

Psychology

Degrees Offered

- Master of Science
- Doctor of Philosophy

Doctoral Program Majors

The doctoral degree major areas of study in Behavior Analysis, Behavioral Neuroscience, Clinical & Clinical Child Psychology, and Life-Span Developmental Psychology prepare students for careers in research, teaching, and/or practice.

Program Accreditation

The Clinical Program at West Virginia University is comprised of two major areas of study: Clinical Psychology and Clinical Child Psychology. The Program has been accredited continuously by the American Psychological Association since 1966. In 2012, the Program was re-accredited for a full 7 years, with the next site visit scheduled to occur in 2019. For any questions regarding accreditation of this or any other program, contact the Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation of the American Psychological Association, 750 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002. Phone number: (202) 336-5979. Website: <http://www.apa.org/ed/accreditation>.

The Behavior Analysis Program at West Virginia University is accredited by the Association for Behavior Analysis International. In 2014, the Program was re-accredited from 2014-2019.

Admission

Students are admitted only at the beginning of the fall semester. Applications must be completed by the preceding December 1.

Acceptance is based on the following:

- Adequate academic aptitude at the graduate level as measured by the Graduate Record Examination
- Achievement in undergraduate coursework with a minimum grade point average of 3.0
- Personal qualities that predict success in graduate study and as a professional after graduation
- Adequate preparation in psychology and related fields
- Fit between the applicant's interests and the offerings of a department graduate program major area of study

Non-Degree Students

Graduate courses in psychology are designed for regularly admitted degree-seeking psychology students as part of an extensive program of preparing those students for professional careers. Thus, students not admitted into one of the psychology graduate program areas are discouraged from taking graduate courses in psychology. Non-psychology graduate students must obtain the instructor's permission to enroll in any psychology graduate course.

FACULTY

CHAIR

- Kevin Larkin - Ph.D. (University of Pittsburgh)
Clinical Health Psychology, Applied Psychophysiology, Cardiovascular Behavioral Medicine

PROFESSORS

- Christina Duncan - Ph.D. (Louisiana State University)
Behavioral Pediatrics, Chronic Illness, Adherence
- Barry A. Edelstein - Ph.D. (University of Memphis)
Eberly Family Distinguished Professor of Clinical Psychology. Clinical Gero-psychology, Anxiety and Decision-making in Older Adults
- Katherine Karraker - Ph.D. (Michigan State University)
Associate Provost for Graduate Academic Affairs. Adults' Perceptions of Infants, Infant Social Development
- Kennon A. Lattal - Ph.D. (University of Alabama)
Centennial Professor. Experimental Analysis of Behavior, History and Philosophy of Psychology, Human-Pet Interactions
- Cheryl B. McNeil - Ph.D. (University of Florida)
Disruptive Behavior Disorders of Children, Child Behavior Therapy, Parent-Child Interactions
- Daniel W. McNeil - Ph.D. (University of Alabama)
Eberly Family Professor for Outstanding Public Service. Experimental Psychopathology, Behavioral Dentistry and Behavioral Medicine, Pain and Anxiety

- Tracy L. Morris - Ph.D. (University of Mississippi)
Eberly Distinguished Professor of Outstanding Teaching and Associate Dean for Research, Graduate Studies, and Outreach. Developmental Psychopathology, Social Anxiety, Peer Relationships
- Melanie C. Page - Ph.D. (Arizona State University)
Assistant Vice President for Creative and Scholarly Activity. Quantitative/Developmental Psychology
- Michael Perone - Ph.D. (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee)
Associate Dean for Faculty. Positive and Negative Reinforcement, Animal and Human Operant Behavior, Research Methodology
- JoNell Strough - Ph.D. (University of Utah)
Life-Span Development, Decision Making, Everyday Problem Solving, Gender Development

ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS

- Karen G. Anderson - Ph.D. (University of Florida)
Behavioral Pharmacology, Self-Control and Impulsivity
- Amy Fiske - Ph.D. (University of Southern California)
Late Life Depression and Suicide
- Amy Gentzler - Ph.D. (Kent State University)
Emotion Regulation and Coping in Childhood, Positive Psychology
- Amy Herschell - Ph.D. (West Virginia University)
Dissemination of Evidence-Based Treatments
- Elisa Krackow - Ph.D. (Binghamton University-SUNY)
Adult and Child Testimony, Developmental Psychopathology
- Aaron Metzger - Ph.D. (University of Rochester)
Adolescent Social-Cognitive Development, Civic Engagement, Adolescent-Parent Communication
- Hawley Montgomery-Downs - Ph.D. (University of Connecticut)
Sleep, Sleep Disorders, Developmental Psychobiology
- Julie Hicks Patrick - Ph.D. (University of Akron)
Decision Making, Family Processes in Mid- and Late-Life
- Claire St. Peter - Ph.D. (University of Florida)
Applied Behavior Analysis, Assessment and Treatment of Problem Behavior, School-Based Interventions
- Natalie Shook - Ph.D. (Ohio State University)
Social Psychology, Attitudes and Emotion, Cognitive Bias

