The School of Psychology is a strong research focus and this is a key attribute of its teaching. The School’s research strength has been recognised with Psychology at UWA receiving an Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) ranking of 5 (well above world standard).

Substantial areas of research strength are in clinical psychology, communication, cognition and emotion, cognitive psychology, developmental disorders, face processing, human vision, industrial and organisational psychology, learning, cognition and behaviour, lifespan development, neurocognitive development, and person and emotion perception. Students interact directly with internationally recognised staff as well as visiting researchers from around the world and industry partners.

The School has a large PhD cohort indicating a strong research environment. Students pursuing a PhD are well supported including funding to attend conferences. Our research students are frequent winners of prestigious state, national and international prizes. PhD graduates have been successful in securing research positions at prestigious research institutions across the globe, including Harvard University and Oxford University.

Our coursework programs are accredited by the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC). These include Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Philosophy, Master of Clinical Psychology (taken in combination with PhD), Master of Clinical Neuropsychology (taken in combination with PhD), and Master of Industrial and Organisational Psychology.

The undergraduate program in Psychology is differentiated from other programs in that students are exposed to research from first year, with their involvement growing until they are attached to a research group in their third year and undertake their own research program in the Honours year (fourth year). This early exposure to research and research ideas ensures that graduates are trained for leadership positions in industry.

Postgraduate studies in Industrial and Organisational Psychology provides students with the opportunity to work with industry in a number of areas including leadership development, decision making and team effectiveness.

The School has the Robin Winkler Clinic, which offers services to the community (which are supported by postgraduate students) in a number of areas including eating disorders, anxiety and addiction, and neuropsychological testing.

The School hosts the ARC Centre of Excellence in Cognition and its Disorders, the Bushfire Cooperative Research Centre, the Centre for Social Change, and the Elizabeth Rutherford Memorial Centre for the Advancement of Research on Emotion.

Our graduates have been very successful in research and industry and include a past Premier of the State of Western Australia.

UWA is ranked 1st in Australia and 25th in the world for Life and Agricultural Sciences.