



Core courses

PSCY9901	Law and Mental Health
PSCY9902	Psychiatry and Criminal Law
PSCY9903	Violence
PSCY9904	Forensic Mental Health Systems

Electives

PSCY9911	Mental Disorders, Personality Disorders & Crime
PSCY9912	Substance Use Problems and Offending
PSCY9913	Disordered and Criminal Sexual Behaviour
PSCY9914	Families, Children & Adolescent Forensic Psychiatry
PSCY9915	Civil Law in Relation to Psychiatry
PSCY9917	Unusual Forensic Behaviours and Special Groups

Each course is offered once every two years on a rotating basis (except PSCY9911 which is offered annually).

Electives outside the Forensic Mental Health Program

Students can apply to the program directors to enrol in alternative electives offered by other UNSW departments (e.g., law/criminology or relevant health research-focused postgraduate courses). Decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis.

Forensic Mental Health Contacts

W: forensicmentalhealth.med.unsw.edu.au

W: unsw.edu.au/study/postgraduate/master-of-forensic-mental-health

Mailing Address

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Forensic Mental Health Postgraduate Program

About the program

Forensic Mental Health is a sub-specialty of mental health in which scientific and clinical expertise is applied in legal contexts, combining civil, criminal, correctional, and legislative matters. It embraces the therapeutic objectives of mental health services for a specific forensic target group, as well as providing mental health evaluation and consultation in the legal justice system.

The Master of Forensic Mental Health Program has been developed to enhance the knowledge and skills of a broad range of professionals working at the interface of human services and criminal justice systems.

While the program content is based in forensic psychiatry, the disciplines of forensic psychology, nursing, and law contribute to this exciting new frontier. Our academic contributors are also leading authorities in their clinical fields which allows for participation of students in the challenges of the forensic workplace. In addition, the expert knowledge and experience of our academic staff relate to both the Australia-wide and international forensic context.

Career prospects

Professional opportunities are emerging with the development of Forensic Mental Services in many countries. Hospitals, corrective services, court liaison systems are recognising the need for this important specialisation to be expanded and to develop skills in clinicians, allied health personnel, and within the mental health legislative system. There are also opportunities in private practice and specialist training for psychiatric registrars as well as meeting the needs of continuing education for legal professionals working in this field. Increasingly government departments and NGO's as well as the police force require personnel with forensic mental health knowledge and qualifications.

Mode of delivery

All courses will be available by distance delivery.

2023

Term 1, 2023 (T1): 13 Feb – 11 May

PSCY9902 Psychiatry and Criminal Law

PSCY9913 Disordered and Criminal Sexual Behaviour

Term 2, 2023 (T2): 29 May – 24 Aug

PSCY9911 Mental Disorders, Personality Disorders & Crime

PSCY9917 Unusual Forensic Behaviours and Special Groups

Term 3, 2023 (T3): 11 Sep – 7 Dec

PSCY9903 Violence

PSCY9915 Civil Law in Relation to Psychiatry

2024

Term 1, 2024 (T1): 12 Feb – 9 May

PSCY9901 Law & Mental Health

PSCY9914 Families, Children, and Adolescent Forensic Psychiatry

Term 2, 2024 (T2): 27 May – 22 Aug

PSCY9911 Mental Disorders, Personality Disorders & Crime

Term 3, 2024 (T3): 9 Sep – 5 Dec

PSCY9904 Forensic Mental Health Systems

PSCY9912 Substance Use Problems and Offending



Entry requirements

An undergraduate degree in health, law, psychology, or criminology **and** honours/postgraduate qualifications **or** two years professional experience in health, law, criminology, psychology, or other relevant discipline.

Length of program

Master of Forensic Mental Health 9012

> minimum 2 years part-time (48 UOC)

Graduate Diploma in Forensic Mental Health 5512

> minimum 1.5 years part-time (36 UOC)

Graduate Certificate in Forensic Mental Health 7312

>minimum 1 year part-time (24 UOC)

Articulation

The Master of Forensic Mental Health articulates with the Graduate Diploma in Forensic Mental Health and the Graduate Certificate in Forensic Mental Health. Credit for courses completed as part of the GradDip and GradCert may be transferred to the MFMH program.

Who should consider the MFMH?

The degree is designed for mental health professionals including medical practitioners, nurses, psychologists, social workers, and occupational therapists. The course is also open to correctional staff, police, lawyers, and other related professions.