

# PSYCHOLOGY, PHD

**Banner Code:** LA-PHD-PSYC

## Academic Advising

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The PhD in Psychology provides knowledge of the basic content areas in psychology and practical experience in applying this knowledge to solve human problems in relationships, work, and education. Core course requirements cover subject matter identified by the profession as essential to doctoral training. This includes biological, social, cognitive, and individual bases of behavior, as well as the history of psychology. The program offers the following concentrations: applied developmental psychology, clinical psychology, cognitive and behavioral neuroscience, human factors/applied cognition, and industrial/organizational psychology.

## Admissions & Policies

### Admissions

Applicants to all graduate programs at George Mason University must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in Graduate Admissions (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/admissions/graduate-policies/>).

For specific information, see Application Requirements and Deadlines (<http://psychology.gmu.edu/programs/application/LA-PHD-PSYC/>).

### Policies

For policies governing all graduate programs, see AP.6 Graduate Policies (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/>).

### Grading

Students in the doctoral program are evaluated on the basis of grades, comprehensive exams, research, and communication skills. In doctoral courses, a range of A to B- are the only acceptable grades. Students in the doctoral program must successfully complete comprehensive exams.

## Requirements

### Degree Requirements

Total credits: 72-79

Students should be aware of the specific policies associated with this program, located on the Admissions & Policies tab.

In addition to satisfying the requirements for all doctoral degrees, students must successfully complete 72–79 credits of required coursework chosen in one of five concentrations. Each concentration consists of four educational components: core courses, upper-level specialty courses, supervised practica, and dissertation.

- Concentration in Applied Developmental Psychology (APD)
- Concentration in Clinical Psychology (CLN)
- Concentration in Cognitive and Behavioral Neuroscience (CBNR)
- Concentration in Human Factors/Applied Cognition (HF)
- Concentration in Industrial/Organizational Psychology (IO)

## Concentration in Applied Developmental Psychology (APD)

### Overview

The applied developmental psychology concentration is concerned with enhancing developmental processes and preventing developmental disorders in individuals and families across the life span. It uses the knowledge base and methodologies of developmental science to assist the development of individuals who vary in cultural and ethnic backgrounds; economic and social opportunities; physical, social, emotional, and cognitive abilities; and conditions of living (e.g., families, neighborhoods, communities, and physical settings). The program's emphasis is on child development (infancy, early childhood, middle childhood, and adolescence), and students may focus their studies on the cognitive, social, emotional, language, personality, or physiological aspects of development.

The applied developmental concentration has two goals: to train students to teach and do research on basic and applied issues in child development for employment in such settings as universities, research institutes, and organizations, and to train students to do applied work in developmental psychology (consultation, program evaluation, assessment and evaluation, developmental interventions, and parent training) in such settings as schools, hospitals, courts, child care facilities, and other organizations.

Students pursuing this concentration must complete 72 credits comprised of doctoral coursework and at least 12 credits of dissertation research.

### Doctoral Coursework

#### Developmental Core

Code	Title	Credits
PSYC 704	Life-Span Development	3
Total Credits		3

#### Psychology Core

Code	Title	Credits
Select one course from the following:		3
PSYC 701	Cognitive Bases of Behavior	
PSYC 702	Biological Bases of Human Behavior	
PSYC 703	Social Bases of Behavior	
PSYC 707	Emotional Bases of Behavior	
Total Credits		3

#### Quantitative and Specialized Methods

Code	Title	Credits
PSYC 642	General Linear Modeling I	4
PSYC 643	General Linear Modeling II	4
Additional courses		9

**Choose at least two from the following:**

PSYC 555	Neuroimaging
PSYC 557	Psychometric Methods
PSYC 646	Longitudinal Data Analysis
PSYC 651	Doing Social Network Research in Psychological Science
PSYC 756	Quantitative Methods IV: Multivariate Techniques in Psychology
PSYC 757	Advanced Topics in Statistical Analysis (with approval)
PSYC 889	Structural Equation Modeling and Meta-Analysis
PSYC 592	Special Topics (with approval)
PSYC 892	Special Topics in Psychology (with approval)

