

## Mission Statement

The Masters in General Psychology is designed to further student learning and skills in psychology to an advanced level in preparation for doctoral program or use in the field. Successful applicants include those who did not major in psychology or are seeking a career change to it, those who were psychology majors but whose records need buttressing to continue in the field, and those in the work force already who need additional training to advance. Thus the program is set up to mirror more rigorously the psychology major, and provide all students with the opportunity for independent work if they would want it. The program comprises two tracks, which may be opted for at any time: one, course only and the other, thesis. Both tracks require advanced statistics and experimental psychology and a minimal “general psychology distribution requirement” requiring exposure to at least one hard-science psychology course. Students doing thesis must engage in independent research, produce a substantial written document, and pass an oral examination. Students not on the thesis track optionally can do independent study or research as part of their coursework. Most students during their time in the program participate in teaching, clinic work or work in research laboratories.

## Learning Outcomes

### 1. Conceptual Knowledge:

- Demonstrate ability to understand basic and more advanced psychological theories and principles. Apply psychological concepts, principles and research findings to new problems.
  - a. Basic Concepts => Review and testing of “facts” which appear as marginalia or study terms in an intermediate text in the field.
  - b. Basic Theory => Review and testing of industry standard and most recent theories in the field.

- c. Advanced Concepts => Review and testing of cutting edge findings, in completely explained findings and conflicting facts.
- d. Advanced Theory => Review and testing of competing theories, incomplete explanations and zeitgeists.
- e. Applications => Students are required as part of the course to investigate cases, additional articles, a topic area or dataset and apply the basic and advanced theory and concepts to it.

## 2. Practical Experience

- a. Basic => Read/discuss present cases or research questions in class.
- b. Intermediate => Create a research proposal or case management plan.
- c. Advanced => Meet with clients, patients or subjects under supervision, collecting data (with IRB approval).

## 3. Ethics

- *Demonstrate ability to act ethically in scholarship, in respect of patients, clients or human or animal subjects, in the conduct of research and in everyday interactions.*
- *Articulate or recognize the importance of values, ethical standards, and diversity in psychology*
  - a. Basic => Ethical issues (including plagiarism) are discussed in class. Diversity and multi-cultural perspectives are addressed at least at times
  - b. Intermediate => Complete IRB-CITI certification. Discuss ethical guidelines in human and animal rights, their violation and consequences for scientific integrity. Consider ethics and diversity with respect to the knowledge and investigative base of the field
  - c. Advanced => Meet with clients, patients, subjects under supervision and apply ethical training

Communication. Demonstrate effective written and oral communication skills.

## 4. Oral

- a. Basic => Class participation, questions, prompted answers encouraged. Appropriate listening skills.
- b. Intermediate => Class participation required. Team work => communication among team members and informal team presentations required.
- c. Advanced => Ability to develop a clear, well-organized and professional presentation that is audience-appropriate.

## 5. Written

- a. Basic => Ability to read with a depth of understanding, indicated by interpretation of text and some assigned articles. In addition to short answer (<1 sentence responses), minimum writing includes short paragraphs with a total of at least 100 words
- b. Intermediate => In addition to sentence and paragraph submissions at least one short paper (2-5 pages) or comprehensive essay examination required. Reading assignments include some journal articles and require integration.
- c. Advanced => At least 2 journal articles a week are assigned. Writing includes submission of an original paper of at least 10 pages. Ability to write in a clear, well-organized manner, using documentation and quantitative tools when necessary is demonstrated.

## 6. Math/Graphics

- a. Basic => Interpretation of others' results: Students will be able to interpret basic statistical results from psychological research and be able to evaluate the validity of conclusions presented in research reports
- b. Intermediate => Interpretation of others' results including statistical tests

c. Advanced => Own computations, analyses and displays required; consideration of both quantitative and qualitative data; own decisions as to which tests are best for the data set

## **7. Analysis**

Students will be able to design and conduct basic studies to address psychological questions using appropriate research methods and ethical principles, and will be able to demonstrate critical and creative thinking in applying psychological concepts to better understand the causes, underlying mechanisms, and consequences of personal, interpersonal, and social problems.

# Learning Outcome Grid

(Outcomes are numbered from 1 to 7 as listed above)

Courses	Learning Outcomes										
	1a	1b	1c	1d	1e	2a	2b	2c	3a	3b	3c
V0000			X	X	X				X		
V0100	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	
V0500	X	X			X						
V0600											
V1000											
V1200											
V1402	X	X	X	X					X		
V2000	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X
V2500	X	X		X	X				X		
V3000											
V3500	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		
V3800	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		
V3900	X	X	1/2	1/2	X	X			X		
V4200	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
V4300	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	
V4600	X	X	X	X	X	X			X		
V5200	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		
V5301											
V5500	X	X	X	X					X		
V6100											
V6602	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		
V7000											
V7600											
B9900	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

# Learning Outcome Grid

(Outcomes are numbered from 1 to 7 as listed above)

Courses	Learning Outcomes										
	4a	4b	4c	5a	5b	5c	6a	6b	6c	7	
V0000	X	X	X	X	X	X					
V0100	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
V0500	X						X	X	X		
V0600											
V1000											
V1200											
V1402											
V2000	X			X	X	X	X	X		X	
V2500	X	X		X	X					X	
V3000											
V3500	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
V3800	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
V3900	X			X	X	X		X	X	1/2	
V4200	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	
V4300	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	
V4600	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	
V5200	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	
V5301											
V5500											
V6100											
V6602	X		X	X	X	X					
V7000											
V7600											
B9900	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X