Suggested Honours Topic Areas for 2024

Please review the list of Honours Research Topic Areas and rank your top three DIFFERENT topic choices. Please note that your choices are indicative only and do not form part of the selection criteria. Whilst every effort is made to align you with your nominated Research topic areas, this is not guaranteed.

Select your topic choices from the list below. If you are unsure about nominating specific topics, nominate general areas of psychology (eg. developmental psychology, cognitive psychology etc).

### Topics in Social Psychology, Personality and Individual Differences, including
- Revenge, spite
- Gullibility
- Sexual and romantic relationships
- Critical social psychology and health
- Violent and prosocial media
- Aggressive behaviour
- Personality and personality pathology
- Individual differences in views about consciousness
- Relationship between olfactory ability and body odours and individual differences and romantic relationships
- Predictors of teleological belief
- Embodied cognition (eg. how the body influences the mind, and the reciprocal). For example, how decisions are influence by certain types of emotions or stress
- Blood donation research (eg. predictors of donation; increasing donor retention; mechanisms and interventions to manage donation reactions)
- Interventions for Equity & Social Justice
- Stigma, Prejudice & Intergroup Processes

### Topics in Psychological Health, Pathology and Change, including
- Stress appraisal and pain
- Gastrointestinal disorders and psychological processes
- Psychological processes in brain-gut interactions in health and disease
- Moderators and mediators of pain perception
- Stress and wellbeing
- Adjustment to chronic illness
- Placebo and nocebo effects
- Climate Change
- Sexual and reproductive health
- Body modification
- Body image in chronic illness
- Somatic health complaints (eg. recurring headaches, fatigue) and well-being
- Connecting with Nature and well-being
- Cardiovascular psychophysiology

### Topics in Cognitive Psychology, including
- Action selection, motor adaptation, and skill learning
- Visual word recognition, masked priming, cross-language processing
- Automatic processes and conflict control (eg. the Stroop task)
- Visual expertise, visual learning
- Visual working memory
- Face recognition, facial expressions
- Attention, inattentional blindness, emotion-induced blindness
- Reading with emojis
- Language acquisition and learning to read
- Sentence reading and comprehension
- Language integration across visual, textual, and auditory information (e.g., subtitle reading)
- Predictors and outcomes of altered states of consciousness (including psychedelics, hypnosis, meditation)
- Gesture and learning through non-verbal communication (including eye-witness testimony, learning through narratives, spatial skills)
- Gesture and adult theory of mind
- Topics in Cognitive Science, including
  - Attention
  - Motor adaptation and sensorimotor learning
  - Cognitive science of religion
  - The influence of oral vocabulary on reading
  - Learning new words through independent reading.

**Topics in Clinical Psychology, including**
- Interventions
- Screen-based addictions
- Understanding response to digital psychological interventions
- Evaluating evidence for digital interventions (meta-analysis)
- Natural remission and time course of disorder
- Internalising problems
- Development and/or maintenance of mental disorder
- Parent and/or child factors in digital child anxiety treatment
- Evaluating school peer support programs
- Validating online assessment tools for youth anxiety
- Lifestyle interventions inc. physical activity/exercise & wellbeing
- Emotion regulation and Resiliency following stress
- Client and public perspective of mental health services and experiences
- Compulsive buying and hoarding disorder
- OCD
- BII-phobia and related fears
- Causal attributions of psychological disorders

**Topics in Measurement Issues in Psychology, including**
- Development and modification of psychological measurement instruments

**Topics in Neuropsychology, including**
- Mental health in neurological disorders
- Validation of cognitive screening tools

**Topics in Perception, including**
- Interoception
- Motion Perception
- Depth Perception including stereoscopic/3D imagery
- Face Perception
- Body Perception including Body Image
- Olfaction – psychophysical

**Topics in Developmental Psychology, including**
- The relationship between reading difficulties and emotional health
- Parenting the emerging adult
- Gesture and child theory of mind abilities
- Infant/caregiver interactions
- Cyberbullying and moral disengagement
- The role of bystanders in cyberbullying
- Coping with cybervictimization
- Social media and body image
- Development of gender identity
- Ageing

**Topics in Evolutionary Psychology, including**

- Disease avoidance/disgust

**Topics in Biopsychology, including**

- Rodent behavioural models using techniques in neuroscience and neuropharmacology to determine the neurobiology of, or possible treatments for, drug addiction, psychosis or anxiety
- Exploring neural pathways involved in reward learning
- Using animal models to understand relapse propensity in alcohol use disorder
- Neurocircuitry involved in threat perception
- Exploring how brain circuits that regulate ingestive behaviour interact with those that regulate homeostatic function
- Effects of sleep on substantia nigra circuits that control innate orienting behaviours; EEG recordings & optogenetics

**Topics in Perception-Action and Complex Social Systems, including**

- Modelling Social and Multiagent systems
- Perceptual-Motor Control
- Interactive Virtual Realty Systems
- Cyber Interaction
- Multiplayer coordination and communication
- Human-Machine Interaction and Artificial Intelligence.
- Embodiment and Social Cognition in Virtual Reality

**Topics in Motivation and Emotion, including**

- Eating, appetite and ingestive behaviour
- Sexual risk taking
- Emotion-induced blindness
- Processing of emotional faces

**Topics in Organisational Psychology and Human Factors, including**

- Simulation, skill acquisition, training
- Career development and transitions
- Elite athlete dual career management

**Topics in Educational and Teaching Psychology, including**

- Academic self-efficacy and academic performance
- Academic stress, student wellbeing
- Academic self-efficacy and performance
- Academic misconduct
- Psychology student selection
- Psychology education and training
- Diverse learner needs
- Statistics anxiety and teaching in psychology students