

# PSYCHOLOGY

Degree: Master of Arts  
 Certificates: Cognitive Psychology, Health Psychology  
 Department: Psychology  
 Building 41, Room 250  
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 College: Arts and Sciences

Psychology is the study of human and animal behavior. Graduate training in Psychology entails in-depth exploration and understanding of the core foundations of the biological bases of behavior, the social bases of behavior, the acquired bases of behavior, and the individual bases of behavior. As a scientific discipline, the study of psychology also requires competence in research methodology, statistics, and critical thinking. Psychology is also an applied discipline, with applications in clinical health and mental health settings, business settings, and educational settings. Students completing a master's degree in Psychology will be prepared to pursue a wide range of careers at the master's level or to pursue advanced training at the doctoral level.

There are several areas of concentration in the master's program: General, Counseling, Counseling-Licensed Mental Health Counselor, and Industrial-Organizational. Students seeking to complete the M.A. degree in Psychology must meet the general University requirements, the Psychology Department graduate core requirements, and the specialized requirements of the student's chosen area of concentration. The student also has the option of fulfilling requirements for a certificate in Cognitive Psychology or Health Psychology, within the requirements for the master's degree.

In addition to general University requirements, students seeking the M.A. in Psychology must meet the requirements listed below.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

General university requirements for admission to graduate programs are described in the Graduate Admissions section. Graduate departments are currently developing departmental admission guidelines to govern admission to their specific disciplines. Refer to individual departments for more details regarding acceptable graduate admissions test, minimum score requirements, etc. In addition to general university requirements applicants must submit the following items to the department:

- Applications for admission for summer and fall semesters are due on the preceding February 1. This application is for the Department of Psychology only, and supersedes all other published deadlines. Files completed after the published deadline may not be reviewed in time to enroll in the desired semester.
- Three letters of recommendation
- A letter of intent indicating reasons and goals for pursuing the M.A. degree in psychology

- A completed departmental supplementary data form
- Counseling concentration applicants may also have an interview part of the admission process

Applicants can assume that their files are incomplete until they receive a letter from the department indicating that files are complete.

The following are the minimum admission requirements:

- A bachelor's degree in psychology (preferably) or a bachelor's degree with the completion of at least general/introductory psychology, experimental psychology, three semester hours of statistics, and a psychology course in the area of intended master's emphasis. Any of these requirements may be waived if the student demonstrates competence in the area. Although a student may be admitted with deficiencies, the requirements must be fulfilled before the student is admitted to any 6000-level course. In addition, certain graduate courses have specific undergraduate prerequisites.
- If admitted, students are required to have EXP 4404 or its equivalent to complete the Acquired Bases of Behavior core in the M.A. program.

## Non-Degree Students

The department may be petitioned to apply up to 12 semester hours earned at UWF as a non-degree student toward the M.A. degree, if the student is later admitted into the graduate program.

## DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Graduate students should develop their degree plans with their advisors during the first semester of graduate work. All students must complete University requirements and a planned degree program of at least 42 semester hours (45 semester hours for the Counseling Psychology Specialization; 60 semester hours for the Licensed Mental Health Counselor Specialization) with at least a 3.00 GPA and with these stipulations:

- Only 6 semester hours may be at the 3000- or 4000-level. Usually these hours may NOT be in psychology, especially prerequisites to the graduate program.
- Only with approval of the advisor and department chairperson may courses outside the Psychology Department (except required courses) be taken toward the total semester hours requirement.
- All students must complete PSY 6217; either STA 5206 or STA 5207 or STA 5166; and at least one course from each of the four core areas.

