UNSW Medicine

Postgraduate Programs in Forensic Mental Health 2021
TOP 50 UNIVERSITY

We are ranked 44th overall.
QS World University Rankings, 2021

300,000 GRADUATES
146 COUNTRIES

Over 300,000 graduates located in over 146 countries around the world

59,781 STUDENTS
FROM 120 COUNTRIES

By 2025, UNSW will be Australia’s global university

BEST AND THE BRIGHTEST

Attracting the brightest students who can learn alongside world leading researchers and clinicians.
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WELCOME FROM THE DEAN

It is my pleasure to introduce you to Medicine at the University of New South Wales (UNSW Sydney). As one of the world’s top 50 medical faculties, UNSW Medicine attracts leading educators, researchers and clinicians, and we are turning high achieving students into professionals with globally recognised qualifications.

We recognise that the necessity for our students to adapt to rapid changes, trends and innovation in order to meet global and local challenges in the field of medicine. As part of our continuing effort to deliver world-class education and research in medicine, we embrace change and capitalise on new technologies while understanding the various opportunities and limitations that come with innovation.

The School of Psychiatry’s Forensic Mental Health Program was established in response to a local need for trained professionals to work in the expanding field of forensic mental health. Since its inception in 2006, the program has attracted a diverse group of students coming from various disciplinary backgrounds such as nursing, law, psychology, psychiatry and social work.

The Program is proud to have an active role in transforming mental health work in correctional facilities across NSW. We are working toward tailoring the program to increase its inter-state and international engagement through our global partners. In the teaching and learning space, the Program has embraced the use of technology and integrated digital approaches to enhance the student learning experience.

UNSW Medicine is committed to helping you develop the knowledge, skills and values necessary to further your career and welcome you most warmly to the School of Psychiatry and our global community.

Professor Vlado Perkovic
Dean, UNSW Medicine
ACADEMIC PROGRAM DIRECTORS

Our Academic Program Directors have overall academic and operational oversight of the program; provides leadership to other program team members.

Professor Kimberlie Dean holds the inaugural Chair in Forensic Mental Health at UNSW School of Psychiatry. She jointly leads the UNSW Masters in Forensic Mental Health program and leads the MPhil Forensic Mental Health program. Prof Dean is a Clinical Academic Forensic Psychiatrist and Research Lead in Forensic Mental Health with Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network, the health services responsible for providing health care to those in contact with the criminal justice system in NSW. Academically, her research focuses on using epidemiological and clinical research methods to understand links between mental illness and risk of offending behaviour, as well as to test interventions to improve the mental health, and other outcomes, of those in contact with the criminal justice system.

Dr Andrew Ellis B.Med MA MSc FRANZCP is a forensic psychiatrist in public and private practice. He is the Medical Superintendent of The Forensic Hospital, the largest secure facility for forensic mental health patients in Australasia. He is a consultant to the NSW Police State Protection Group. He provides expert witness evidence across Australian jurisdictions. His research interests include impulsivity, arson, sex offending, legal & human rights, extremism and rehabilitation of mentally disordered offenders. He has previously worked in forensic community, court and prison services, and as the National Health Service International Fellow in Forensic Psychiatry in London.
Our Academic Consultants provide academic input into the development of individual courses and the program as a whole, under the supervision of the Academic Program Directors; provide an academic point of contact for students and contribute regularly to the online delivery of courses as they are delivered; have oversight of the delivery of courses, the setting and marking of assignments, and collaborate with the course convenors and lecturers.

Lee Knight Lecturer in Forensic Mental Health trained in the UK at the University of Nottingham as a registered nurse in mental health. In 2000, after working in the field of acute psychiatric admissions he immigrated to Australia. Since living and working in Australia, Lee has extensive experience in acute inpatient mental health, community case management, acute care, consultation liaison psychiatry and forensic psychiatry.

In 2004, Lee joined Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network as a Clinical Nurse Consultant in Forensic Psychiatry. Lee has worked for the Court Liaison Service offering comprehensive assessments on mentally ill offenders producing hundreds of comprehensive psychiatric reports to the courts and facilitating referrals both in custody and in community mental health facilities. Lee’s qualifications include a Master of Nursing in Clinical Practice (Majoring in Mental Health) (UTS) and a Master of Forensic Mental Health, (UNSW).

