

Social Science Honours Information Session 2026

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Acknowledgement of Country

The University of Queensland (UQ) acknowledges the Traditional Owners and their custodianship of the lands on which we meet.

We pay our respects to their Ancestors and their descendants, who continue cultural and spiritual connections to Country.

We recognise their valuable contributions to Australian and global society.



Welcome from the Honours Convenor

Dr Jonah Rimer

Senior Lecturer in Criminology & Social Science Honours Convenor

My role is to oversee the recruitment, progression, examination, and development of Honours students in the School of Social Science 😊

What's Happening Today?

1. About Honours
2. How to apply - key dates and processes
3. School admin support



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About Honours

Should You Do Honours: Questions to Ask Yourself

- Do I like research / do I want to learn more about how to do research?
- Are there topics that interest and excite me / that I'm passionate about?
- Do I want to work in jobs that use / apply more advanced research skills?
- Am I capable of independent work, time management, organisation, self-guided learning, etc? Honours requires much more independent learning and taking the lead than an undergraduate degree. The workload is more intense and involved than 3rd level undergraduate courses.
- Can I commit around 40 hours per week (if studying full-time) over 9 months?

Why Honours?

- Research skills that you learn in Honours can help in a variety of different jobs.
- You get to demonstrate and develop your use of complex problem-solving, critical thinking, creativity, as well as initiative and self-discipline.
- You get to demonstrate your ability to work independently to manage and complete a significant piece of work.
- You are being trained to be a researcher – thesis + coursework.
- It gives you the opportunity to see what doing an MPhil/PhD or research job might be like.
- It's challenging but achievable – a chance to develop as a person.
- You will get to be part of a small cohort of Honours students – collegiality 😊

School of Social Science Honours Programs

Degree	Majors/Specialisations
Bachelor of Arts (Hons)	• Anthropology • Archaeology • Criminology • Sociology
Bachelor of Criminology and Criminal Justice (Hons)	• Criminology
Bachelor of Science (Hons) & Bachelor of Advanced Science (Hons)	• Archaeological Science
Bachelor of Social Science (Hons)	• Development • Environment and Society • Health and Social Policy

Am I Eligible for Honours?

1. Are you on schedule to complete the required courses in your program?

- Request a progression check from the School of Social Science.
- Then request a graduation check from the Faculty of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences (HASS).

2. Have you completed a BA, BCCJ, BSocSc, BSc (or equivalent) with the required GPA? More information on next slides.

- You can still apply to Honours if you are waiting on final grades or have not yet had your Bachelor graduation.
- If not straightforward, keep talking with the Student Admin Team to make sure they are aware of your situation and where you are up to in your degree.

Entry Requirements (BA Degrees):

<https://social-science.uq.edu.au/honours-entry-requirements>

Anthropology

To enter Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Anthropology students must:

- have completed a bachelor's degree (or equivalent) and have a grade point average (GPA) of 5.0 on a 7-point scale, and;
- have completed a major in anthropology (or equivalent) with a GPA of 5.0 across 16 units of courses contributing to the major (calculated using the highest grades).

[↑ Top of page](#)

Archaeology

To enter Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Archaeology students must:

- have completed a bachelor's degree (or equivalent) and have a grade point average (GPA) of 5.0 on a 7-point scale, and;
- have completed an extended major in archaeology (or equivalent) with a GPA of 5.0 across 24 units of courses contributing to the extended major (calculated using the highest grades).

Criminology

To enter Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Criminology students must:

- have completed a BA (or equivalent) with an overall GPA of 5.0 on a 7-point scale, and a single major in criminology or equivalent; with a GPA of 5.0 or higher for criminology and sociology courses (calculated using the highest #16 units); and
- meet the application deadline.

NB: Students should note that an extended major is useful, though not necessary, for enrolment in criminology honours. Also, students wishing to undertake honours are strongly encouraged to have completed an advanced methods course such as SOCY3039: Applied Quantitative Research or SOCY3329: Qualitative Social Research, that complements their thesis methodology.