**Additional course can be taken from the following:**

EDRS 631	Program Evaluation
EDRS 812	Qualitative Methods in Educational Research
EDRS 824	Mixed Methods Research: Integrating Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches
EDRS 828	Item Response Theory
EDRS 830	Hierarchical Linear Modeling
PSYC 592	Special Topics (when topic is Matlab for Psychologists)
PSYC 734	Seminar in Human Factors and Applied Cognition (when topic is Python for Psychology)
STAT 515	Applied Statistics and Visualization for Analytics

Total Credits 17

**Developmental Specialized Content**

Code	Title	Credits
Choose four courses from the following:		
PSYC 669	Social and Emotional Development	12
PSYC 566	Cognitive and Perceptual Development	
PSYC 615	Language Development	
PSYC 648	Developmental Psychopathology	
PSYC 780	Applied Developmental Psychology	
EDEP 822	Advanced Learning, Motivation, and Self-Regulation	
PSYC 592	Special Topics <sup>1</sup>	
or PSYC 892	Special Topics in Psychology	

Total Credits 12

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When topic is Adolescent Development; Autism Spectrum Disorders; Child Development and Social Policy; Executive Functions Development; or developmental in content, with approval.

**Professional Seminar/Professional Ethics**

Students take 1 credit in fall and 1 credit in spring of their first year and 1 additional credit at any other time (preferably in their second year).

Code	Title	Credits
PSYC 890	Seminar in Professional Psychology (3 credits)	1-3
Total Credits		3

**Directed Reading and Research or Practicum**

Students may fulfill this requirement with 8 credits of PSYC 897 Directed Reading and Research or a combination of PSYC 897 Directed Reading and Research and PSYC 792 Psychology Practicum.

Code	Title	Credits
Select 8 credits from the following:		
PSYC 897	Directed Reading and Research (can be repeated for credit)	8
PSYC 792	Psychology Practicum (A maximum of 6 credits may be applied to this requirement.)	
PSYC 850	Teaching Practicum in Psychology	8
Total Credits		

**Elective Courses**

Code	Title	Credits
Select 14 credits in consultation with your advisor to complete 72 total required for the degree.		14

Students complete the 72 credits required for the degree with additional coursework from within or outside the department, excluding PSYC 798 Thesis Proposal and PSYC 799 Master's Thesis, with prior approval of the advisor.

**Advancement to Candidacy**

To advance to candidacy, students must complete all courses required by the program. Students must also successfully complete and pass written and oral comprehensive exams.

**Dissertation Research**

The dissertation requirement is designed to demonstrate the student's ability to apply psychological principles to research problems. Once enrolled in PSYC 999 Doctoral Dissertation, students must follow the university's continuous registration policy as specified in AP.6.10.6 Dissertation Research (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/#ap-6-10-6>). Students who defend in the summer must be registered for at least 1 credit of PSYC 999 Doctoral Dissertation.

Students complete a minimum of 3 credits of PSYC 998 Doctoral Dissertation Proposal and 3 credits of PSYC 999 Doctoral Dissertation. They must apply a minimum of 12 dissertation credits (PSYC 998 Doctoral Dissertation Proposal and PSYC 999 Doctoral Dissertation combined) to the degree. Because of the continuous registration policy, students may be required to register for additional credits of these courses.

Code	Title	Credits
Select 12 credits from the following:		
PSYC 998	Doctoral Dissertation Proposal	12
PSYC 999	Doctoral Dissertation	
Total Credits		12

# Concentration in Clinical Psychology (CLN)

## Overview

The clinical psychology concentration is committed to the clinical science model. Our goal is to train clinical psychologists who are capable of integrating research and applied clinical activities. The program is unique in approaching clinical psychology from social psychological and contextual perspectives. A social psychological approach uses theory and research from social psychology to understand emotional, cognitive, behavioral, and interpersonal functioning. A contextual perspective stresses the impact of social and cultural factors on the individual and vice versa. Most of the faculty members employ cognitive-behavioral and interpersonal approaches to research and clinical practice, but students also receive exposure to humanistic, existential, and psychodynamic perspectives.

Students pursuing this concentration must complete 79 graduate credits comprised of doctoral coursework and at least 12 credits of dissertation research.