Lee is currently employed as the Clinical Coordinator of a randomised control trial looking at reducing acts of impulsive violence (particularly domestic violence) in male offenders, using a SSRI at the University of New South Wales. Lee is also a Conjoint Lecturer and Academic Consultant for the Master of Forensic Mental Health Program. Lee also has a private practice offering assessment, treatment and medico-legal reports to persons before the criminal justice system.

Corrie Goodhand Adjunct Senior Lecturer a barrister practising at Black Chambers, Sydney and has over 20 years legal experience in a variety of areas of the law. Corrie grew up in Darwin and received her Bachelor of Laws from the Northern Territory University (now known as Charles Darwin University).

After completing her Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice in the ACT she relocated to Sydney and was admitted to practice in 1999. She is also admitted in the Northern Territory, the Federal and High Courts of Australia and has obtained a Masters in Health Law from the University of Sydney and a Masters in Forensic Mental Health at the University of New South Wales.

Corrie published her first legal text with her co-author Peter O’Brien, Intentional Tort Litigation in Australia, in 2015 (Federation Press).

Corrie commenced as an online-tutor with the MFMH program in February 2016. In 2019, Corrie has also commenced a Masters of Philosophy (Research) through the Faculty of Medicine, at UNSW.
**Minimum entry requirements**
Applicants are required to have completed an appropriate undergraduate degree in health, law, psychology, criminology, or other relevant discipline

*plus either*

- Honours or other postgraduate qualification in health, law, psychology, criminology or other relevant discipline; or
- Two years professional experience in health, law, psychology, criminology, or other relevant discipline

**Articulation**
The program 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 the GradCert may be transferred to the Master’s program, in accordance with the UNSW Sydney policy on credit transfer.

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**FORENSIC MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM**

The Forensic Mental Health Program provides an opportunity for a comprehensive training in forensic mental health by coursework. It covers the theoretical and practical aspects of criminal, civil, child and family forensic mental health sub-specialities.

It is designed to provide training, skills and expertise required in the forensic mental health workplace both in the private and non-private arena.

The Program can be undertaken on a part-time (two year) basis by flexible online delivery. The Program is designed for mental health professionals including medical practitioners, nurses, psychologists, social workers and occupational therapists. It is also open to members of the legal profession, police and correctional staff.

**Dr Andrew Ellis**
Joint Academic Program Director of Master of Forensic Mental Health

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Total number of courses</th>
<th>Program Duration</th>
<th>Course Selection</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Certificate in Forensic Mental Health (7312)*</td>
<td>4 courses (24 UOC)</td>
<td>Up to 1 year part-time</td>
<td>2 Core (12 UOC)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2 Elective (12 UOC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Diploma in Forensic Mental Health (5512)*</td>
<td>6 courses (36 UOC)</td>
<td>Up to 2 years part-time</td>
<td>3 Core (18 UOC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3 Elective (18 UOC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masters in Forensic Mental Health (9012)</td>
<td>8 courses (48 UOC)</td>
<td>2 years of part-time</td>
<td>4 Core (24 UOC)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4 Elective (24 UOC)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
FORENSIC MENTAL HEALTH COURSES

The Forensic Mental Health Program is knowledge-based, designed to build onto the disciplines of psychiatry, medicine, nursing, law, criminology, psychology, occupational therapy and social work.

With a rapidly growing need for a skilled workforce in forensic mental health both in Australia and internationally, there are many avenues of career opportunity open to those with a Masters Degree in Forensic Mental Health. Government bodies such as: departments of corrections, departments of community services, fire brigades and police forces. Further opportunities can be found in the judiciary, legal agencies and the Attorney General’s Departments. Juvenile Justice and District Mental Health Services also provide additional employment opportunities.

There are also career opportunities in private practice in forensic mental health in the areas of health, law and criminology. Graduates from the Program not only represent a wide range of professions such as medical practitioners, nurses, psychologists, social workers, occupational therapists, correctional staff, police and lawyers, but we have also had several graduates which enrolled out of personal interest rather than professional progression.