[↑ Top of page](#)

Sociology

To enter Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Sociology students must:

- have completed a BA (or equivalent) with an overall GPA of 5.0 on a 7-point scale, and a single major in sociology or equivalent; with a GPA of 5.0 or higher for sociology and criminology courses (calculated using the highest #16 units); and
- meet the application deadline.

NB: Students wishing to undertake honours are strongly encouraged to have completed an advanced methods course such as SOCY3039: Applied Quantitative Research or SOCY3329: Qualitative Social Research, that complements their thesis methodology.

Entry Requirements (All Other Degrees):

<https://social-science.uq.edu.au/honours-entry-requirements>

Bachelor of Criminology and Criminal Justice (Honours)

To enter the Bachelor of Criminology and Criminal Justice (Honours) students must:

- have completed a UQ Bachelor of Criminology and Criminal Justice (or equivalent) with a GPA of 5 in all Level 2 and Level 3 BCCJ Core Courses; and
- meet the application deadline.

NB: Should a student apply from another tertiary institution, the GPA will be calculated on the basis of the equivalent advanced courses completed.

[↑ Top of page](#)

Bachelor of Social Science (Honours)

To enter Bachelor of Social Science (Honours) students must:

- have completed a Bachelor of Social Science (or equivalent) with an overall GPA of 5.0 on a 7-point scale, and a GPA of 5.0 for higher advanced core, and advanced major courses; and
- meet the application deadline.

Archaeological Science

To enter Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Archaeology students must:

- have completed a BSc (or equivalent) with an overall GPA of 4 on a 7-point scale, and a GPA of at least 4.5 over #8 of late year courses from the Archaeological Science course list; and
- meet the application deadline.



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Understanding Your Program Structure

Full Time Honours:

Year	Semester One	Semester Two
1	HHSS6020: Research Design in the Social Sciences (#4) SOSC6012: Honours Research Thesis	SOSC6012: Honours Research Thesis (#12)

Part Time Honours:

Year	Semester One	Semester Two
1	HHSS6020: Research Design in the Social Sciences (#4)	SOSC6014: Honours Research Thesis
2	SOSC6014: Honours Research Thesis	SOSC6014: Honours Research Thesis (#12)

* Honours is delivered in-person only. There are no external offerings.

Honours Coursework



HHSS6020: Research Design in the Social Sciences (S1)

- Advanced coursework in research design, theory, and communication
- Advanced research skills to design and manage your project

Assessment summary

Category	Assessment task	Weight	Due date
Participation/ Student contribution	Thesis outline/structure document submission and peer feedback participation  Hurdle  In-person	10%	13/03/2026 - 20/03/2026 one-page thesis outline due 2pm 13/03/2026. Peer feedback session due in-class on 20/03/2026.
Participation/ Student contribution	Research module completion  Online	20%	2/03/2026 - 22/05/2026
Paper/ Report/ Annotation	Discipline specific research proposal on thesis topic  Hurdle	40%	22/05/2026 2:00 pm
Presentation	Presentation on honours research topic  Identity Verified  In-person	30%	1/05/2026 - 29/05/2026

SOSC6012 / 6014: Honours Research Thesis

SOSC6012 (Full Time) / SOSC6014 (Part Time):

- Independent research on a thesis topic in your research area guided by an academic supervisor.
- Students develop a research topic in consultation with their supervisor, and design, execute, and report on that research in a multi-chapter thesis.
- Thesis is 12,000–15,000 words.
- Make sure your project is **feasible** within the Honours time frame and you have backup plans. This includes identifying a point in time with your supervisor where a project will be rescoped if things are not working out perfectly.
- In addition to the thesis itself, there is also an in-person pass / fail oral defence hurdle after submission.

Should I Do Honours Full-Time or Part-Time?

Honours requires commitment – 40 hours / week (full time).

Decide early!

It is difficult to switch from full-time Honours to part-time Honours after the first few weeks, because the program structures are different.

Mode of Study

Please note Honours is delivered in person only.
There are no external offerings available.

In Person Mode:

- Regular in-person attendance on campus throughout the semesters.
- Attendance will be required on campus for HHSS6020.
- Attendance will be required on campus for your oral defence.
- Meetings with your Thesis Advisor can be online or offline as agreed between you and them.



