

MA (Clinical Psychology)

Application Guide for 2024

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for considering the University of Johannesburg to undertake preparation to become a Clinical Psychologist. The Department of Psychology offers the MA Clinical Psychology programme, which leads to registration as a Clinical Psychologist with the Health Professions Council of South Africa. This full-time, two-year programme encompasses the broad spectrum of Clinical Psychology curriculum. The first year is presented in English on the Kingsway Campus in Auckland Park, while the second year comprises an internship at an accredited clinical mental healthcare facility in South Africa. Due to the demands of this programme you will not be able to hold any other full time or part time employment.

The programme runs over two years, and is made up of three components, namely a) structured teaching component (also referred to as M1), b) a research project component (also referred to as a minor dissertation), and c) an accredited internship (also referred to as M2). During M1, you will be expected to attend class in the form of workshops, contact sessions, blended learning and participate in practical work. After completing M1, you have to complete an internship at an accredited site. This internship (M2) is part of the degree.

To gain entrance to the MA Clinical Psychology programme, your application will undergo a two-step process of evaluation. The first step entails a review of your application documents for eligibility to be invited to participate in step 2. The second step entails our interaction with you during the selection week, whereby suitability and potential for preparation, in context and in comparison, will be determined.

Please read the instructions thoroughly. Should you decide to withdraw from the selection process after having submitted your application, please inform the Department of Psychology immediately.

We wish you all the best for your prospective studies.

IP Khumalo, PhD

Associate Professor: Psychology

Programme Coordinator

MINIMUM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- A recognized BA/BSc Honours degree in Psychology or an equivalent (i.e., NQF level = 8) at a recognized South African or foreign university. Applicants should have obtained **a minimum average of 65%** for their Honours degree. Qualifications obtained from outside of South Africa have to be verified by the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA).
- The Honours Degree must have been completed **less than ten years** prior to application.
- Successful applicants will only be provisionally accepted until such time that official Honours examination results are available and the applicant is in possession of an Honours degree with marks that make the required threshold. In other words, the selected applicant must have complied with all the requirements of the Honours degree before the beginning of the MA Clinical Psychology programme. Students who may still need to write exams in January 2024 will therefore not be considered.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

1. Complete the online UJ web-application.
2. The Departmental application form will be completed online this year.
3. **NB** - you can only apply for either Clinical or Counselling – **NOT BOTH**. Please do not make your 1st choice Clinical and 2nd choice Counselling or vice versa.
4. The closing date is **7 July 2023 at 12:00 (midday)**.
5. **The following documents must be included with the Departmental application :**
 - a. Completed and signed Departmental Application;
 - b. Certified copy of your academic record and/or **progress report** indicating marks to date;
 - c. Please **do not** password-protect any uploaded documents.
 - d. Proof of payment.
 - e. **No other documents please.**
 - f. Applicants who are still enrolled in an Honours course must provide their provisional results for the first semester (compulsory). Obtained and stamped as an original by the Psychology Department of their university.
 - g. As we receive hundreds of applications, for ease of reference, please label every document as follows:
UJ Student number, surname, initials & document name
e.g. 2024111111 Surname Initials – Academic record
2024111111 Surname Initials – Proof of payment
6. **TWO** referee reports from individuals who are able to comment on your academic and/or professional performance.

Please note: Referee reports must reach the Department of Psychology **before 12:00pm (midday) on 7 July 2023. These should be sent by the referees themselves and not the applicant to the address on the referee form.**
7. Compulsory administration fee of R300 (EFT or Direct Bank Deposits only) – non-refundable. This applies to both internal and external students and returning students.

NB - Please do not use ANY other or older banking details

Bank: FNB

Name of Beneficiary: UJ Psychology

Account Number: 626 158 73149

Type of Account: Cheque Account

Branch: Main Street

Branch Code: 250655

REFERENCE: **005160.Clin**

ONLY this reference will be permitted

Please note:

- **NO LATE OR INCOMPLETE** documentation will be accepted. *If there is not a progress report or academic record attached to your application it will be deemed incomplete and will not be processed.*
- It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that the documentation reaches the selection committee before the deadline. Therefore, allow enough time for your application to reach us.
- The Department of Psychology cannot take responsibility for documentation that is sent to the incorrect email address or does not follow the specified process.

South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA)

All international students need to have their qualifications evaluated by SAQA, before applying to the University of Johannesburg for any of the programs on postgraduate level. Please go to www.saqa.org.za for more information.