ASSISTANT PROFESSORS

- Melissa Blank - Ph.D. (Virginia Commonwealth University)
Behavioral Neuroscience, Tobacco Use, Tobacco-Related Health Risks, Genetics of Substance Use
- Regina Carroll - Ph.D. (University of Nebraska Medical Center)
Applied Behavior Analysis, Autism and Developmental Disabilities
- Steven Kinsey - Ph.D. (Ohio State University)
Behavioral Neuroscience, Stress and Inflammation
- Shari Steinman - Ph.D. (University of Virginia)
Cognitive Bias in Anxiety Disorders, Treatment of Anxiety and Obsessive Compulsive Disorders
- Nicholas Turiano - Ph.D. (Purdue University)
Personality, Health, and Aging
- Cole Vonder Haar - Ph.D. (University of Southern Illinois – Carbondale)
Behavioral Dysfunction and Traumatic Brain Injury, Behavioral Neuroscience

TEACHING ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

- Connie Toffle - Ph.D. (West Virginia University)
Teaching of Psychology

TEACHING ASSISTANT PROFESSORS

- Elizabeth Levelle - Ph.D. (West Virginia University)
Teaching of Psychology, Academic Advising
- Kris Martens - Ph.D. (Southern Illinois University – Carbondale)
Behavioral Neuroscience, Recovery from Traumatic Brain Injury
- Sharon Tenenholz - Ph.D. (University of California, Los Angeles)
Teaching of Psychology, Curriculum Design, Academic Advising

CLINICAL INSTRUCTOR

- Stephanie McWilliams - MA (Columbia University)
Youth Mentorship; Sport and Exercise Psychology, Health Psychology, Behavior Change and Weight Management

PROFESSORS EMERITI

- Stanley Cohen - Ph.D.
- Philip Comer - Ph.D.
- William J. Fremouw - Ph.D.
- Robert Hawkins - Ph.D.
- Kent Parker - Ph.D.
- Hayne Reese - Ph.D.

ADJUNCT ASSISTANT PROFESSORS

- Martin Boone - Ph.D., (Oklahoma State University)
- Kimberly Foley - Ph.D. (West Virginia University)
- Keegan Kowcheck - MA (West Virginia University)
- Kara Samaj - MA (West Virginia University)

Master of Science

Students who are accepted into the doctoral (Ph.D.) program in psychology will receive the M.S. degree upon completing the requirements listed below.

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

PSYC 511	Research Design and Data Analysis 1	3
PSYC 795	Independent Study *	6
Research methodology course from the following list or another methodology course approved by the student's advising committee:		3
PSYC 512	Research Design and Data Analysis 2	
PSYC 611	Single-Subject Research Methods	
PSYC 612	Multivariate Analysis	
PSYC 613	Quasi-Experimental Design	
PSYC 614	Program Evaluation and Intervention	
PSYC 711	Seminar in Methodology	
Electives		36
Non-Course Requirements		
Thesis Proposal		
Thesis Defense Date Declaration Form		
Thesis Oral Defense Form		
ETD Approval		
Application for Graduation		
Graduation Certification: Department		
Graduation Certification: College		
Total Hours		48

* **PSYC 795**- A minimum of 6 credits is required

Doctor of Philosophy

PSYCHOLOGY: BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS

Major Requirements

Principles of Behavior		3
PSYC 531	Experimental Analysis of Behavior	
Research Methods		9
PSYC 511	Research Design and Data Analysis 1 (fulfills dept methods requirement)	
PSYC 512	Research Design and Data Analysis 2 (fulfills dept methods requirement)	
PSYC 611	Single-Subject Research Methods	

Conceptual Analysis		6
PSYC 732	Behavior Theory and Philosophy	
PSYC 721 or PSYC 739	History and Systems Verbal Behavior	
Basic Behavior Analysis		6
Select two from the following:		
PSYC 532	Human Behavior	
PSYC 733	Stimulus Control and Memory	
PSYC 734	Reinforcement and Punishment	
PSYC 736	Advanced Experimental Analysis of Behavior	
Applied Behavior Analysis		6
PSYC 533	Applied Behavior Analysis	
Select one from the following:		
PSYC 630	Behavior Analysis Practicum	
PSYC 730	Advanced Behavior Analysis Practicum	
PSYC 735	Assessment and Intervention for Severe Behavior	
PSYC 737	Advanced Applied Behavior Analysis	
Ethics		3
PSYC 609	Ethics in Behavior Analysis	
Specialized Elective-one course from below (or another approved by the Behavior Analysis Training Committee) :		3
PSYC 615	Software Design in Psychology	
PSYC 722	Biological Aspects of Behavior	
PSYC 754	Clinical Psychopharmacology	
Research:		6
PSYC 795	Independent Study *	
Qualifying Examination		
Admission to Doctoral Candidacy		
Defense Declaration Form Dissertation		
Oral Defense Form		
ETD Approval		
Application for Graduation		
Graduation Certification: Department		
Graduation Certification: College		
Total Hours		42