## Anticipated Plan of Study

This is a typical schedule. Course credit overloads are required for this program in Year 1, in the Fall (15 credits) and Spring (14 credits) semesters. Consult with your advisor to resolve any concerns or formulate individual schedules. In particular, discuss the timing of dissertation proposal and defense, coverage of tuition in fourth year and beyond, and other factors. To review the complete degree requirements for the Clinical Psychology concentration, please see the "Doctoral Coursework" tab below.

### Year One (29 credits)

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Fall (15 credits)</b>		
PSYC 810	Psychological Assessment I	4
PSYC 822	Scientific Foundations of Clinical Psychology I	3
PSYC 856	Diversity, History and Clinical Psychology	3
PSYC 642	General Linear Modeling I	4
PSYC 890	Seminar in Professional Psychology	1-3
<b>Spring (14 credits)</b>		
PSYC 811	Psychological Assessment II	4
PSYC 864	Foundations of Evidence-Based Psychotherapy	3
PSYC 644	Methods for Social Research	3
PSYC 643	General Linear Modeling II	4

### Year Two (20-21 credits)

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Fall (10-11 credits)</b>		
PSYC 861	Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Youth	3
PSYC 862	Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Adults	3
PSYC 646	Longitudinal Data Analysis	3
PSYC 792	Psychology Practicum	1-6
PSYC 850	Teaching Practicum in Psychology (for those teaching a course)	2
<b>Spring (10 credits)</b>		

PSYC 861	Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Youth	3
PSYC 862	Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Adults	3
PSYC 792	Psychology Practicum	1-6
PSYC 883	Ethical and Professional Issues in Clinical Practice	3

### Year Three (15 credits)

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Fall (9 credits)</b>		
PSYC 881	Practicum in Clinical Psychology	3
PSYC 704	Life-Span Development	3
PSYC 855	Social, Cognitive, and Affective Foundations of Behavior (even years)	3
OR Advanced Stats/Elective (odd years)		
<b>Spring (6 credits)</b>		
PSYC 881	Practicum in Clinical Psychology	3
PSYC 702	Biological Bases of Human Behavior (even years)	3
OR Advanced Stats/Elective (odd years)		

### Year Four (12 credits)

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Fall (6 credits)</b>		
PSYC 813	Supervision, Consultation, and Interprofessional Skills	3
PSYC 855	Social, Cognitive, and Affective Foundations of Behavior (even years)	3
PSYC 998	Doctoral Dissertation Proposal (odd years)	3
PSYC 885	Clinical Externship	0
<b>Spring (6 credits)</b>		
PSYC 998	Doctoral Dissertation Proposal	3 or 6
PSYC 702	Biological Bases of Human Behavior (even years)	3
PSYC 885	Clinical Externship	0

### Year Five (7 credits)

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Fall (6 credits)</b>		
PSYC 999	Doctoral Dissertation	6
PSYC 885	Clinical Externship	0
<b>Spring (1 credit)</b>		
PSYC 999	Doctoral Dissertation	1
PSYC 885	Clinical Externship	0

\*Approved Dissertation proposal is due by October 1, prior to submitting any applications for internships that start the following year. Students should not register for the match without an approved dissertation proposal.

### Year Six - Internship\*/ Dissertation Credits

Registration in PSYC 999 (1 credit) or Internship each term until final defense of dissertation is required.

## Doctoral Coursework

Course credit overloads are required for this program in Year 1, in the Fall (15 credits) and Spring (14 credits) semesters.

### Biological Bases of Behavior

Code	Title	Credits
Select one course from the following:		
PSYC 531	Mammalian Neurobiology	3
PSYC 702	Biological Bases of Human Behavior	
Total Credits		3

### Developmental Bases of Behavior

Code	Title	Credits
PSYC 704	Life-Span Development	3
Total Credits		3

### Design and Data Analysis Emphasis

Select one of the following three emphases (A, B, or C):

#### Basic Emphasis A

Code	Title	Credits
PSYC 642	General Linear Modeling I	4
PSYC 643	General Linear Modeling II	4
PSYC 644	Methods for Social Research	3
Total Credits		11