### Course Code Course type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Course type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Law and Mental Health</td>
<td>PSCY9901</td>
<td>Core</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychiatry and the Criminal Law</td>
<td>PSCY9902</td>
<td>Core</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violence</td>
<td>PSCY9903</td>
<td>Core</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration, Institutions &amp; Services</td>
<td>PSCY9904</td>
<td>Core</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Disorders, Personality Disorders &amp; Crime</td>
<td>PSCY9911</td>
<td>Elective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Substance Use Problems and Offending</td>
<td>PSCY9912</td>
<td>Elective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal &amp; Disordered Sexual Behaviour</td>
<td>PSCY9913</td>
<td>Elective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Families, Children &amp; Adolescent Forensic Psychiatry</td>
<td>PSCY9914</td>
<td>Elective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil Law in Relation to Psychiatry</td>
<td>PSCY9915</td>
<td>Elective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unusual Behaviours and Special Groups</td>
<td>PSCY9917</td>
<td>Elective</td>
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Pre-approved elective courses from the School of Public Health and Community Medicine (Check with SPHCM for offered courses)

- PHCM9132 Applied Research Methods for Public Health
- PHCM9498 Epidemiology & Statistics for Public Health
- PHCM9632 Indigenous Health & Wellbeing Across the Lifespan
- PHCM9781 Evidence-informed Decision-making

Note: Students may also identify other appropriate postgraduate courses (e.g. from law, public health, criminology, psychology) however these courses would need to be approved by the course convenors. Check with SPHCM for offered courses.
PROGRAM AND COURSE FEES

Fees are payable on a per semester/course basis. The fees are an estimate only based on the total units of credit of the program. The fees stated here are indicative only for 2021 and are subject to change on an annual basis.

Postgraduate Commonwealth Support
For information about Commonwealth supported places, please visit student.unsw.edu.au/commonwealth-support-postgrad.

Non-award courses
You can opt to study a single subject from the range of courses within the Forensic Mental Program to ensure your knowledge and skills are current and you remain competitive in your area of expertise. You can choose whether you complete the subject assessment.

To find out more about Non-Award Courses, please see www.futurestudents.unsw.edu.au/non-award.

Postgraduate coursework programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Postgraduate coursework programs</th>
<th>Duration (Part-time)</th>
<th>Domestic UOC fee (AUD$)</th>
<th>Domestic Program fee</th>
<th>International UOC fee (AUD$)</th>
<th>International Program fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Certificate in Forensic Mental Health</td>
<td>1 year</td>
<td>$590</td>
<td>$14,160</td>
<td>$655</td>
<td>$15,720</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graduate Diploma in Forensic Mental Health</td>
<td>1.5 years</td>
<td>$590</td>
<td>$21,240</td>
<td>$655</td>
<td>$23,580</td>
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<tr>
<td>Master in Forensic Mental Health</td>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>$590</td>
<td>$28,320</td>
<td>$655</td>
<td>$31,440</td>
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Postgraduate research programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Postgraduate research programs</th>
<th>Duration (Part-time)</th>
<th>Domestic Cost</th>
<th>International Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Master of Philosophy in Forensic Mental Health</td>
<td>1.5 years</td>
<td>**</td>
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</table>

** Domestic PhD or Masters by Research candidates at UNSW are not liable for course tuition fees. Domestic candidates are Australian citizens, Australian permanent residents or New Zealand citizens (but does not include permanent residents of New Zealand). All new domestic postgraduate research candidates enrolling in a Doctorate or Masters by Research at UNSW are granted a tuition fee exemption under the Commonwealth Government’s Research Training Scheme. For further information relating to the Scheme please see the Research Training Scheme page on the GRS website.

Note: If postgraduate research candidates enrol in approved coursework as part of their higher research degree at UNSW they are not charged additional tuition fees.

^^ For the duration of the degree, international candidates are required to pay Tuition Fees. For further information relating to fee payment and policy please refer to the Fees Policy (International): student.unsw.edu.au/fees-international

For information on student visas please see: student.unsw.edu.au/visa
www.homeaffairs.gov.au/trav/stud

Note: If postgraduate research candidates enrol in approved coursework as part of their higher research degree at UNSW they are not charged additional tuition fees.
The Master of Philosophy in Mental Health (MPhil) was established in response to students who wish to undertake supervised research in forensic mental health who have not had prior research experience.