SELECTION PROCESS

Registered Clinical Psychologists (academic staff of the UJ Department of Psychology, and co-opted/ invited staff from internship sites) participate in the selection process. This process can be summarized as follows:

Initial screening

All applications are considered by the selection panel and rated according to a number of criteria. One of these criteria is previous academic performance. Only applicants who have obtained an average of **minimum 65% in Honours** and **70% at third year level** (for applicants still enrolled in Honours) will be considered. The minimum of 65% for a previous qualification is a basic requirement for consideration when applying for a Masters degree under any ordinary circumstances. In a high demand professional preparation programme such as this MA Clinical Psychology programme, the threshold increases as a function of the received number and quality of applications. Based on this initial screening process, determined mainly your previous academic performance and other relevant information entailed in your application, we will invite a maximum of 80 applicants to the Selection week. The Selection week takes place between 31 July 2023 and 4 August 2023. Applicants will be informed via e-mail whether they are invited to the Selection **from** 21 July 2023.

Selection week

The selection week, taking place in person at the Auckland Park Campus of the University of Johannesburg, comprises several interactive and written activities undertaken in groups or as individuals. The members of the clinical Psychology teaching/ preparation team collaborate in rating applicants' performance in the various activities. From this series of activities over a period of between two and three days, 20 applicants will be invited to the final panel interview, through which a selection of 8 will be made. In addition to the selected 8, another 6 applicants will be placed on a waiting list, to be applied if/ when any of the primary 8 declines an offered position.

The strength and quality of the applicant is determined on the basis of a collation of scores from the individual members of the selection panel as well as their discussion for consensus. Applicants will be informed in writing as to whether their applications have been successful.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Several criteria are considered in determining whether an applicant is suitable for selection into the MA Clinical Psychology programme, with potential for preparation to be a Clinical Psychologist being at the forefront of the selection panel. These can be clustered as follows:

- Cognitive competencies (e.g. strong academic record; research ability)
- Professional competencies (e.g. maturity; capacity to have a positive impact on others; field-related experience)
- Interpersonal competencies and personal qualities (e.g. verbal communication skills; interpersonal sensitivity)
- Potential to contribute to the required transformation of the discipline and profession of (Clinical) Psychology in (South) Africa. Transformation in this regard refers to discipline's increased concern with lives and personhood of the population of South Africa, the provision of professional services to the population of South Africa.
- A good and critical grasp/ understanding of the profession of Psychology in the South African context.

Please note that the above list is not exhaustive and that the selection panel endeavours to consider applicants on the grounds of all-round balance and potential, as well as the country's needs for an adequate Psychology response to present day and future problems.

Due to the large number of applications we cannot, and will not provide any individual feedback to applicants whose applications were not successful.

We receive an overwhelming amount of applications each year. As such, some applicants who meet the minimum entry requirements may have their applications declined due to the competitiveness of the programme. The MA Clinical Psychology programme at UJ can only accommodate a maximum of 8 successful applicants for preparation.

The decision of the selection panel regarding successful applicants are final and binding.

CONTACT INFORMATION

UJ Online Application queries (**only**):

Student Enrolment Centre: (011) 559-4555

Student Enrolment Centre Online Chat: <https://www.uj.ac.za/admissions-aid/campus-life/chat/>

Departmental Application queries (**only**): clinicalpsych@uj.ac.za

Student Finance Department: <https://www.uj.ac.za/admission-aid/student-finance/>

Please do not contact the department once you have applied. Official decision letters will only be sent out after paper selections have taken place.

Please refer to the web page regularly for new updates.

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

The programme consists of three major components: coursework, practical training and research. Overall, the programme is not committed to any one theoretical perspective, and the development on an integrative approach is encouraged. Contributors to the programme will articulate the philosophical perspectives which inform their teaching.

1. Research

Research forms an integral part of postgraduate studies, and students are required to complete a minor dissertation. The minor dissertation contributes to 50% of the final mark for the degree.

2. Coursework

The coursework consists of the following:

- Therapeutic Psychology I (Individual approaches)
- Therapeutic Psychology II (Group approaches)
- Psychopathology, psychodiagnostics
- Psychological assessment
- Child and adolescent psychotherapy and psychopathology
- Integrated professional development

3. Practical work

Students have the opportunity to develop the necessary competencies and practical skills through experiential training in the coursework component, as well as through working in a practical placement.

INTERNSHIPS

The Internship, which forms part of the MA Clinical Psychology degree, is undertaken in the second year, therefore after completion of M1. The applicant bears the responsibility to apply for and secure an internship at an accredited clinical mental healthcare site.

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UJ online application process

If you are a new applicant please use the following link;

<https://www.uj.ac.za/studyatUJ/sec/Pages/postgraduate.aspx>

If you are a returning student, use your student number and this 5-digit PIN, log into the following returning applicant web link to complete your online application:

https://registration.uj.ac.za/pls/prodi41/w99pkg.mi_login

Once logged into the system, click on Academic/Residence Application as per the print screen below. Thereafter, click on POPIA (if *not* already accepted), accept it and then click on Upgrading Grade 12 Results? To indicate if you are currently upgrading or have already upgraded your grade 12 results.

