

# MASTER OF SCIENCE IN PSYCHOLOGY

## Description and Outcomes

The Master of Science in Psychology program provides you with a unique opportunity to balance the rich tradition of the past with exciting contemporary applications of psychology. The curriculum focuses on the processes that underlie the individual human experience and behavior, and core knowledge, theories, and research in the discipline.

Prospective and current students must review Purdue Global's State Licensure and Certifications (<https://www.purdueglobal.edu/about/accreditation/licensure-state-authorizations/>) site to view program and state-specific licensure information. Refer to the Certification, State Board, and National Board Exams (p. 3) section for additional program disclosure information.

## Concentrations

You will select one of four areas of concentration: general psychology, addictions, forensic psychology, or industrial/organizational psychology. You will complete both master's-level core courses and concentration courses, which provide a comprehensive education in psychological theory and practice, and work on developing critical thinking and problem-solving skills to assist you in meeting your personal and professional goals in the chosen concentration area.

The general psychology concentration is designed to expose you to a generalist approach to the broad field of psychology. This concentration addresses current broad paradigms such as behavioral approaches, neuropsychological perspectives and technologies, issues in psychopathology, and current and historical information in the area of cognitive psychology. In addition, you will gain knowledge in the use of qualitative analysis, thereby building on your knowledge base of the basic "tools" involved in the scientific approach to understanding psychology.

The addictions concentration provides you with the opportunity to study the principles of addictions counseling, group counseling, psychopharmacology, and co-occurring disorders. Theories are taught with an emphasis on application so that you understand how to use your knowledge to help clients toward recovery.

The forensic psychology concentration is designed to prepare you to work in a variety of forensic settings and with various populations within the criminal and civil legal systems. Courses are designed to provide you with the knowledge of theory, methods, training, and practice of forensic psychology. You will learn about the roles and responsibilities in forensic psychology, as well as legal, diversity, sociocultural, and ethical issues faced by practitioners in the field.

The industrial/organizational psychology concentration is designed for working professionals who seek to broaden their knowledge and apply the principles of industrial/organizational (I/O) psychology in business and organizational settings. The program offers a rigorous exploration of the theories, methods, and practice of industrial/organizational psychology. Specifically, you will explore workplace motivation and attitudes, employee training, evaluation and leadership, organizational behavior, and human resource management.

## Tracks of Study

In any of the concentrations, you may elect to complete a thesis as the program's culminating experience or choose the Master's Capstone in Psychology. The thesis track contains two thesis development courses and extends the program by at least one term. A thesis is not required; however, you should consult with your Student Advisor to determine how the thesis track fits with your career goals.

## Program Length

The Master of Science in Psychology program consists of a minimum of 60, 65, 70, or 75 quarter credit hours, depending on your track of study. Upon successful completion of the program, you will be awarded a master of science degree.

## Program Outcomes

1. **Disciplinary Knowledge and Skills:** Understand how contemporary theories relate to real-world situations in various psychology professions in the selected area of concentration.
2. **Critical Thinking and Problem Solving:** Critically evaluate and apply psychological theories, as well as theories from the selected area of concentration, and concepts to various client-based situations within the field of psychology.
3. **Research and Application:** Apply theoretical and conceptual foundations of psychology as they relate to the selected area of concentration to arrive at evidence-based professional practice strategies.
4. **Professionalism and Ethics:** Apply ethical, legal, individual, and sociocultural standards and guidelines set forth within the selected area of concentration and field of psychology.

## Professional Competencies

In addition to the discipline-specific outcomes, professional competencies are integrated throughout your academic program. You can review the professional competencies associated with your academic program in the Professional Competencies (<https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/graduate/professional-competencies/>) section of this Catalog.

## Program Availability

For program availability, please refer to the U.S. State and Other Approvals (<https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/policy-information/university-information/accreditation-approvals-memberships/>) section and Program Availability Information (<https://www.purdueglobal.edu/catalog-program-availability-info.pdf>).

## Policies

### Admissions Requirements

You must meet the below admissions requirements in addition to Purdue Global's general requirements (<https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/policy-information/admissions/>).

Before enrolling in this program, you must submit a Career Outcomes Survey for approval. You may be asked for additional information based on the results of your survey. If your career goals do not align with the outcomes of the program, you will be denied admission.