Expectations

- Honours requires much more independent learning and taking the lead than an undergraduate degree
- Meet your Thesis Advisor(s) regularly
 - Set a schedule for meetings, project milestones, and drafts
 - Find out if they will be on leave for an extended period (fieldwork, conference travel, etc.)
- Meet deadlines agreed between you and your Thesis Advisor(s) so you keep the thesis progressing along
- Keep your advisor(s) informed of any circumstances that impair the progress of your studies – they can help!
- Be professional and prompt with emails, and stay in continual communication
- Upskill in methods or academic writing if you feel weaker in these areas
- Take time to meet with your fellow Honours students so you can support each other and learn from each other

Thesis Advisor(s):

- Are there to support you in your project – but it is **YOUR** project
- The student-advisor relationship is a professional and collegial one
- Help formulate/guide your project, provide advice, method training, refine concepts, etc.
- Do not do your project for you or write your thesis text
- Reading of drafts is LIMITED, but discussions should be taking place regularly
 - Make the most of the readings you have – ask questions, submit your “best” draft, be prepared to make suggested changes
- Don't be afraid to contact your Thesis Advisor(s) - they are there to advise you!

CRICOS code 00025B



What Level of Work is Expected from Me?

- Honours is the next level in your academic development, and the opportunity for you to put into practice the concepts and skills you have learned throughout your undergraduate study.
- Therefore, the workload is more intense and involved than 3rd level undergraduate courses. Note the course codes begin with a 6, not a 3, indicating that you will need to step up your work rate for your Honours studies.
- Make sure to give yourself the time in your schedule to devote to Honours research and writing.
- Honours thesis – 12,000-15,000 words – can't be written overnight!
- You will also be required to attend an oral defence hurdle during the exam period after your thesis has been examined.



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How to Apply for Honours

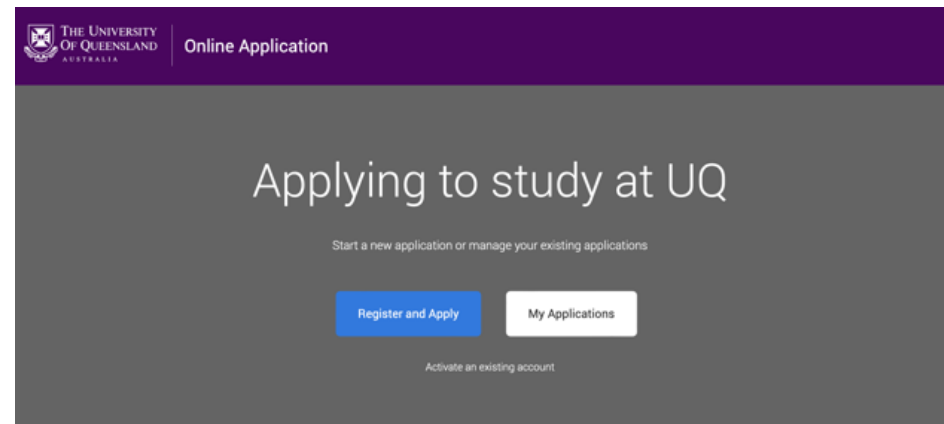
<https://social-science.uq.edu.au/honours-how-apply>

Applying for Honours

1. School of Social Science EOI

Expression of Interest (EOI) - Expressions of Interest forms (PDF) will be available online after the Honours Information Session. Expression of Interest forms for students who are interested in commencing Honours in 2027 are due on the **30th October 2026 (Friday Week 13)**.

2. UQ Online Application



Submit BOTH the School EOI and the UQ Online Application by **30th October 2026 (Friday Week 13)**

School of Social Science EOI

Due 30th October 2026 (Friday Week 13)

Expression of Interest (EOI) required for all students applying for Honours

- Personal details (name, email, etc.)
- Program details (program you are applying to and study load)
- What is the topic you wish to investigate in your Honours Thesis and why does this interest you? **Maximum 300 words**
- What are the key research questions your proposed project would seek to answer? **Maximum 150 words**
- What are the proposed methods and data you would use to answer your research questions? **Maximum 150 words**
- Whether you have spoken to an academic staff member about your topic / ideas, and if so, who (not required)
- Confirmation / acknowledgement of two pieces of information about applications

Not a “test,” nor something you will be forced to stick with exactly if admitted; rather, a way for the School and disciplines to help understand your interests and who may be best suited to supervise you.

