suitable for new grads without relevant experience
- **Rehabilitation Counselling** eg Grad Dip available thru La Trobe
- **Careers Counselling** eg Grad Dip available thru RMIT and ACU
- **Genetic Counselling** eg UoM Master of Genetic Counselling – preference given to relevant science study areas



Useful Links

- **Counselling:**
 - Psychotherapy and Counselling Federation of Australia ('members' of this body are counselling associations such as CAPAV below) - www.pacfa.org.au
 - Counsellors' and Psychotherapists' Association of Victoria (individual counsellors register with this body and must meet training requirements) - www.capav.org.au
- **Rehabilitation Counselling:**
 - Australian Society of Rehabilitation Counsellors – www.asorc.org.au
- **Community Services:** for example - <http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/about-the-department/our-organisation/careers/career-options>
- **Careers Counselling:**
 - Career Development Association of Australia <http://www.cdaa.org.au/>



Protective Services

- **Police** - some specialty areas may particularly interest eg Community Policing, Crime Investigation; Tertiary qualifications given 'bonus points' in selection process
- **Community Corrections** - Department of Justice
- **Child Protection** - Statutory role with Department of Human Services – Social Work preferred qualification
- **Defence forces** - roles in Communications, Education, Personnel may interest

Useful Links

- Community Corrections: www.cvcareers.com.au
- Police - Specialist policing areas:
www.police.vic.gov.au/content.asp?Document_ID=26985
- Defence Forces: www.defencejobs.gov.au
- Child Protection: Department of Human Services
www.dhs.vic.gov.au/about-the-department/our-organisation/careers



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Health

- **Therapies** – Occupational Therapy, Speech Pathology eg OT available at LaTrobe; Speech at UoM
- **Nursing** UoM Master of Nursing - may need to do online subject '*Human Anatomy for Nursing*')
- **Medical Imaging** eg RMIT & Monash – Master of Medical Radiations 'entry to practice'; requires some Science
- **Audiology** eg UoM Master of Audiology; requires some Science
- **Public Health/Health Promotion** eg UoM Master of Public Health



Useful Links

- Speech Pathology Australia:
<http://www.speechpathologyaustralia.org.au/>
- Occupational Therapy Australia: <http://www.ausot.com.au>
- Audiology Australia: <http://www.audiology.asn.au/>
- Health Information Management Association of Australia:
<http://www.himaa2.org.au/>
- Australian Institute of Radiography: <http://www.air.asn.au/index.php>
- Health Promotion Association of Australia:
<http://www.healthpromotion.org.au/>
- Public Health Association of Australia: <http://www.phaa.net.au/>



Business

- Marketing/Advertising/Public Relations eg UoM's Master of Management (Marketing)
- Human Resources eg UoM's Master of Management (Human Resources)
- Occupational Health & Safety eg Master of Applied Science RMIT
- Management Consulting - for new grads, entry generally via Graduate Employment Programs – further study can enhance eg Business



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Useful Links

- Advertising - The Communications Council's careers page:
<http://www.communicationscouncil.org.au/public/content/ViewCategory.aspx?id=321>
- Australian Human Resources Institute (AHRI) – careers page
<http://www.hrcareers.com.au/resources/careers-in-hr.cfm>
- Public Relations Institute of Australia:
<http://www.pria.com.au/jobs/what-is-public-relations>
- Australian Market and Social Research Society:
<http://www.amsrs.com.au/careers/video-research-careers>
- The Marketing Association of Australia & New Zealand
http://www.marketing.org.au/marketing_career.aspx

Education

- Secondary Teaching - need subjects to cover two 'learning areas'
- Primary Teaching - any degree
- Early Childhood Education - any degree

Useful Links

- Secondary teaching - Learning Area Guidelines (study requirements to teach 2 subjects):
http://www.education.unimelb.edu.au/mteach/pdf/2012_MTeachbrochure.pdf
- Victorian Institute of Teaching:
<http://www.vit.vic.edu.au/Pages/default.aspx>



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Graduate Study - new directions

Many graduate courses in fields less clearly related to Psychology accessible to BA and BSc grads:

- Law/JD
- Urban Planning, Information Systems, Accounting, Finance, Publishing, Journalism, Law.... (200pt/2 years Masters)
- Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Engineering... (300pt or 3 year Masters)



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Inside Careers

Health Promotion

Tues 1st September, 1-2pm, Old Arts Theatre D

Social Work

Wednesday 26th August, 1-2pm, Agar Theatre,
Zoology



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