## Psychology Graduate Core (12 sh)

Choose one course in each area:

### Biological Bases of Behavior Core

CBH 5255	Comparative Behavior & Cognition.....	3
EXP 5208	Advanced Sensation & Perception .....	3
PSB 5035	Cognitive Neuroscience.....	3
PSB 6089	Brain & Mind: Fact & Fantasy .....	3

### Social Bases of Behavior Core

SOP	5617	Modern Organizational Theory .....	3
SOP	6069	Advanced Social Psychology .....	3
SOP	6669	Advanced Organizational Psychology .....	3
<b>Acquired Bases of Behavior Core</b>			
EAB	5705	Advanced Behavior Modification .....	3
EXP	6506	Advanced Cognitive Psychology .....	3

**Individual Bases of Behavior Core**

DEP	5055	Developmental Psychology .....	3
PCO	6216	Theories of Individual Counseling .....	3
PPE	5055	Advanced Personality Theory .....	3

Toward the end of graduate work, the student must have an integrative experience consisting of 6 semester hours of PSY 6917, PSY 6948 (PCO 6948 for counseling students), or PSY 6971. For each semester that the student is working on the supervised research, thesis or internship, the student must register for at least one semester hour of thesis or internship credit. A maximum of 6 semester hours of supervised research, thesis or internship credit may be counted toward the semester hour (45 sh for Counseling Psychology Specialization; 60 sh for the Licensed Mental Health Counselor Specialization) degree requirement. Students doing an internship are required to submit a portfolio and paper as described in the Psychology Graduate Student Handbook. Upon completion of the thesis or internship, the student must present an oral defense to a master's committee of at least two psychology faculty members.

The Supervised Research integrative experience is the Terminal Independent Academic Research Activity (TIARA). This can be accomplished by students completing 6 hours of PSY 6917, Supervised Research. This option allows students to design and complete an independent empirical study under the supervision of a two member faculty supervisory committee with the committee head being a tenure track faculty member from The Department of Psychology. The terminal experience for students who choose this option will consist of three elements: (1) completing an empirical study and having an initial defense before the TIARA committee; (2) making an oral presentation to the students and faculty of the Department and invited guests; and (3) preparing a manuscript intended for publication in a refereed academic journal.

With the advisor's approval, a student may apply a maximum of 6 semester hours of graduate work taken at another university toward the degree. With the approval of the department chairperson, a maximum of 10 semester hours of transfer credit may be accepted toward the degree.

All master's work must have been taken within seven years preceding completion of the degree requirements or the student may be required to demonstrate currency, e.g., to pass an examination covering the expired course work.

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## GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY CONCENTRATION

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The General Psychology Concentration is designed for those students who wish to do graduate work with a focus on research and its application in areas of psychology

such as biological psychology, cognitive neuroscience, cognitive psychology, developmental psychology, experimental psychology, health psychology, or human factors psychology. Graduates from the General Psychology Concentration typically matriculate into doctoral programs at major universities or find employment in community college teaching, research centers, public agencies, or industry.

The 42 semester hour curriculum provides depth in the basic content areas of psychology (e.g. cognitive neuroscience, cognitive, developmental, social), the research tools of psychology (e.g. research design, statistics), and in-depth study in the student's field of interest through electives, independent study, supervised research, and the thesis.

With a faculty advisor, each student develops an individualized program. Courses used to meet departmental core requirements may not be used to meet general psychology specialization requirements. Examples of areas of possible student specialization include behavior modification, biological psychology, cognitive science, developmental psychology, health psychology, human factors, sensation and perception, and social psychology.

**Concentration Courses (9 sh minimum)**

Choose at least 9 sh from:

CBH	5255	Comparative Behavior & Cognition .....	3
DEP	5055	Developmental Psychology .....	3
EAB	5705	Advanced Behavior Modification .....	3
EAB	5738	Behavioral Medicine .....	3
EXP	5208	Advanced Sensation & Perception .....	3
EXP	6506	Advanced Cognitive Psychology .....	3
PSB	5035	Cognitive Neuroscience .....	3
PSB	6089	Brain & Mind: Fact & Fantasy .....	3
PSY	5016	Conjunctive Psychology .....	2
PSY	5016L	Conjunctive Psychology Lab .....	1
SOP	6069	Advanced Social Psychology .....	3