School of Social Science EOI

Word maximums are enforced (fillable PDF with limits built into it)

PDF can be saved as you work and opened again later. Do not need to complete in one go.

When filling out:

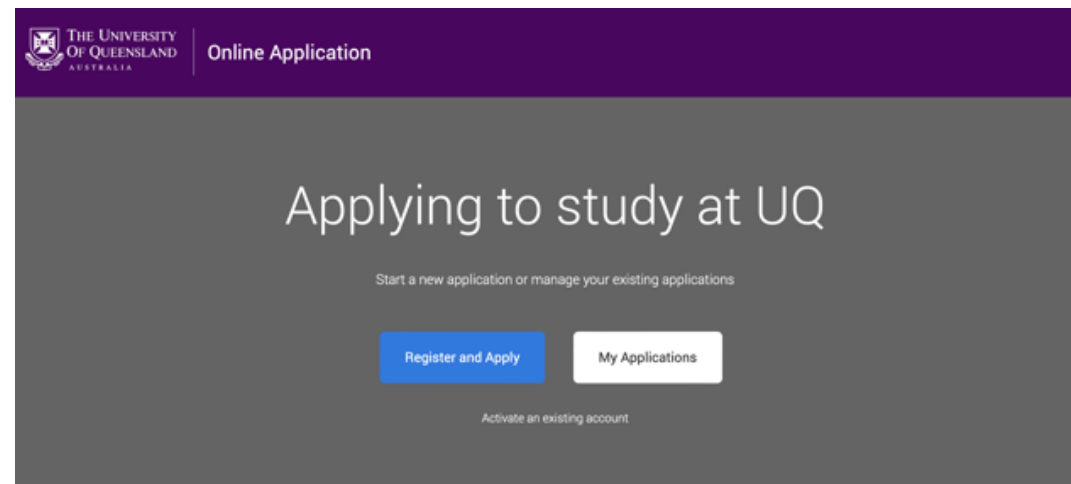
- Type on a computer and **do not handwrite / scan** (all parts are fillable including text boxes, check marks, and declarations)
- Type directly into the PDF, avoid copy-pasting from Microsoft Word or other programs, as typing directly will retain the necessary sizing for word limits to fit into boxes

Fillable PDF that you **download from the School Honours website** and then **email completed to student.socsci@uq.edu.au**

Online Application

Once you have completed and submitted the School of Social Science Honours Expression of Interest form, proceed to complete the UQ Online Application form via the link below:

- <https://apply.uq.edu.au/>
- Submit BOTH the School EOI and the UQ Online Application by **30th October 2026 (Friday Week 13)**.



Supervisor Allocation

At the School of Social Science, Honours students are allocated their supervisors - students do not choose their supervisors. If you have spoken with an academic about supervision, this will be considered, but the School makes no guarantee that the academic you have spoken with will be your supervisor. The School may limit places depending on supervisor availability. Once eligibility is established, entry is via a competitive selection process.

- Completion of the application and EOI **does not guarantee entry into Honours**. It is a competitive process, and spaces may be limited depending on supervisor availability.
- You are welcome to speak with academics about potential projects and/or potential availability for next year. However, **they cannot guarantee you a place or supervision**. Everyone must go through the EOI and application process.
- Students are **allocated supervisors** matching preferences / projects where possible.
- If admitted, it is possible that the project you work on will differ from your EOI, and/or that the supervisor you might request will be different to the one allocated. The EOI is to help get a sense of your areas, topics, and methods of interest, and to assist with supervisor allocation.

What Happens After I Submit My EOI and Online Application?

