

PhD in Psychology

Admission

Prerequisites

Applicants are not required to have an undergraduate degree in psychology, but must have completed courses in general psychology, psychological statistics and experimental psychology. Applicants to the clinical psychology program also are required to have completed a course in history and systems of psychology with a *B-* or better.

Deadlines

Application for admission should be filed with the dean of the Graduate School and the psychology department by December 1 for the clinical psychology program and January 15 for the community and human factors programs, for enrollment the following fall. Students applying after the deadlines *may* be considered if any openings in the programs remain. Applicants are informed of admission decisions around April 1 of each year.

Materials

Applicants will be required to fill out the online Graduate School Application (<http://wichita.edu/gradapplication/>)¹, where they will be required to upload/provide the following:

- Contact information for three people to serve as references (people acquainted with the applicant's academic background and potential);
- Personal essay;
- Supplemental information (honors, scholarships, employment history, etc.);
- Professional article sample (articles, presentations, projects, etc.); and
- Scores (verbal and quantitative) on the Graduate Record Exam (GRE).

Applicants are evaluated with respect to their undergraduate grade point average; stated career goals; amount, type and scope of undergraduate preparation; reference letters and GRE scores.

¹ Link opens new window.

Program Requirements

Required of all students. Must be completed with a B (3.000 or better).

| Course | Title | Hours |
|----------------------------|--|-------|
| Methods Courses | | |
| PSY 902 | Advanced Research Methods I | 4 |
| PSY 903 | Advanced Research Methods II | 4 |
| Teaching and Ethics | | |
| PSY 911 | Teaching of Psychology: Principles, Practices and Ethics | 3 |

Note: a grade of *B* (3.000) or better must be earned in each of the methods courses. Students may retake these courses once. Failure to meet this requirement may lead to dismissal from the program.

Second Year Project

All students must complete a predoctoral research program resulting in a document similar to a manuscript ready for journal submission. The student must enroll in PSY 901 each semester (excluding summers) until the project is completed.

Post-Second Year Project Research

After completion of the second year project requirement, all students will enroll in PSY 909 each semester until the successful completion of qualifying exams.

Community and clinical students must have completed a minimum of 10 credit hours of PSY 901 and/or PSY 909. Human factors students must complete a minimum of 18 credit hours of PSY 901 and/or PSY 909. (*Note:* Neither PSY 901 nor PSY 909 may be used for electives.)

Qualifying Examination

Students take a qualifying examination upon completion of all foundation and method courses and most program courses. On passing this examination, students can be admitted to doctoral candidacy.

Dissertation

All students seeking the PhD are required to complete a dissertation. The dissertation ordinarily is a major research project. A formal written proposal must be approved by the student's dissertation committee prior to beginning the project. A student must be enrolled in PSY 908 any time a student is working on his or her dissertation (including summers). A minimum of 12 credit hours of PSY 908 must be earned. In addition to regular course examinations, all students must pass an oral examination based on their dissertation.

Additional Program Requirements

Human Factors (90 credit hours total)

Required Courses (Must be completed with a B (3.000) or better.)

| Course | Title | Hours |
|---------------------------|--|-------|
| Foundation Courses | | |
| PSY 904 | Biological and Philosophical Foundations of Psychology | 3 |
| PSY 905 | Cognitive/Learning Foundations of Behavior | 3 |
| Program Courses | | |
| PSY 920 | Psychological Principles of Human Factors | 3 |
| PSY 921 | Seminar in Human Factors | 3 |
| PSY 922 | Seminar in Software Psychology | 3 |
| PSY 925 | Seminar in Perception | 3 |

Electives

Select sufficient electives to total (all courses) 90 credit hours, 12 of which must be taken outside the human factors program.

Calculus Tool

HFES accreditation requires that human factors students demonstrate a competency in calculus before admission to candidacy. This requirement may be satisfied by:

1. Satisfactorily completing a college-level calculus course;
2. Demonstrating proficiency on an exam; or
3. Providing other evidence of such skills.

Internship

Students must complete a three-month research internship (1 credit hour). It is the student's responsibility to develop his or her internship setting.