#### Enhanced Quantitative Emphasis B

Code	Title	Credits
PSYC 642	General Linear Modeling I	4
PSYC 643	General Linear Modeling II	4
PSYC 644	Methods for Social Research	3
Select one additional approved quantitative course, such as those in the list shown under Quantitative Emphasis C		
Total Credits		14

#### Quantitative Emphasis C

Code	Title	Credits
PSYC 642	General Linear Modeling I	4
PSYC 643	General Linear Modeling II	4
PSYC 644	Methods for Social Research	3
Select two additional approved quantitative courses, such as:		
PSYC 557	Psychometric Methods	
PSYC 646	Longitudinal Data Analysis	
PSYC 756	Quantitative Methods IV: Multivariate Techniques in Psychology	
PSYC 757	Advanced Topics in Statistical Analysis (varies by semester but includes Bayesian methods)	
PSYC 892	Special Topics in Psychology (Credits: 3 that include Meta-analysis/SEM)	
PSYC 889	Structural Equation Modeling and Meta-Analysis	
EDRS 812	Qualitative Methods in Educational Research	
Total Credits		17

## Required Courses

Code	Title	Credits
PSYC 810	Psychological Assessment I	4
PSYC 811	Psychological Assessment II	4
PSYC 813	Supervision, Consultation, and Interprofessional Skills	3
PSYC 822	Scientific Foundations of Clinical Psychology I	3
PSYC 861	Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Youth <sup>1</sup>	6
PSYC 862	Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Adults <sup>1</sup>	6
PSYC 864	Foundations of Evidence-Based Psychotherapy	3
PSYC 881	Practicum in Clinical Psychology <sup>2</sup>	6
PSYC 883	Ethical and Professional Issues in Clinical Practice	3
PSYC 855	Social, Cognitive, and Affective Foundations of Behavior	3
PSYC 856	Diversity, History and Clinical Psychology	3
PSYC 890	Seminar in Professional Psychology	1
PSYC 792	Psychology Practicum	2
Total Credits		47

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Students take 3 credits in fall and 3 credits in spring of the second year.

2

Students take 3 credits in fall and 3 credits in spring of the third year.

## Electives

The choice of quantitative emphasis affects the number of credits available for electives. Those who choose Emphasis A take 3 credit hours of electives; students choosing Emphasis B or Emphasis C take 0 hours of electives. PSYC 850 Teaching Practicum in Psychology is recommended for anyone considering academia.

Code	Title	Credits
Select 0-3 electives with the approval of the advisor.		0-3
Total Credits		0-3

## Advancement to Candidacy

To advance to candidacy, students must complete all core courses required by the program. Students must also successfully complete and pass written and oral comprehensive exams.

## Dissertation Research

The dissertation requirement is designed to demonstrate the student's ability to apply psychological principles to research problems. Once enrolled in PSYC 999 Doctoral Dissertation, students must follow the university's continuous registration policy as specified in AP.6.10.6 Dissertation Research (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/#ap-6-10-6>). Students who defend in the summer must be registered for at least 1 credit of PSYC 999 Doctoral Dissertation.

Students complete a minimum of 3 credits of PSYC 998 Doctoral Dissertation Proposal and 3 credits of PSYC 999 Doctoral Dissertation. They must apply a minimum of 12 dissertation credits (PSYC 998 Doctoral Dissertation Proposal and PSYC 999 Doctoral Dissertation combined) to the degree. Because of the continuous registration policy,

students may be required to register for additional credits of these courses.

Code	Title	Credits
Select 12 credits from the following:		12
PSYC 998	Doctoral Dissertation Proposal	
PSYC 999	Doctoral Dissertation	
Total Credits		12

## Internship

Students complete a full-time, 12-month clinical psychology internship at a site accredited by the American Psychological Association.

## Externship (optional, but recommended)

Students complete a part-time clinical psychology externship in the fourth and/or fifth year of the program.

# Concentration in Cognitive and Behavioral Neuroscience (CBNR)

## Overview

This cognitive and behavioral neuroscience concentration focuses on studying biological substrates of behavior. Core and affiliated faculty study areas as diverse as neural control of behavioral development; animal models of learning and memory and their disorders (such as Alzheimer's); human brain systems involved in cognition, perception, human error, decision making, and movement; the relation of neural activity to human performance; and cognitive aging. A focus of the program is on translational neuroscience-complementary study of neural systems in humans and animals, including application of animal research to human behavior.