The Master of Philosophy in Mental Health is a research degree designed to provide research training for candidates wishing to progress to a PhD, or who wish to develop competence in researching Forensic Mental Health.

The MPhil comprises 24 units of credit (UOC) of coursework, and a thesis of no more than 40,000 words on an approved topic.

**Prof. Kimberlie Dean**
Joint Academic Program Director of Master of Forensic Mental Health

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### Program UOC Program Duration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>UOC</th>
<th>Program Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Master of Philosophy in Forensic Mental Health (MPhil) (2712)</td>
<td>(24 UOC)</td>
<td>3 years part-time minimum</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Postgraduate research applications**

If you’re thinking of applying to our postgraduate research programs, you’ll need to submit an expression of interest and your research proposal to our research program coordinator.

**Coordinator:**
Professor Kimberlie Dean
E: k.dean@unsw.edu.au

For list of our current research projects in the Discipline of Forensic Mental Health please visit [forensicmentalhealth.med.unsw.edu.au/current-research](forensicmentalhealth.med.unsw.edu.au/current-research)
CORE COURSES

PSCY9901 – Law and Mental Health
The course provides an introduction to the interface between law, legislation, crime, ethics and psychiatry. An overview is provided of the associations between forensic psychiatry and the law within the context of the Australian legal system, concentrating on the relevant legislation and case law in New South Wales. The course will cover institutional and legal structures in Australia, the classification of Australian law, the courts, precedent, capacity, mental health legislation, the expert witness, criminology and the area of ethics and forensic mental health.

PSCY9902 – Psychiatry and the Criminal Law
This course provides an understanding of mens rea and the defences to a criminal charge, intent, insanity, diminished responsibility and infanticide, legal aspects, criminal responsibility, automatism, some medico-legal consequences of hypoglycaemia and amnesia. Relevant Australian and ‘western’ case law will be covered in this course. There will be an introduction into various relevant aspects of criminal responsibility in the United Kingdom, Canada, the United States and Europe. Topics include: the psychiatrist, psychologist and mental health practitioner as expert witness; the written mental health/psychiatric court report, mitigation, sentences and prognosis, fitness to stand trial and plead, mutism and deafness.

PSCY9903 – Violence
The course will provide a broad overview of: theories of aggression, crimes of violence, the relationship between mental illness and violence, risk assessment of mentally disordered offenders, stalking, arson, homicide, infanticide and filicide, sexual violence, suicide, trends in violent crime, epidemiology of violence, and consequences of violence.

PSCY9904 – Administration, Institutions and Services
The course will cover the functioning and roles of the Probation and Parole Board; the SORC Advisory Board; the Mental Health Review Tribunal; the NSW Health Care Complaints Commission; the Australian and New Zealand Royal College of Psychiatrists; the Medical Board and professional conduct; fitness to practice; and human rights. Also covered are the code of conduct of corrections and the Prison Medical Service; the Forensic Mental Health Hospital; Area Health Special Forensic Units and Hospitals; regional secure units and forensic services in the UK, Canada, New Zealand and the USA; the forensic aspects of psychiatry in the armed forces; the Probation and Parole service; and special programs such as sex offenders, violence, and drug and alcohol programs.

PSCY9911 – Mental Disorders, Personality Disorders and Crime*
Topics include: schizophrenia, mood and other psychoses, the psychopathology of offending, the phenomenology of mood, anxiety, dissociative disorders, senile dementia and crime, organically determined mental illness, mental retardation and crime, mental retardation – clinical aspects and management, impairments, disabilities and handicaps, assessments for court, borderline personality, psychopathic (sociopathic) personality, the psychology of personality disorders, other types of personality, homelessness and vagrancy, and psychotherapy, psycho-pharmacology and management for conduct disorders.