Before enrolling in either the addictions or industrial/organizational psychology concentration requiring a practicum or field placement

rotation, you must pass a criminal background check (<https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/policy-information/admissions/>).

## Progression Requirements

1. You can enroll in no more than three courses per term.
2. You may not use credit for prior learning to fulfill the following courses:

Code	Title	Credits
PS501	Foundations of Professional Psychology	5
PS508	Ethics for Addictions Professionals	5
PS511	Chemical and Psychological Dependency Counseling	5
PS516	Psychopharmacology	5
PS521	Group Counseling	5
PS526	Advanced Addictions Counseling	5
PS531	Co-Occurring Disorders and Treatments	5
PS535	Addictions Practicum I	5
PS536	Addictions Practicum II	5
PS545	Industrial/Organizational Field Placement	5
PS598	Master's Capstone in Psychology	5
PS601	Master's Research and Thesis I	5
PS602	Master's Research and Thesis II	5

You must complete these courses at the University.

3. You must declare your choice of thesis or Master's Capstone in Psychology by the end of the second term.

## Master's Capstone in Psychology Track

You must successfully complete PS598 Master's Capstone in Psychology, a written course covering the core curriculum and concentration courses.

This capstone course provides you with the opportunity to demonstrate and apply the skills and knowledge accumulated throughout your program. You will develop a research proposal related to current topics and challenges in the field of psychology, thus demonstrating mastery of program outcomes. Your proposal will include a literature review, a testable hypothesis, and an empirical method for testing the hypothesis.

## Thesis Track

You will be required to develop and submit, in writing, a formal proposal for research in psychology to your chosen thesis committee, which is made up of a chairperson and two additional members, all of whom must be terminally degreed psychology faculty members from Purdue Global. It is acceptable to have one terminally degreed faculty member from outside the University's psychology program or from an outside, accredited institution of higher learning with the approval of the Chair of the Master of Science in Psychology program.

Subsequent to the proposal, you will submit the final draft of your research project to the thesis committee for review and orally present your results during a scheduled thesis defense hearing. The research report shall be prepared according to the University's guidelines and the final, approved product shall be submitted to appropriate personnel for binding and acquisition.

You will take PS601 Master's Research and Thesis I and PS602 Master's Research and Thesis II, 10-week courses designed to allow you to begin the first steps of your thesis design and complete your thesis. Should you feel you are unable to complete the prescribed requirements for either course in 10 weeks, you must contact your Student Advisor in order to gain an extension in the course. An extension is granted by enrolling in PS601A Master's Research and Thesis I or PS602A Master's Research and Thesis II, and enrollment in these courses will only be granted at the discretion of the Dean of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences and the Chair of your thesis committee.

If an extension is granted, the University will not charge tuition for PS601A Master's Research and Thesis I or PS602A Master's Research and Thesis II, but you will be required to pay the normal resource fee.

If you are unable to complete PS601 Master's Research and Thesis I or PS602 Master's Research and Thesis II, you will be permitted to enter the comprehensive exam track.

## Practicum or Field Placement Requirements

If you are enrolling in a program that requires completion of a practicum or field placement, you are responsible for locating a site in which to complete those hours. Three months prior to the beginning of the term in which you wish to enroll in practicum/field placement courses, you must submit the appropriate application form to the Behavioral and Social Sciences Clinical Placement Team. Applications that are not complete will not be accepted. You must complete all prepracticum or prefield placement requirements, including orientation, and have permission of the Clinical Placement Team in order to enroll in a course that includes completion of practicum or field placement hours. A list of requirements is available from the Clinical Placement Team.

You should be aware that health care organizations may have specific requirements regarding vaccination against communicable diseases including COVID and Influenza. Failure to comply with requirements could interfere with the opportunity to complete a required practicum, fieldwork, or internship experience, may delay graduation or lead to an inability to complete your program, and could impact future employment opportunities.

## Addictions Concentration

If you are enrolled in the addictions concentration, you will take PS535 Addictions Practicum I and PS536 Addictions Practicum II.