* Students are expected to be involved in research throughout your graduate career, and your enrollment in PSYC 795, should reflect this activity. You must complete at least six hours.

Doctor of Philosophy

PSYCHOLOGY: BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE

Major Requirements

Core Behavioral Neuroscience Courses - All of the Following:

PSYC 608	Professional Issues - Behavioral Neuroscience	1
PSYC 694	Seminar *	3
PSYC 701	Advanced Professional Issues in Psychology	1-3
PSYC 650	Behavioral Neuroscience Methods	3
PSYC 722	Biological Aspects of Behavior	3
PSYC 724	Advanced Neuroscience	4

Methodology Courses - Both of the Following

PSYC 511	Research Design and Data Analysis 1	3
PSYC 512	Research Design and Data Analysis 2	3

Advanced Methodology Courses - One of the Following (after 511 & 512) **		3
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PSYC 611	Single-Subject Research Methods	
PSYC 612	Multivariate Analysis	
PSYC 614	Program Evaluation and Intervention	
PSYC 711	Seminar in Methodology	
History, Philosophy, and Theory of Psychology - One of the Following:		3
PSYC 545	Conceptual Issues in Developmental Psychology	
PSYC 721	History and Systems	
PSYC 732	Behavior Theory and Philosophy	
Or an advanced course on History, Philosophy, or Theory of Psychology in Psychology or another department (Requires approval by Behavioral Neuroscience Training Committee)		
Research - As appropriate:		
PSYC 795	Independent Study ***	6
Required elective courses approved by the Behavioral Neuroscience Training Committee		12
Qualifying Examination		
Admission to Doctoral Candidacy		
Defense Declaration Form Dissertation		
Oral Defense Form		
ETD Approval		
Application for Graduation		
Graduation Certification: Department		
Graduation Certification: College		
Total Hours		45

* **Seminar in Behavioral Neuroscience** - Students must take this course every semester offered.

** **For Advanced Methodology Courses** - Students may also take an advanced course on research design or data analysis in Psychology, Statistics, or another department (requires approval by the Behavioral Neuroscience Training Committee).

*** **Independent Study** - At least six hours during thesis work, continuous during dissertation work.

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PSYCHOLOGY: CLINICAL

Major Requirements

PSYC 511	Research Design and Data Analysis 1	3
PSYC 512	Research Design and Data Analysis 2	3
PSYC 655	Research Methods in Clinical Psychology *	3
PSYC 721	History and Systems	3
PSYC 661	Behavior Therapy	3
PSYC 671	Child Behavior Therapy	3
PSYC 653	Behavioral and Psychological Assessment 1	3
PSYC 654	Behavioral and Psychological Assessment 2	4
PSYC 531	Experimental Analysis of Behavior	3
PSYC 652	Clinical Interviewing	3
PSYC 603	Professional Issues in Clinical Psychology	1
PSYC 607	Ethical and Legal Issues in Psychology	3
PSYC 722	Biological Aspects of Behavior	3
PSYC 651	Behavior Pathology	3
PSYC 725	Social Psychology	3
PSYC 745	Seminar in Life-Span Development	3
Clinical Supervision (taken twice)		2
PSYC 755	Seminar in Clinical Supervision	
Practica and Internship: **		18
PSYC 660	Clinical Psychology Practicum	
PSYC 670	Clinical Child Psychology Practicum	

PSYC 750	Clinical Internship	3
Research: ***		
PSYC 795	Independent Study	6
Electives approved by the Clinical Training Committee		9
Qualifying Examination		
Admission to Doctoral Candidacy		
Defense Declaration Form Dissertation		
Oral Defense Form		
ETD Approval		
Application for Graduation		
Graduation Certification: Department		
Graduation Certification: College		
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Total Hours		85

* **Research Methods in Clinical Psychology** counts as the third departmental methods course.

** Students must complete at least 18 hours of practica (660 Clinical Psychology Practicum or 670 Clinical Child Practicum) and three hours of internship (750 Clinical Internship). At least two academic years of practica must be through a Quin Curtis Center Clinical Team, and you must have at least two different supervisor/team experiences, each lasting one academic year or twelve month period.