The screenshot shows the 'University of Johannesburg' header with the date 'Monday, 6th April 2020'. Below the header, the 'Student Number' and 'Name: MiSS' are displayed. A note states: 'Please supply the required information to complete the Request for Information. All fields with an * must be completed.' The main content area has a left sidebar with a 'Student Web' menu containing: 'Update Address/Contact Details', 'Academic/Residence Application' (highlighted), 'Proforma Rules and Regulations', 'POPIA', 'Upgrading Grade 12 Results?' (highlighted), 'Academic/Residence Application', and 'Registration'. The main area contains two text input fields: 'Please indicate where in the process of upgrading you are?' and 'Please Select Your Student Number and ID Number from the List', both with search icons. A 'Save' button is at the bottom.

Thereafter click on Academic/Residence Application. Then click on “Show” under the *Academic Applications* category

The screenshot shows the 'University of Johannesburg' header. Below the header, a note states: 'Header note for returning student applications'. The main content area has a left sidebar with a 'Student Web' menu containing: 'Update Address/Contact Details', 'Academic/Residence Application' (highlighted), 'Proforma Rules and Regulations', 'POPI Act', 'Academic/Residence Application' (highlighted), 'Registration', 'SAICA Registration Online Prog', 'PRBU Registration Online Prog', 'Changes to Registration', 'Residence Registration', 'Cheque and Credit Card', 'Payment', 'Proforma Statement', 'AOD (Acknowledgment of Debt)', 'SRC Fund Fund Applications', 'SRC Fund and Meal Application', 'Appointment Humanities', and 'Faculty'. The main area contains a list of application categories: 'Biographical Information', 'Address Information', 'Contact Information', 'Contact Persons Information', 'Disabilities', 'School Leaving Subjects', 'Previous Studies', and 'Academic Applications'. Each category has a 'Show' link. The 'Academic Applications' category is highlighted.

After clicking on show, a list of all your previous applications will show and a button on the bottom right named 'Add New Academic Application'. Click on "Add New Academic Application" as per screenshot below.

Academic Applications				
Note: Academic Application notes for returning student applications				
Hide Academic Applications				
Academic Year	Academic Preference	Qualification	Description	Admission Status
2020	1	B1C1TQ	BComHons in IT Management	HONOURS ADMITTED
2019	1	B1C1SQ	BCom IN INFORMATION SYSTEMS	SENIORS ADMITTED
2018	1	B1C1SQ	BCom IN INFORMATION SYSTEMS	SENIORS ADMITTED
2017	1	B1C1SQ	BCom (INFORMATION SYSTEMS)	SENIORS ADMITTED
2016	1	BC0014	BCom (ACCOUNTING)	CANCELLED
2016	3	B1C1SQ	BCom (INFORMATION SYSTEMS)	ADMITTED
Add New Academic Application				

Please note that you may not need to capture a "Qualification Specific Token" unless it is provided to you. So please leave this field empty. Also note that the token is *not the same* as the qualification code provided in the prospectus, by the institution.

You may search for the qualification by using a few letters of the qualification name (viz. LLM) or using the qualification code on the yellow highlighted space shown below:

University of Johannesburg
Monday, 27th January 2020

Process Trail: Qualification

Choice of Programme or Qualification

Student Number:
Name: MSS

Note: Select your intended year of study from the "Academic Year" list provided Enter a word or phrase pertaining to your intended field of study. This function will perform a search for an exact match of the text entered All fields indicated with a * must be completed.

Academic Year: 2020

Enter a Qualification Specific Token if Applicable:

Find A Programme or Qualification Containing:

Restrict the Search to: Do not restrict any programme

Search Return to the Application Process

Please ensure that **certified copies** of all supporting documents that may be required, are individually scanned and emailed to ujappdocs@listsrv.uj.ac.za with your student number in the subject line. Please **certify your academic record at a commissioner of oaths/bank/post office/police station to avoid the docs being deleted**. When sending scan individually too ujappdocs@listsrv.uj.ac.za with your student number in the subject line and **do not write anything in the body of the email as it's a server link email**.

The qualification codes below;

Faculty - HUMANITIES

i	M7012Q	MA in Clinical Psychology (CW)
i	M7017Q	MA in Counselling Psychology (CW)
i	M7042Q	MA in Psychology (RD)
i	M7060Q	MSc in Psychology (RD)
i	P7023Q	PhD in Psychology
i	P7031Q	PhD in Psychology (RD)