- If you feel that you may not be able to complete the PS535 Addictions Practicum I prescribed requirements in 10 weeks, you must contact the Clinical Placement Team in order to receive an extension in the course. If an extension is granted, you will enroll in PS535A Addictions Practicum I Extension and/or PS535B Addictions Practicum I Extension which will allow you up to 20 extra weeks to complete the requirements of PS535 Addictions Practicum I. Enrollment in these courses will only be granted at the discretion of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.
- If you feel that you may not be able to complete the PS536 Addictions Practicum II prescribed requirements in 10 weeks, you must contact the Clinical Placement Team in order to gain an extension in the course. If an extension is granted, you will enroll in PS536A Addictions Practicum II Extension and/or PS536B Addictions Practicum II Extension which will allow you up to 20 extra weeks to complete the requirements of PS536 Addictions Practicum II. Enrollment in these courses will only be granted at the discretion of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Note: Indiana students are required to obtain 700 hours of university-sponsored practicum to seek state licensure as an addiction counselor.

### Industrial/Organizational Psychology Concentration

If you feel that you may not be able to complete the PS545 Industrial/Organizational Field Placement prescribed requirements in 10 weeks, you must contact the Clinical Placement Team in order to gain an extension in the course. If an extension is granted, you will enroll in PS559 Practicum Field Placement Extension, which will allow you 10 extra weeks to complete the requirements of PS545 Industrial/Organizational Field Placement. Enrollment in this course will only be granted at the discretion of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

### Certification, State Board, and National Board Exams

Certification and licensure boards have state-specific educational requirements for programs that lead to a license or certification that is a precondition for employment. Prospective and current students must review Purdue Global's State Licensure and Certifications (<https://www.purdueglobal.edu/about/accreditation/licensure-state-authorizations/>) site to view program and state-specific licensure information.

Licensure-track programs may limit enrollment to students in certain states; please see Purdue Global's Program Availability Information (<https://www.purdueglobal.edu/catalog-program-availability-info.pdf>) to determine enrollment eligibility.

Optional certifications may be available, such as the Master Addiction Counselor (MAC) Credential. You are responsible for understanding the requirements of optional certification exams. Such requirements may change during the course of your program. You are not automatically certified in any way upon program completion. Although certain programs are designed to prepare you to take various optional certification exams, Purdue Global cannot guarantee you will be eligible to take these exams or become certified. Your eligibility may depend on your work experience, completion of education and/or degree requirements, not having a criminal record, and meeting other certification requirements.

The Master of Science in Psychology is not focused on the clinical practice of psychology and does not lead to licensure or certification as a psychologist, mental health counselor, or therapist.

### Addictions Concentration

The Master of Science in Psychology with a concentration in addictions is accredited by the National Addiction Studies Accreditation Commission (NASAC). The NASAC can be contacted at:

44 Canal Center Plaza, Suite 301  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
Tel: 703-562-0211  
Website: <http://nasacaccreditation.org>

The NAADAC (Association for Addiction Professionals) has designated Purdue Global as an Approved Education Provider for meeting nationally approved standards for the addiction counseling profession. Students who complete the Master of Science in Psychology with a concentration in addictions program will meet the coursework requirements to take NAADAC's Master Addictions Counselor (MAC) certification examination.


Note that additional requirements must also be completed to take the MAC examination, including degree, field experience, and

licensure requirements. Refer to <http://www.naadac.org/mac> (<http://www.naadac.org/mac/>) for full eligibility requirements.

The NAADAC can be contacted at:

44 Canal Center Plaza, Suite 301  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
Tel: 703-741-7686  
Website: <http://naadac.org>

## Degree Plan

The  icon appears in the title of traditional courses that are also available as a set of module courses. Module course availability may be limited to certain academic calendars. See Course Types (<https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/policy-information/university-information/approach-to-learning/>) for information about module courses.

## Thesis Track Requirements

Concentration courses are completed within the open electives requirement of the degree plan.

Students in this program are required to select a concentration.