The program's core facilities have well-equipped behavioral testing and histological/histochemical facilities. The program's strong links to the Krasnow Institute for Advanced Study and the Center for Biomedical Genomics and Informatics allows opportunities for collaborative work as diverse as tissue slice preparations and molecular genetics. The doctoral program prepares students for research-based careers in academics, government, or industry.

Students pursuing this concentration must complete 72 graduate credits comprised of coursework and at least 12 credits of dissertation research.

## Doctoral Coursework

### Cognitive and Behavioral Neuroscience Core

Code	Title	Credits
PSYC 531	Mammalian Neurobiology	3
or NEUR 603	Mammalian Neuroanatomy	
PSYC 555	Neuroimaging	3
PSYC 559	Behavioral Chemistry	3
PSYC 558	Neuronal Bases of Learning and Memory	3
or PSYC 685	Cognitive Neuroscience	
Total Credits		12

### Quantitative and Research Methods

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Two required Courses</b>		
PSYC 642	General Linear Modeling I	4
PSYC 643	General Linear Modeling II	4

### Elective Statistics and Methods 6

Students will choose from research methods and statistics courses in consultation with their advisor. May include but not limited to PSYC 563.

Code	Title	Credits
PSYC 563	Laboratory Methods in Cognitive and Behavioral Neuroscience	
Total Credits		14

### Teaching Practicum

Code	Title	Credits
PSYC 850	Teaching Practicum in Psychology	2
Total Credits		2

### Research Credits

The research credit requirement can be met through completion of a master's thesis (recommended) or other research course as approved by the program.

Code	Title	Credits
Select 6 credits in either a master's thesis or other research course <sup>1</sup>		6
Total Credits		6

### Elective Credits

Students can complete the 72 credit requirement through credits of additional coursework, within or outside the department, with prior approval of the advisor.

Some options for fulfilling this requirement:

NEUR 602 Cellular Neuroscience  
 NEUR 689 Topics in Neuroscience  
 BIOL 585 Eukaryotic Cell Biology Laboratory  
 BIOS 740 Laboratory Methods in Functional Genomics and Biotechnology

### Advancement to Candidacy

To advance to candidacy, students must complete all core courses required by the program. Students must also successfully complete and pass written and oral comprehensive exams.

### Dissertation Research

The dissertation requirement is designed to demonstrate the student's ability to apply psychological principles to research problems. Once enrolled in PSYC 999 Doctoral Dissertation, students must follow the university's continuous registration policy as specified in AP.6.10.6 Dissertation Research (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/#ap-6-10-6>). Students who defend in the summer must be registered for at least 1 credit of PSYC 999 Doctoral Dissertation.

Students apply to this degree a minimum of 3 credits of PSYC 998 Doctoral Dissertation Proposal and 3 credits of PSYC 999 Doctoral Dissertation; they may apply a minimum 12 and a maximum of 24 dissertation credits (PSYC 998 Doctoral Dissertation Proposal and PSYC 999 Doctoral Dissertation combined) to the degree. Because of the continuous registration policy, students may be required to register for additional credits of these courses.

Code	Title	Credits
Select 12-24 credits from the following:		12-24
PSYC 998	Doctoral Dissertation Proposal	

PSYC 999	Doctoral Dissertation
Total Credits	12-24

## Concentration in Human Factors/Applied Cognition (HF)

### Overview

The human factors and applied cognition concentration covers basic theoretical and empirical issues and emphasizes research that applies cognitive science to real-world problems. The program builds bridges between human factors engineering and cognitive psychology. Many applications of cognitive science are in the domain of human factors, and many doctoral students who complete our program go on to be human factors professionals.

Students pursuing this concentration must complete 72 graduate credits comprised of coursework and at least 12 credits of dissertation research.