*** Students are expected to be involved in research throughout their graduate career, and their enrollment in PSYC 795 (Independent Study), should reflect this activity. Students must complete at least six hours.

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PSYCHOLOGY: CLINICAL CHILD

Major Requirements

PSYC 511	Research Design and Data Analysis 1	3
PSYC 512	Research Design and Data Analysis 2	3
PSYC 655	Research Methods in Clinical Psychology *	3
PSYC 721	History and Systems	3
PSYC 661	Behavior Therapy	3
PSYC 671	Child Behavior Therapy	3
PSYC 653	Behavioral and Psychological Assessment 1	3
PSYC 654	Behavioral and Psychological Assessment 2	4
PSYC 531	Experimental Analysis of Behavior	3
PSYC 652	Clinical Interviewing	3
PSYC 603	Professional Issues in Clinical Psychology	1
PSYC 607	Ethical and Legal Issues in Psychology	3
PSYC 722	Biological Aspects of Behavior	3
PSYC 651	Behavior Pathology	3
PSYC 725	Social Psychology	3
PSYC 745	Seminar in Life-Span Development	3
Clinical Supervision (taken twice)		2
PSYC 755	Seminar in Clinical Supervision	
Practica and Internship: **		18
PSYC 660	Clinical Psychology Practicum	
PSYC 670	Clinical Child Psychology Practicum	
PSYC 750	Clinical Internship	3
Research: ***		
PSYC 795	Independent Study	6
Electives approved by the Clinical Child Training Committee		9
Qualifying Examination		
Admission to Doctoral Candidacy		
Defense Declaration Form Dissertation		

Oral Defense Form	
ETD Approval	
Application for Graduation	
Graduation Certification: Department	
Graduation Certification: College	
Total Hours	85

* **Research Methods in Clinical Psychology** counts as third departmental methods course.

** Students must complete at least 18 hours of practica (660 Clinical Psychology Practicum or 670 Clinical Child Practicum) and three hours of internship (750 Clinical Internship). At least two academic years of practica must be through a Quin Curtis Center Clinical Team, and students must have at least two different supervisor/team experiences, each lasting one academic year or twelve month period.

*** Students are expected to be involved in research throughout their graduate career, and their enrollment in PSYC 795 (Independent Study), should reflect this activity. Students must complete at least six hours.

Doctor of Philosophy

PSYCHOLOGY: LIFE-SPAN DEVELOPMENT

Major Requirements

PSYC 511	Research Design and Data Analysis 1	3
PSYC 512	Research Design and Data Analysis 2	3
PSYC 545	Conceptual Issues in Developmental Psychology	3
PSYC 546	Methodological Issues in Developmental Psychology	3
PSYC 602	Professional Issues in Developmental Psychology	1-3
PSYC 701	Advanced Professional Issues in Psychology	1-3
PSYC 541	Infant Development	3
PSYC 542	Child Development	3
PSYC 543	Adolescent and Young Adult Development	3
PSYC 544	Adult Development and Aging	3
Advanced Methodology Courses (After PSYC 511 & 512)		6

You must take two of the following advanced methodology courses. Other advanced methodology courses approved by the Life-Span Developmental Training Committee also may be used to fulfill this requirement

PSYC 611	Single-Subject Research Methods	
PSYC 612	Multivariate Analysis	
PSYC 614	Program Evaluation and Intervention	
PSYC 711	Seminar in Methodology *	

Research **

PSYC 795	Independent Study	6
Electives approved by the Life-Span Developmental Training Committee***		9

Qualifying Examination

Admission to Doctoral Candidacy

Defense Declaration Form Dissertation

Oral Defense Form

ETD Approval

Application for Graduation

Graduation Certification: Department

Graduation Certification: College

Total Hours	47-51
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* Other courses approved by the Life-Span Developmental Training Committee may also be used to fulfill this requirement. PSYC 711 may be repeated for credit when the seminar topic is different.

** Students are expected to be involved in research throughout their graduate career, and their enrollment in PSYC 795 (Independent Study) should reflect this activity.

*** Usually, electives include at least three credit hours of PSYC 745 (Seminar in Life-Span Development). PSYC 745 may be repeated for credit when topics differ.

Major Learning Goals

PSYCHOLOGY

Students graduating with a doctorate in psychology will acquire the following research and communication skills:

- Students will design and execute empirical research to investigate psychological topics.
- Students will conduct and interpret statistical analyses.
- Students will clearly communicate results of empirical research, both orally and in writing.
- Students will create and deliver professional oral presentations.
- Students will demonstrate expert knowledge of their area of emphasis.
- Students will be conversant with historical, philosophical, and theoretical issues in psychology.
- Students will abide by the ethical principles of the discipline of psychology.