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## COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY CONCENTRATION

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The Counseling Psychology concentration is a non-licensure 45 semester hour graduate program designed primarily to prepare individuals for admission to a doctoral program in Clinical or Counseling Psychology. Students must complete the core departmental requirements, taking PCO 6216 to meet the Individual Bases of Behavior portion of the core, and the following:

**Concentration Courses (15 sh)**

CLP	5166	Psychopathology .....	3
PCO	6204	Pre-Practicum: Techniques of Counseling and Psychotherapy .....	3
PCO	6206C	Ethical & Professional Issues in Counseling .....	3
PCO	6246	Theories of Group Counseling .....	3
		Graduate Elective Course .....	3

**Application Courses (12 sh)**

PCO	6946	Practicum in Counseling .....	3
PCO	6948	Internship in Counseling .....	3
(Course offered 1-6 sh per semester)			

Choose one:

PSY 6917	Supervised Research..... 6 (Course offered 1-6 sh per semester)
PSY 6971	Thesis..... 6

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## COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY- LICENSED MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELOR

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The Licensed Mental Health Counselor option is a 60-hour program with requirements comparable to the requirements established by the Florida state board for licensure as a Mental Health Counselor. Attainment of the degree does not entail conferral of the license, which is governed by the state licensing board. Upon graduation from the licensure option, the individual should be in a position to qualify to register with the state licensing board as an intern and to obtain the two year post-degree supervised experience required by the board for licensure. Students must complete the core departmental requirements, taking PCO 6216 to meet the Individual Bases of Behavior portion of the core, and the following:

### **Concentration Courses (12 sh)**

CLP 5166	Psychopathology ..... 3
PCO 6204	Pre-Practicum: Techniques of Counseling and Psychotherapy ..... 3
PCO 6206C	Ethical & Professional Issues in Counseling..... 3
PCO 6246	Theories of Group Counseling ..... 3

### **Application Courses (9 sh)**

PCO 6946	Practicum in Counseling ..... 3
PCO 6948	Internship in Counseling..... 6 (Course offered 1-6 sh per semester)

Seven additional courses are required by the current Florida law in the areas of developmental psychology, human sexuality, vocational counseling, multicultural counseling, assessment, substance abuse, and community settings.

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## INDUSTRIAL-ORGANIZATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY CONCENTRATION

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The 42 semester hour Industrial-Organizational (I/O) concentration combines traditional personnel psychology (selection, performance appraisal, test construction and validation, fair employment practices, and legal issues) with the more interpersonal emphasis of organizational psychology (motivation, job satisfaction, leadership, interpersonal communication, organizational diagnosis, and change). Students select electives that will help them gain proficiency in areas of emphasis such as Personnel Psychology, Human Factors, or Organizational Development. The program includes an optional specialization in Organizational Development, offered in collaboration with the Department of Management and M.I.S. No more than 49% of the program requirements for the degree may be taken in traditional business subjects. The curriculum meets the needs of students who plan to be employed at the master's level in organizational settings as well as those who wish to pursue a doctoral program in a related field at another university.

### **Concentration Courses (11 sh)**

INP 5087	Ethics in I/O Psychology..... 1
INP 6216	Personnel Selection & Appraisal..... 3
SOP 5609	Current Issues in Industrial- Organizational Psychology ..... 1
SOP 6668	Organizational Change & Development..... 3

Choose one:

INP 6397	Management & Organizational Behavior..... 3
SOP 6669	Advanced Organizational Psychology..... 3

### **Additional Courses (10 sh)**

Students must complete at least 10 semester hours of elective courses relevant to I/O and chosen in consultation with the advisor.

Recommended electives include INP 5131, INP 6255, INP 6325, INP 6944, SOP 5617, SOP 6069, additional statistics courses.