

MASTER OF ARTS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Overview

The Master of Arts degree in Psychology (MAP) program, a non-clinical, non-licensure track program, is designed to cover all aspects of the psychology profession by emphasizing theory, research, and practice and to give students the broadest range of education and experience to expand their occupational and academic opportunities.

Students are equipped to pursue a career in the areas of industrial and organizational psychology, developmental psychology, or general psychology. This 30-credit program may also serve as a stepping-stone into various doctoral degrees.

Students examine, evaluate, and apply psychological principles and methods in a variety of settings. Each emphasis allows the student to focus on understanding and performing research pertinent to his or her area of study along with practical applications for prevention, intervention, and transformation. Whether the student seeks to impact lives through improving the learning of a child, empowering people to enhance relationships, or transforming the culture of a business, this dual focus gives the student the opportunity to stand out among others in their field of interest, increasing their marketability for jobs and future education.

The material within psychology courses can be sensitive in nature. You may read, study, watch, and discuss potentially disturbing topics. Some of the materials may result in difficulties for you. Some courses in the program require self-examination and/or public discussion regarding sexual history; history of abuse and neglect; psychological treatment; and relationships with parents, peers, and spouses or significant others. Please consult your instructor or an appropriate treatment provider should you have concerns or experience any difficulties.

Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) for the M.A. in Psychology

Graduates of the Master of Arts degree in Psychology program will be able to:

- **PLO 1:** Frame psychological theories and practices through a Christian worldview.
- **PLO 2:** Demonstrate effective written communication skills.
- **PLO 3:** Evaluate key personal and professional ethics affecting psychology professionals.
- **PLO 4:** Evaluate statistical analysis and data management.
- **PLO 5:** Examine cultural and diversity issues within the field of psychology.
- **PLO 6:** Apply theories, skills, and knowledge within the field of psychology.
- **PLO 7:** Demonstrate effective oral communication skills.

Program Requirements

Requirements for the M.A. in Psychology

Preparation for the Degree

STAT 280 with a grade of C- or higher, or its equivalent is a requisite for the major, specifically a prerequisite for PSYC 670. STAT 280 does not count toward graduate degree totals.

Requirements

This program features 10 classes at three credits each, which total 30 credits. Each course meets for eight weeks. The graduate student typically takes one course at a time completing two classes each semester. The major core component is 18 credits in length, while the second component consists of 12 credits of a chosen emphasis.

Requirement	Title	Credits
Major Core Requirements		18
Emphasis		12
Total Credits		30

Major Core Requirements

In order to earn the Master of Arts degree in Psychology, graduate students must complete the following required core courses while achieving a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0:

Requirement	Title	Credits
PSYC 510	Tests and Assessment	3
PSYC 520	Social and Cultural Psychology	3
PSYC 550	Professional and Ethical Issues	3
PSYC 670	Research and Evaluation Methods	3
PSYC 680	Literature Review Advanced Topic	3
PSYC 690	Graduate Psychology Culminating Experience	3
Total Credits		18

Emphasis

M.A. in Psychology students have the opportunity to select from one of the following three emphases:

PSYC 650	Child, Adolescent, and Family Issues and Interventions	3
Total Credits		12

General

Students with a general emphasis examine, evaluate, and apply psychological principles and methods in a variety of settings through psychoeducational training, intervention strategies, research, human service management, etc. These professionals are able to pursue careers in mental health agencies, correctional facilities, or schools; or the degree may be used in the pursuit of doctoral-level education.

Requirement	Title	Credits
ORGS 610	Organizational Behavior and Development	3
or PSYC 600	Industrial and Organizational Psychology	
PSYC 640	Applied Lifespan Development	3
or PSYC 650	Child, Adolescent, and Family Issues and Interventions	
Select two of the following:		6
PSYC 530	Motivational Psychology in Organizations	
PSYC 590	Personnel Selection, Training, and Development	
PSYC 620	Behavioral Assessment, Modification, and Management	
PSYC 630	Cognitive Development, Issues, and Interventions	
Total Credits		12

Industrial and Organizational Psychology

Students emphasizing in industrial and organizational psychology examine, evaluate, and apply theories and methods in workplace settings through continuous improvement strategies, positive performance interventions, motivational principles, and values-based approaches in the organization. Graduates build careers within the business sector in areas such as human resources, training, marketing, organizational development, and organizational behavior.

These professionals will be able to pursue careers as corporate researchers, consultants, or trainers; or the degree may be used in the pursuit of doctoral-level education.

Requirement	Title	Credits
ORGS 610	Organizational Behavior and Development	3
PSYC 530	Motivational Psychology in Organizations	3
PSYC 590	Personnel Selection, Training, and Development	3
PSYC 600	Industrial and Organizational Psychology	3
Total Credits		12

Developmental Psychology

Students emphasizing in developmental psychology address issues facing individuals from birth to death utilizing a foundation built on cognitive, behavioral, psychological, and theological approaches. Students focus on research, along with assessment, interventions, and application. This program prepares the graduate for careers in education, social services, mental health, or nonprofit organizations; or may be used in the pursuit of doctoral-level education.

Requirement	Title	Credits
PSYC 620	Behavioral Assessment, Modification, and Management	3
PSYC 630	Cognitive Development, Issues, and Interventions	3
PSYC 640	Applied Lifespan Development	3