*PSCY9911 is a core course for non-clinical candidates. For those with a clinical background, you will need to apply to the Academic Directors of the program before enrolling in this course.
ELECTIVE COURSES

PSCY9912 – Substance Use Problems and Offending
The course is an overview of substance use problems and the associations between substance use problems and a range of criminal behaviours and violence, and the interface with the forensic system. We will review the management of people with substance use problems in the forensic system and discuss projects such as the compulsory drug treatment program. Finally, we will look at the ethics of drug policy and harm minimisation principles. Some of the newer addictions will be mentioned.

PSCY9913 – Criminal and Disordered Sexual Behaviour
This course covers the clinical assessment of the paraphilic disorders; a comprehensive understanding of the paraphilic disorders including exhibitionism, sexual sadism, paedo-hebophilia, zoophilia, necrophilia, voyeurism, frotteurism; those paraphilic disorders or criminal sexual behaviours which may involve activities which could bring them to the attention of authorities such as transvestism or cybersex; incest; rape; biological and psychological sex offender treatments; risk assessment and risk management of these offending behaviours or paraphilic disorders.

Electives in School of Public Health & Community Medicine
SPHCM offers several elective courses. Check with SPHCM for offered courses.

Note: Students may also identify other appropriate postgraduate courses (e.g. from law, public health, criminology, psychology) however these courses would need to be approved by the course convenors.

PSCY9914 – Families, Children and Adolescents Forensic Psychiatry
This course covers: the law relating to children and adolescents; children in care – civil aspects; adoption and fostering; nondelinquent conduct disorders; young offenders; child custody in relation to offending; Juvenile Justice in NSW; approaches to treatment and facilities available; children and adolescents – reports to court; law and treatment; and Australian Family Law.

PSCY9915 – Civil Law in Relation to Psychiatry
This course covers the changing world of civil litigation. Major topics will include assessing clients, writing reports, going to court, assessing issues of dangerousness, trauma-induced/psychiatric injury, mental capacity, liability of health practitioners, duty-to-protect, loss of chance, and other current and relevant topics. This course is interactive and is based on case-law.

PSCY9917 – Unusual Behaviours and Special Groups
The aim of this course is to cover rarer psychiatric presentations that confound justice systems. A large part of this knowledge is the ability to apply diverse theoretical models to unusual behaviours to understand the psychopathology and motivations behind these behaviours. The broader goal of this knowledge is to inform treatment and management from a range of disciplinary approaches. The course will cover a diverse range of rarer psychiatric presentations and special groups such as intellectual disability, deception, property crime, arson, kidnapping, feigned illness, and extremism.
HOW TO APPLY

1 Check entry requirements
Applicants are required to have completed an appropriate undergraduate degree in health, law, psychology, criminology, or other relevant discipline

plus either

• Honours or other postgraduate qualification in health, law, psychology, criminology or other relevant discipline; or

• Two years professional experience in health, law, psychology, criminology, or other relevant discipline.

2 Apply online
Applications can be made online at applyonline.unsw.edu.au/login

Shortly after you’ve lodged an application, you’ll receive a letter of acknowledgment by email detailing your student ID number, and instructions on how to submit the supporting documentation to us.

The following information should be attached to the application form:

• Your Curriculum Vitae

• Employer-provided statements of service

• Originals or certified copies of your academic record and proof of completion of previous degree

English language requirements
If English is not your first language, or if you did not complete an assessable qualification of at least one year of duration at a university or other post-secondary educational institution within the last two years where the medium of instruction is in English, you’ll need to provide evidence to show that you meet the University’s English Language requirement.

Visit unsw.edu.au/english-requirements-policy for more information.
3 Track application
You may track the progress of your application online at my.unsw.edu.au

4 Accept your offer
Successful applicants will receive a letter of offer by email. Read and follow the instructions contained in your letter to accept your offer and commence your studies with us.

5 Enrol in courses online
After you accept your offer, you are able to enrol in your course. Please refer to course selection table under each program.

KEY DATES FOR 2021

Term 1 2021
15 February - 13 May 2021
Teaching period:
15 February - 23 April 2021

Term 2 2021
31 May - 26 August 2021
Teaching period:
31 May - 6 August 2021

Term 3 2021
13 September - 9 December 2021
Teaching period:
13 September - 19 November 2021
School contacts
General and student services enquiries
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Level 1, AGSM Building
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W: unsw.to/fmh

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CRICOS Provider Code 00098G