### Doctoral Coursework

#### Cognitive Core

Code	Title	Credits
PSYC 737	Psychology of Human-Technology Interaction	3
Total Credits		3

#### Quantitative and Research Methods

Code	Title	Credits
PSYC 642	General Linear Modeling I	4
PSYC 643	General Linear Modeling II	4
Total Credits		8

#### Advanced Statistics or Qualitative Methods

Code	Title	Credits
Select three courses from the following:		
STAT 525	Nonparametric Statistics and Categorical Data Analysis	
PSYC 557	Psychometric Methods	
PSYC 646	Longitudinal Data Analysis	
PSYC 756	Quantitative Methods IV: Multivariate Techniques in Psychology	
PSYC 757	Advanced Topics in Statistical Analysis	
PSYC 889	Structural Equation Modeling and Meta-Analysis	
SOCI 634	Qualitative Research Methods	
Total Credits		9

#### Specialized Content

Code	Title	Credits
PSYC 530	Cognitive Engineering: Cognitive Science Applied to Human Factors	3
PSYC 645	Research Methods in Human Factors and Applied Cognition	3
Select five courses from the following: <sup>1</sup>		15
PSYC 734	Seminar in Human Factors and Applied Cognition	

Topics may include: Python for Psychologists, Eye Tracking, Usability & Product Design, Other topics introduced by the program

PSYC 768	Advanced Topics in Cognitive Science	
Topics may include Cognitive Neuroscience of Attention, Individual Differences in Cognition and Performance, Ergonomics, Human-Systems Interaction, Affect and Performance, Technology, Stress, and Work, Other topics introduced by the program		

Total Credits	21
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These are seminars with variable topics that may be repeated for credit when the topic is different.

### Special Topics in Professional Issues

Code	Title	Credits
PSYC 890	Seminar in Professional Psychology	1-3
Total Credits		3

### Directed Reading and Research

Students are encouraged to take a minimum of 1 credit of this course each semester until they advance to candidacy.

Code	Title	Credits
PSYC 897	Directed Reading and Research	1-3
Total Credits		1-3

### Elective Courses

Students have several options for completing the remaining 72 credits required for the degree. They may take additional content courses with permission of their advisor. Students who do not have work experience in applied cognition or human factors are encouraged to take up to 6 credits of practicum.

Students are strongly encouraged to develop competence in programming and computer science through coursework or independent study. Students are also encouraged to identify and take relevant courses within or outside the department with permission of their advisor.

Some options for fulfilling this requirement:

Code	Title	Credits
PSYC 734	Seminar in Human Factors and Applied Cognition	3
PSYC 768	Advanced Topics in Cognitive Science	3
PSYC 730	Practicum in Applied Psychology	1-6
or PSYC 592	Special Topics	
or PSYC 892	Special Topics in Psychology	

### Advancement to Candidacy

To advance to candidacy, students must complete all core courses required by the program. Students must also successfully complete and pass written comprehensive exams.

### Dissertation Research

The dissertation requirement is designed to demonstrate the student's ability to apply psychological principles to research problems. Once enrolled in PSYC 999 Doctoral Dissertation, students must follow the university's continuous registration policy as specified in AP.6.10.6

Dissertation Research (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/#ap-6-10-6>). Students who defend in the summer must be registered for at least 1 credit of PSYC 999 Doctoral Dissertation.

Students complete a minimum of 3 credits of PSYC 998 Doctoral Dissertation Proposal and 3 credits of PSYC 999 Doctoral Dissertation. They must apply a minimum of 12 dissertation credits (PSYC 998 Doctoral Dissertation Proposal and PSYC 999 Doctoral Dissertation combined) to the degree. Because of the continuous registration policy, students may be required to register for additional credits of these courses.

Code	Title	Credits
Select 12 credits from the following:		12
PSYC 998	Doctoral Dissertation Proposal	
PSYC 999	Doctoral Dissertation	
Total Credits		12

## Concentration in Industrial/Organizational Psychology (IO)

### Overview

The industrial/organizational psychology concentration focuses on multiple aspects of behavior in organizational settings, including personnel selection, quantitative analysis, teams, leadership, work and family issues, and organizational health issues. Mason's graduate work in this area emphasizes research as the key to knowledge in both academic and applied settings. The program fosters a peer-oriented environment whereby students collaborate on numerous projects in addition to working with faculty members, in many different areas of industrial/organizational psychology.

