



Frequently asked questions:

Before emailing (email address) with your query, please check the list below. It is highly likely that the answer to your question is provided below.

1. When do applications open and close?

Applications open on the **3rd of July** and close on the **29th September 2023**.

2. How do I apply for the honours programme?

- All applicants will be required to make an on-line application through the Wits central applications site (Student Enrolment Centre: SENC) by following links from the following site: <http://www.wits.ac.za/postgraduate/applications/> This application requires that you upload an official copy of your academic transcript.
- You will then be emailed a personalised link after the closing date to complete the Psychology Departmental application form (hosted on the RedCap platform).

3. What are the minimum requirements for the application?

General Psychology Honours:

- An undergraduate degree Majoring in Psychology
- A minimum average of 65% for third year psychology subjects. (Please note that while University rules do not allow acceptance of students into the programme whose third-year average falls below 65%, attainment of a 65% average is often insufficient to be offered a place due to a high demand for places in the course)

Organisational Psychology Honours:

- An undergraduate degree Majoring in Organisational/Industrial Psychology
- A minimum average of 65% for third year Organisational/Industrial Psychology subjects. (Please note that while University rules do not allow acceptance of students into the programme whose third-year average falls below 65%, attainment of a 65% average is often insufficient to be offered a place due to a high demand for places in the course)

4. Where do I need to upload my marks?

Non-Wits Student:

- If you are currently in third year at another (Non-Wits) university, we will require your mid-year results for this application, and you will then have to supply your final marks to the psychology department as soon as they become available. These should be uploaded with your online application through the Wits Student Enrolment Centre.
- If you have already completed your undergraduate degree (at Wits or another university), we will require a record of your final marks for Third Year Psychology as well as any research courses in Psychology that you have

completed. Wits students do not need to upload a transcript as we have these on record.

Wits student:

- If you are currently in third year at Wits in 2023, we will require a record of your mid-year results to complete this application. You do not need to supply your final marks to the psychology department as we will have access to them as soon as they become available.

5. What are the selection criteria?

- The selection of candidates is based on **academic performance as well as consideration of equity, diversity, and social redress**. The weighting of these aspects is to some extent dependent upon the nature of the applicant pool in any given year. The demographic information requested in the departmental application form is collected in order to serve, in part, as a basis for evaluating applicants' potential contributions to diversity in the course. This information also assists the selection committee to assess applicants' performance relative to levels of (dis)advantage.
- Potential candidates **PLEASE NOTE** that because of over-subscription, many students who meet the faculty minimum criterion for entry into an honours degree (65% average for psychology courses) may not be offered a place on the programme.

6. What is the duration of the degree?

Full-time students:

- The Honours in Psychology and the Honours in Organizational Psychology programmes are both one-year full-time courses. **Please be aware of this before you apply to one of these programmes and ensure that you will be able to make a full-time commitment to postgraduate study.**
- Attendance at all classes is compulsory and you should ensure that you have the necessary financial resources to complete the year.
- Please note that applicants may only be permitted to enrol for an Honours degree once their undergraduate degree has been successfully completed.
- Concurrent registration for another degree or qualification whilst studying in any of the Honours programmes is not permitted.

Part-time students:

- Students wishing to complete their degree part-time (over 2 years) will need to indicate this wish on the departmental application form, where the option to apply into the WitsPlus (night classes) option will need to be ticked.
- Students are required to tick either the full-time or part-time option. **Applications for both programmes are not permitted.**

7. How many applications do you receive for the BA Honours in Psychology programme each year?

- The department receives on average of 4000 completed applications for the honour's programmes

8. How many applicants are accepted into the honour's programmes?

- The numbers vary each year based on institutional Faculty targets. For the year 2023, the classes numbers are as follows:

General Psychology full-time: 100 students

General psychology part-time: 25 students

Organisational Psychology full-time: 24 students

Organisational Psychology Part-time: 25 students

9. When can I expect feedback on my application status?

- In the case of the Honours in Psychology course, the top ranked applicants are shortlisted end October; firm offers are then made in mid-December and beginning of January based on final year marks.
- Non-Wits candidates will need to **upload final year transcripts to their SENC online applications portal** as soon as possible to ensure entrance into the course.
- Candidates who are waitlisted for places in the course will see a 'decision pending' status on their online applications. **Waitlisted candidates may be contacted any time between December and February.**

10. Will I get feedback on the reasons my application was not successful?

- Unsuccessful applicants with completed applications will be notified via the university system. The Psychology Department does not provide feedback on the outcome of applications. The selection process is highly competitive and, if you were unsuccessful, it is typically due to there being stronger applicants.

11. My application has been declined and I would like to query this?

- The psychology honours programmes have limited spaces
- Applicants are ranked based on their marks and only the top applicants can be invited to join the class
- Given the increasing number of applicants for the programme, the application process has become a lot more competitive
- It is unfortunately not possible to provide individual feedback to unsuccessful applicants due to large applicant numbers or for applicants to appeal the selection committee's decision

12. If I have been accepted into the Honours programme, when will I be able to register?

- Post-graduate registration generally closes just before classes begin
- Students will be asked to register **only once they have been allocated their elective modules** which happens during Orientation Week, in the week prior to the start of classes
- Students are asked not to register beforehand
- Once registration has been completed, students may apply for parking permits, access cards etc.
- **Students who require proof of acceptance for funding or residence applications should contact the course co-ordinator directly**

13. Does the Honours programme have an Orientation, and if so, do I need to attend?

- There is a week of orientation in the week prior to the start of classes, information will be communicated to the successful applicants.
- Attendance of orientation is compulsory as students receive essential input and introduction to the compulsory modules, as well as other essential information about the year ahead
- During orientation students are allocated their elective modules, based on their preferences and course availability
- Non-attendance of orientation week needs to be communicated directly to the course co-ordinator

For Inquiries e-mail: selections.psychologyhonours@wits.ac.za