Community (90 credit hours total)

Required Courses (Must be completed with a B (3.000) or better.)

| Course | Title | Hours |
|---|---|-------|
| Foundation Courses | | |
| PSY 912 | Seminar on Cultural Diversity | 3 |
| Program Courses | | |
| PSY 940 | Seminar in Community-Clinical Psychology | 3 |
| PSY 941 | Applied Research Methods in Community Settings | 3 |
| PSY 942 | Seminar in Community and Organizational Intervention | 3 |
| PSY 943 | Seminar in Prevention | 3 |
| PSY 948 | Seminar in Professional Consultation and Leadership Development | 3 |
| PSY 949 | Seminar in Community Advocacy and Social Policy | 3 |
| PSY 951 | Program Evaluation Theory and Design | 3 |
| PSY 952 | Action Research Approaches in Community Psychology | 3 |
| Practicum | | |
| Select a minimum of 9 credit hours of the following: | | 9 |
| PSY 944 | Practicum in Community Psychology | |
| Electives | | |
| Select sufficient electives to total 90 credit hours. Two of the electives must be statistics and/or research methods courses as approved by the advisor. | | |

Clinical (101 credit hours total)

In addition to courses required for all psychology tracks, the following are the required clinical courses:

Required Courses (Must be completed with a B (3.000) or better.)

| Course | Title | Hours |
|---------------------------|--|-------|
| Foundation Courses | | |
| PSY 904 | Biological and Philosophical Foundations of Psychology | 3 |
| PSY 905 | Cognitive/Learning Foundations of Behavior | 3 |
| PSY 907 | Social and Developmental Foundations of Behavior | 3 |
| Program Courses | | |
| PSY 912 | Seminar on Cultural Diversity | 3 |
| PSY 940 | Seminar in Community-Clinical Psychology | 3 |
| PSY 960 | Ethical and Professional Issues in Clinical Psychology | 3 |
| PSY 961 | Seminar in Cognitive-Behavioral Assessment | 3 |
| PSY 961L | Cognitive-Behavioral Assessment Lab | 1 |
| PSY 962 | Seminar in Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy | 3 |
| PSY 962L | Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy Lab | 1 |
| PSY 975 | Seminar in Psychotherapy | 3 |
| PSY 976 | Advanced Psychopathology | 3 |
| PSY 979 | Seminar in Personality Assessment | 3 |
| PSY 977 | Internship in Clinical Psychology ¹ | 3 |

Community Required Courses

| | | |
|---|---|----|
| Select two of the following: | | 6 |
| PSY 941 | Applied Research Methods in Community Settings ² | |
| PSY 942 | Seminar in Community and Organizational Intervention | |
| PSY 943 | Seminar in Prevention ² | |
| Practicum Requirements | | |
| Select a minimum of 12 credit hours of the following: | | 12 |
| PSY 963 | Practicum in Clinical Psychology (repeat for a minimum of 9 credit hours) | |
| PSY 944 | Practicum in Community Psychology | |
| Clinical Elective Courses³ | | |
| Select 3 credit hours in assessment courses | | 3 |
| Select 6 credit hours in intervention courses | | 6 |

- ¹ A one-year (2,000 hour) predoctoral APA accredited internship is required. To apply for a clinical internship, students must have completed all required courses, qualifying examinations, their dissertation proposal, and be internship ready as defined by APPIC and verified by the Director of Clinical Training.
- ² *Note:* If PSY 941 or PSY 943 is used here it cannot be used to satisfy the clinical elective requirements.
- ³ Elective course choice depends on the student's unique professional goals, and is made in consultation with the student's faculty advisor. Students must take sufficient electives to total 101 credit hours.

Accreditation Status

The clinical psychology program at Wichita State University has been accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of the American Psychological Association since 2005. Its accreditation status can be confirmed at:

Commission on Accreditation
American Psychological Association
750 First Street, NE
Washington, D.C. 20002-4242
(202) 336-5979

Time Limits

Students should be aware that the Graduate School requires completion of the degree no later than 10 years after admission. The psychology department expects all degree-bound students to make satisfactory progress toward the completion of their degree program.

Applied Learning

Students in the PhD in psychology program are required to complete an applied learning or research experience to graduate from the program. The requirement for PhD students can be met by completing a dissertation (PSY 908). For students being awarded a Masters along the way to the PhD, the requirement can be met by completing a minimum of three research hours (PSY 901).