

PSY.D. PROGRAM IN INDIVIDUAL, ORGANIZATIONAL, AND COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION

Policies and Procedures

Admissions:

Students will be admitted for the fall semester only. Applicants with a graduate degree are preferred; however, those with a Bachelor's degree will be considered. Those with degrees outside of psychology are encouraged to apply. Additional courses in the Department of Psychology at the University of West Georgia may be required depending on disciplinary background or level of educational attainment (see below).

Matriculation:

Students admitted directly to the doctoral program should expect at least one year of full time attendance. After one year, students may be allowed to change to part time status. The program must be finished within seven years.

Financial Aid and Stipends:

The Department can offer a limited number of stipends for graduate research/teaching assistantships. The department also offers some tuition waivers. See application form for requirements for consideration of such waivers and stipends. Further financial aid may be available through the financial aid office or the graduate school.

Preparation for the doctoral program:

Those with degrees in non-related fields or without a Master's degree may be required to complete up to twenty hours of coursework. This will typically include PSYC 6000, Foundations of Humanistic Psychology and other content oriented courses. Required courses will be determined in consultation with faculty. Courses taken at the 7000 level can be taken for either Masters or doctoral credit but not both. Those admitted under the condition of having to take additional courses typically finish the preparatory sequence before entering 8000 level courses.

Requirements

Following are the requirements for completing the Psy.D. Program:

- 1) Earn 60 credits in approved doctoral level courses.

These credits include the required internship and are in accordance with prevailing standards for psychology doctoral programs. At least 48 credits must be attained from the Psychology Department. The remaining 12 credits may, upon approval, be comprised of coursework from other universities or from other departments at the University of West Georgia. At least 40 credits must consist of courses numbered 8000 or above. The remainder may include courses numbered 7000 or above. Dissertation does not count

towards total number of hours needed for degree departments at the University of West Georgia. At least 40 credits must consist of courses numbered 8000 or above. The remainder may include courses numbered 7000 or above. Dissertation does not count towards total number of hours needed for degree.

All required course credits are 4 hours.

- 2) Earn credit for the following required courses named below.

Foundations

PSYC 8000 – Consciousness and Experience PSYC 8001 - Culture & Subjectivity PSYC 8002 – Studies in Mind/Body PSYC 8003 – Philosophy, Psychology & Social Practice PSYC 8004 – Development, Transformation, & Change

Research Methods

PSYC 8005 – Human Science Methodologies
PSYC 8006 – Advanced Qualitative Research

Practica

These courses involve integration of theory, complexity of systems, contact/populations, research and interventions. The following courses meet this requirement:

PSYC 9087 – Teaching Practicum
PSYC 9187 – Practica

Students may complete two Practica rather than one Practica and one Teaching Practicum. Students may register for an Independent Study or enroll in the Masters Human Service Practicum with additional course requirements if Practica is not offered during the semester needed.

- 3) Complete the following additional requirements:

Comprehensive Examinations: Students must demonstrate readiness to advance to doctoral candidacy by passing a comprehensive exam.

Internship: At minimum a one semester internship at an approved setting leading to/related to research project.

Dissertation: Approval of a doctoral dissertation by the student's dissertation committee.

Comprehensives:

A doctoral student will fulfill the requirement of comprehensives by taking a final examination/project in all the required core academic and research courses. The nature and the grading of the comprehensive exam or final research project will be determined by the professor of record in the course. Copies of all of the exams/projects will be kept in a portfolio maintained by the Department. It is the student's responsibility to make sure that the portfolio stays up to date. A student may augment the portfolio with whatever material he/she deems appropriate. After completing all coursework, comprehensives, and dissertation proposal, the student may begin the internship and register for the dissertation.

Internship:

The internship should begin after the comprehensives for all core courses are successfully completed (including research courses and practica) and the student has successfully defended his/her dissertation proposal. The internship ideally provides the field foundation for the dissertation research and spans at least one and perhaps two semesters, with the total number of hours determined by the supervising faculty.

Dissertation Process:

Dissertation Committee

Before beginning the dissertation proposal, the student should choose a dissertation advisor and committee. The committee should be comprised of 1) a dissertation advisor, who is primarily responsible for the direction of the dissertation and who will be a full-time member of the Department and a member of the Graduate faculty and 2) two faculty members with full-time graduate faculty credentials, one of which may be from outside the Department. The student may also request a fourth member, or external reader, from an outside Department or University. Upon forming the dissertation committee, the student must arrange an initial meeting with the advisor to establish the timetable for the proposal and dissertation. The dissertation committee will work with the student while the dissertation proposal is started, and the names of committee members and proposal title will be given to the designated departmental administrator. All members of the committee should be kept informed as to the progress of the proposal and of the dissertation at regular intervals. Any changes in committee membership should be followed by notification of all members and the departmental administrator.