### Additions

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Core Requirements</b>		
PS501	Foundations of Professional Psychology	5
MM570	Applied Statistics for Psychology	5
PS504	Advanced Research Methods	5
PS505	Testing, Measurement, and Assessment	5
PS506	Life Span Development	5
PS508	Ethics for Addictions Professionals	5
PS601	Master's Research and Thesis I	5
PS602	Master's Research and Thesis II	5
Total Core Requirements		40
<b>Open Elective Requirements</b>		
Concentration Courses		35
Total Open Elective Requirements		35
<b>Concentration Requirements: Addictions</b>		
PS511	Chemical and Psychological Dependency Counseling	
PS516	Psychopharmacology	
PS521	Group Counseling	
PS526	Advanced Addictions Counseling	
PS531	Co-Occurring Disorders and Treatments	
PS535	Addictions Practicum I	
PS536	Addictions Practicum II	
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>		<b>75</b>

### Forensic Psychology

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Core Requirements</b>		
PS501	Foundations of Professional Psychology	5
MM570	Applied Statistics for Psychology	5

PS502	Ethics and Standards of Professional Psychology	5
PS504	Advanced Research Methods	5
PS505	Testing, Measurement, and Assessment	5
PS506	Life Span Development	5
PS601	Master's Research and Thesis I	5
PS602	Master's Research and Thesis II	5
Total Core Requirements		40

**Open Elective Requirements**

Concentration Courses		25
Total Open Elective Requirements		25

**Concentration Requirements: Forensic Psychology**

PS525	Foundations of Psychopathology	
PS550	Principles of Forensic Psychology	
PS551	Forensic Psychology and the Law	
PS552	Theories of Criminal Behavior	
PS553	Advanced Principles of Forensic Psychology	

<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>	<b>65</b>
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**General Psychology**

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Core Requirements</b>		
PS501	Foundations of Professional Psychology	5
MM570	Applied Statistics for Psychology	5
PS502	Ethics and Standards of Professional Psychology	5
PS504	Advanced Research Methods	5
PS505	Testing, Measurement, and Assessment	5
PS506	Life Span Development	5
PS601	Master's Research and Thesis I	5
PS602	Master's Research and Thesis II	5
Total Core Requirements		40

**Open Elective Requirements**

Concentration Courses		25
Total Open Elective Requirements		25

**Concentration Requirements: General Psychology**

PS510	Qualitative Analysis	
PS515	Learning and Behavior	
PS520	Neuropsychology	
PS525	Foundations of Psychopathology	
PS530	Cognitive Psychology	

<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>	<b>65</b>
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**Industrial/Organizational Psychology - Nonpracticum**

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Core Requirements</b>		
PS501	Foundations of Professional Psychology	5
MM570	Applied Statistics for Psychology	5
PS502	Ethics and Standards of Professional Psychology	5
PS504	Advanced Research Methods	5
PS505	Testing, Measurement, and Assessment	5

PS506	Life Span Development	5
PS601	Master's Research and Thesis I	5
PS602	Master's Research and Thesis II	5
Total Core Requirements		40

**Open Elective Requirements**

Concentration Courses		25
Total Open Elective Requirements		25

**Concentration Requirements: Industrial/Organizational Psychology - Nonpracticum**

PS540	Industrial/Organizational Theory and Development	
PS541	Organizational Management and Behavior	
PS542	Workplace Motivation and Attitudes	
PS543	Organizational Leadership - Management, Training, and Evaluation	
PS544	Human Resources Management	

<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>	<b>65</b>
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**Industrial/Organizational Psychology - Practicum**

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Core Requirements</b>		
PS501	Foundations of Professional Psychology	5
MM570	Applied Statistics for Psychology	5
PS502	Ethics and Standards of Professional Psychology	5
PS504	Advanced Research Methods	5
PS505	Testing, Measurement, and Assessment	5
PS506	Life Span Development	5
PS601	Master's Research and Thesis I	5
PS602	Master's Research and Thesis II	5
Total Core Requirements		40

**Open Elective Requirements**

Concentration Courses		30
Total Open Elective Requirements		

**Concentration Requirements: Industrial/Organizational Psychology - Practicum**

PS540	Industrial/Organizational Theory and Development	
PS541	Organizational Management and Behavior	
PS542	Workplace Motivation and Attitudes	
PS543	Organizational Leadership - Management, Training, and Evaluation	
PS544	Human Resources Management	
PS545	Industrial/Organizational Field Placement	

<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>	<b>70</b>
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**Master's Capstone in Psychology Track Requirements**

Concentration courses are completed within the open electives requirement of the degree plan.

Students in this program are required to select a concentration.