Students pursuing this concentration must complete 72 graduate credits comprised of coursework and at least 12 credits of dissertation research.

### Doctoral Coursework

#### Core Course

Code	Title	Credits
PSYC 703	Social Bases of Behavior	3
PSYC 668	Personality: Theoretical and Empirical Approaches	3
Total Credits		6

#### Required Courses in Statistics

Code	Title	Credits
PSYC 557	Psychometric Methods	3
PSYC 633	Evaluative Research in Psychology	3
PSYC 642	General Linear Modeling I	4
PSYC 643	General Linear Modeling II	4
Select two additional specialized statistics courses from the following:		6

PSYC 646	Longitudinal Data Analysis	
PSYC 756	Quantitative Methods IV: Multivariate Techniques in Psychology	
PSYC 889	Structural Equation Modeling and Meta-Analysis	

PSYC 892	Special Topics in Psychology (when topic is Specialized Statics)	
Total Credits		20

### Survey of Content

Code	Title	Credits
PSYC 636	Survey of Industrial-Organizational Psychology	3
Total Credits		3

### Specialized Content

Students taking 18 credits of specialized content may take an additional 3 credits of PSYC 897 Directed Reading and Research.

Code	Title	Credits
Select six to seven courses of specialized content from the following:		18-21

PSYC 626	Organizational Change and Development	
PSYC 631	Industrial and Personnel Testing and Evaluation	
PSYC 638	Training: Psychological Contributions to Theory, Design, and Evaluation	
PSYC 667	Behavior in Small Groups and Teams	
PSYC 733	Issues in Personnel Psychology	
PSYC 738	IO Psychology and Legal Issues in Employment Discrimination	
PSYC 739	Seminar in Industrial/Organizational Psychology	
PSYC 741	Psychology of Work Motivation	
PSYC 742	Careers	
PSYC 743	Behavior and Performance at Work	
PSYC 892	Special Topics in Psychology	
Other graduate courses with permission of I/O faculty and psychology department.		
Total Credits		18-21

### Professional Development

Code	Title	Credits
Required:		
PSYC 890	Seminar in Professional Psychology	3
PSYC 892	Special Topics in Psychology <sup>1</sup>	6
Total Credits		9

<sup>1</sup>

When topic is IO Learning Series.

### Electives (1-4 credits)

Students complete the remaining credits required for this degree through additional coursework, within or outside the department in a content area, professional development, teaching practicum, or dissertation, with prior approval of the advisor.

### Advancement to Candidacy

To advance to candidacy, students must complete all core courses required by the program. Students must also successfully complete and pass written and oral comprehensive exams.

## Dissertation Research

The dissertation requirement is designed to demonstrate the student's ability to apply psychological principles to research problems. Once enrolled in PSYC 999 Doctoral Dissertation, students must follow the university's continuous registration policy as specified in AP.6.10.6 Dissertation Research (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/#ap-6-10-6>). Students who defend in the summer must be registered for at least 1 credit of PSYC 999 Doctoral Dissertation.

Students complete a minimum of 3 credits of PSYC 998 Doctoral Dissertation Proposal and 3 credits of PSYC 999 Doctoral Dissertation. They must apply a minimum of 12 dissertation credits (PSYC 998 Doctoral Dissertation Proposal and PSYC 999 Doctoral Dissertation combined) to the degree. Because of the continuous registration policy, students may be required to register for additional credits of these courses.

Code	Title	Credits
Select 12 credits from the following:		12
PSYC 998	Doctoral Dissertation Proposal	
PSYC 999	Doctoral Dissertation	
Total Credits		12

## Program Outcomes

### Program Outcomes

1. Students will be able to summarize and critically evaluate theoretical and empirical literature within a relevant domain of psychology.
2. Students will be able to communicate psychological knowledge in their area of specialization to a variety of audiences.
3. Students will be able to design and complete an innovative, independent research project that contributes to the knowledge base in their area of specialization.
4. Students will be able to competently disseminate research findings to the scientific community
5. Students will understand ethical principles of the discipline, and act in an ethical manner with respect to research and practice.