- Applications and EOIs assessed by Honours Convenor, School of Social Science academic staff, and School of Social Science student admin staff.
- Students allocated to supervisors.
- Students notified of conditional application outcome and, if successful, supervisor in December via student email.
- Students can then contact supervisor to find out more about working with them (but not expected to begin working until Semester 1 2027).



Where Do I Get Help?

Support systems and who does what

School of Social Science Student Administration Team

Student Admin Team
School of Social Science
Level 3, Michie Building (#9)
student.socsci@uq.edu.au

- Enrolment planning
- **Questions about courses and Honours, including applications**
- Assessment – SoSS extension requests, deferred examination applications
- How to contact academic staff
- UG Social Science events
- Support for student society
- Anything really – we can help point you in the right direction!

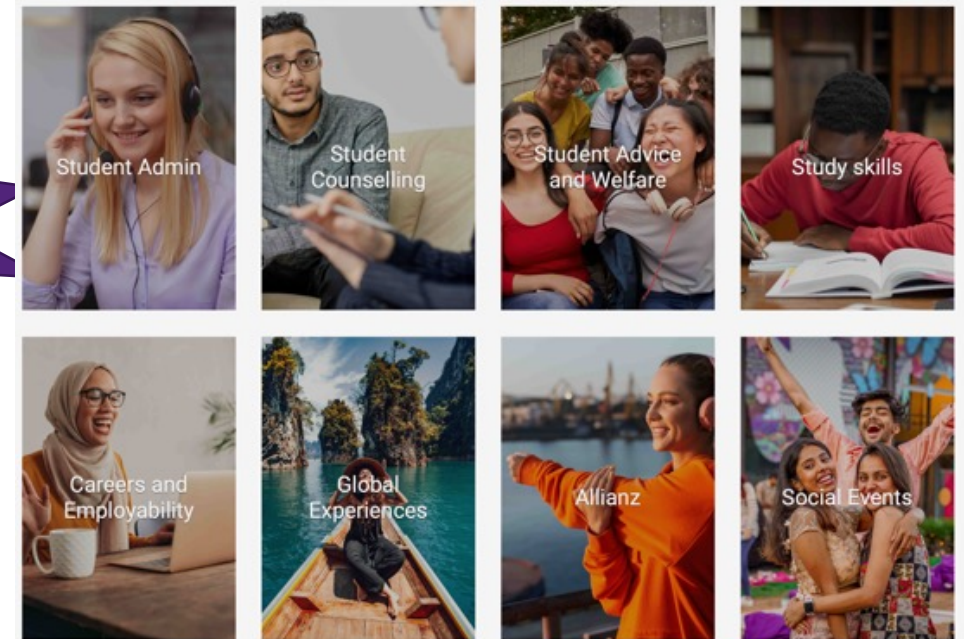
Our main office is on level 3 of the Michie Building

Open 9am-12pm & 1pm-4pm Mon-Fri

Student Services (Student Central)

- Learning Assistance
- Disability Support
- Counselling Services
- International Student Services
- Careers & Employment Services
- Accommodation
- Multi-faith chaplaincy
- Lots of workshops for skill development & support

ALL FREE!



Located at Student Central, Bld 42

School of Social Science Library Services

Get help with:

- Finding assignment resources
- Search strategies and using databases
- Book purchase requests
- Referencing
- Using EndNote
- Laptop loans

For assistance email librarians@library.uq.edu.au



Library tours in O-week!

Get support

HASS Student Administration Team

- Degree questions
- Credit requests
- Academic progress
- Overseas study approval

Contact

hass.uq.edu.au/contact

School Student Administration Team

- Course questions
- Timetables
- Assessment
- **Any questions about Honours administration**

Contact

<https://social-science.uq.edu.au/contact>

HASS Student Futures Team

- Extra-curricular opportunities
- Career mentoring and seminars
- Leadership development

Contact

hass.uq.edu.au/enrich-your-study-experience

UQ Student Services

- Learning assistance
- Disability support
- Counselling
- International student services
- Accommodation
- Multi-faith chaplaincy

Contact

my.uq.edu.au/student-support



All Honours Information and EOI Form:

<https://social-science.uq.edu.au/honours>

Questions?