## Addictions

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Core Requirements</b>		
PS501	Foundations of Professional Psychology	5
MM570	Applied Statistics for Psychology	5
PS504	Advanced Research Methods	5
PS505	Testing, Measurement, and Assessment	5
PS506	Life Span Development	5
PS508	Ethics for Addictions Professionals	5
PS598	Master's Capstone in Psychology	5
Total Core Requirements		35
<b>Open Elective Requirements</b>		
Concentration Courses		35
Total Open Elective Requirements		35
<b>Concentration Requirements: Addictions</b>		
PS511	Chemical and Psychological Dependency Counseling	
PS516	Psychopharmacology	
PS521	Group Counseling	
PS526	Advanced Addictions Counseling	
PS531	Co-Occurring Disorders and Treatments	
PS535	Addictions Practicum I	
PS536	Addictions Practicum II	
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>		<b>70</b>

## Forensic Psychology

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Core Requirements</b>		
PS501	Foundations of Professional Psychology	5
MM570	Applied Statistics for Psychology	5
PS502	Ethics and Standards of Professional Psychology	5
PS504	Advanced Research Methods	5
PS505	Testing, Measurement, and Assessment	5
PS506	Life Span Development	5
PS598	Master's Capstone in Psychology	5
Total Core Requirements		35
<b>Open Elective Requirements</b>		
Concentration Courses		25
Total Open Elective Requirements		25
<b>Concentration Requirements: Forensic Psychology</b>		
PS525	Foundations of Psychopathology	
PS550	Principles of Forensic Psychology	
PS551	Forensic Psychology and the Law	
PS552	Theories of Criminal Behavior	
PS553	Advanced Principles of Forensic Psychology	
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>		<b>60</b>

## General Psychology

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Core Requirements</b>		
PS501	Foundations of Professional Psychology	5
MM570	Applied Statistics for Psychology	5
PS502	Ethics and Standards of Professional Psychology	5
PS504	Advanced Research Methods	5
PS505	Testing, Measurement, and Assessment	5
PS506	Life Span Development	5
PS598	Master's Capstone in Psychology	5
Total Core Requirements		35
<b>Open Elective Requirements</b>		
Concentration Courses		25
Total Open Elective Requirements		25
<b>Concentration Requirements: General Psychology</b>		
PS510	Qualitative Analysis	
PS515	Learning and Behavior	
PS520	Neuropsychology	
PS525	Foundations of Psychopathology	
PS530	Cognitive Psychology	
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>		<b>60</b>

## Industrial/Organizational Psychology - Nonpracticum

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Core Requirements</b>		
PS501	Foundations of Professional Psychology	5
MM570	Applied Statistics for Psychology	5
PS502	Ethics and Standards of Professional Psychology	5
PS504	Advanced Research Methods	5
PS505	Testing, Measurement, and Assessment	5
PS506	Life Span Development	5
PS598	Master's Capstone in Psychology	5
Total Core Requirements		35
<b>Open Elective Requirements</b>		
Concentration Courses		25
Total Open Elective Requirements		25
<b>Concentration Requirements: Industrial/Organizational Psychology - Nonpracticum</b>		
PS540	Industrial/Organizational Theory and Development	
PS541	Organizational Management and Behavior	
PS542	Workplace Motivation and Attitudes	
PS543	Organizational Leadership - Management, Training, and Evaluation	
PS544	Human Resources Management	
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>		<b>60</b>



## Industrial/Organizational Psychology - Practicum

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Core Requirements</b>		
PS501	Foundations of Professional Psychology	5
MM570	Applied Statistics for Psychology	5
PS502	Ethics and Standards of Professional Psychology	5
PS504	Advanced Research Methods	5
PS505	Testing, Measurement, and Assessment	5
PS506	Life Span Development	5
PS598	Master's Capstone in Psychology	5
Total Core Requirements		35
<b>Open Elective Requirements</b>		
Concentration Courses		30
Total Open Elective Requirements		30
<b>Concentration Requirements: Industrial/Organizational Psychology - Practicum</b>		
PS540	Industrial/Organizational Theory and Development	
PS541	Organizational Management and Behavior	
PS542	Workplace Motivation and Attitudes	
PS543	Organizational Leadership - Management, Training, and Evaluation	
PS544	Human Resources Management	
PS545	Industrial/Organizational Field Placement	
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>		<b>65</b>