Dissertation Proposal

The nature of the dissertation proposal will reflect the type of dissertation undertaken by the student as approved by the dissertation advisor.

Proposal Defense

Once the proposal is finished, the dissertation committee will meet with the candidate to determine the feasibility and scholarship of the proposed project. During the meeting, the committee will suggest revisions and evaluate the viability of the candidate's dissertation project. Approved dissertation proposals will be filed with the proper administrative office. Upon approval and filing of the dissertation proposal, the student is officially admitted to candidacy. The proposal defense will be open to any interested faculty.

Dissertation Defense: The dissertation defense will consist of an oral presentation by the student followed by a question-and-answer period led by the student's advisor. The dissertation defense is open to the public. After the defense, the student will give a departmental colloquium.

The Curriculum

Curricular Formats

The curriculum includes a variety of course formats: lectures, seminars, tutorials, independent projects, and practica. Lecture courses are larger in size (10-15 students each), and present foundational overviews. Seminars are smaller (6-10 students), more specialized discussion-oriented courses focusing on advanced topics. Tutorials are composed of 3-5 students who gather for advanced study in an area with a faculty mentor, following the tradition of associated with the Oxford model. Independent projects are individualized research projects designed by the student in collaboration with a supervising professor. These are available only to those students who have qualified for more in-depth work in a particular area. The practicum is a field placement.

Course Descriptions

Required Courses

PSYC 8000. CONSCIOUSNESS & EXPERIENCE. This course introduces current approaches to the study of consciousness. An examination of consciousness as lived experience, through its manifestation as embodiment, temporality, spatiality, and sociality.

PSYC 8001. CULTURE AND SUBJECTIVITY. An examination of the dialectical nature of the relationship between subjectivity and culture including recent developments in linguistics, textual analysis, and research on intersubjectivity.

PSYC 8002. STUDIES IN MIND/BODY. Basic issues in mind/body psychology, such as the phenomenology of embodied consciousness, psychoneuroimmunology, neuroscience, holistic health, and contemplative disciplines.

PSYC 8003. PHILOSOPHY, PSYCHOLOGY & SOCIAL PRACTICE. This course emphasizes interrelations between philosophy, psychology, and social practice. The course looks at traditions that have questioned this demarcation, such as pragmatist, third force, and critical approaches and examines the implications of a more integrative approach.

PSYC 8004. DEVELOPMENT, TRANSFORMATION & CHANGE. This course explores dimensions of change at the individual and social levels. It will draw upon more traditional developmental models and integrate these with other approaches to spiritual growth, social transformation, and/or psychological change.

PSYC 8005. HUMAN SCIENCE RESEARCH METHODOLOGIES. An examination of the practice and application of research methodologies such as qualitative, phenomenological, hermeneutic, ethnographic, and discourse analysis.

PSYC 8006. ADVANCED QUALITATIVE RESEARCH. Advanced applications and design of qualitative methods and their fields of application, including areas such as health psychology, education, community, program evaluation, and other fields.

PSYC 9087. TEACHING PRACTICUM. Development of expertise as a teacher in both academic and psycho-educational settings. Required for all teaching assistants.

PSYC 9187. PRACTICA. A focused immersion into a specific psycho-social intervention, in the course of which the student is to develop a systemic understanding of the issue(s) addressed, as well as a concept of what constitutes a change in conscious awareness or systemic transformative intervention around those issues. **May be repeated for credit.**

Electives

Electives may be taken either in tutorial or seminar formats at the 7000 Level.

PSYC 7003. STATISTICS FOR THE SOCIAL SCIENCES. Survey of quantitative research methods with an emphasis on mixed methodology designs.

PSYC 7020. TRANSPERSONAL DEVELOPMENT. An overview of the farther reaches of human development, including consideration of consciousness studies, altered states, spiritual growth, and ways of knowing.

PSYC 7030. INTRODUCTION TO ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT. Provides a working understanding of organizational development (OD) and change including the process of change, the forces (internal and external) which impact organizations, and the role of OD and intervention strategies. Students will also gain an understanding of the impact that personality and consulting style may have in an organizational environment.

PSYC 7050. CONSCIOUSNESS STUDIES. Examines selected topics in consciousness studies, such as the history of consciousness, the phenomenology of consciousness and society, etc.

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PSYC 7102. LIFESPAN HUMAN DEVELOPMENT. Study of human growth and development from birth through aging and death. The course focuses on areas of physical, cognitive, social, personality, and emotional development as a series of progressive changes resulting from the biological being interacting with the environment. It will study factors affecting these changes within historical, multi-cultural, and special needs contexts of development.

PSYC 7132. GESTALT. An introduction to Gestalt therapy as a conceptual theory and a psychotherapeutic practice. This course will cover the historical development of Gestalt therapy as well as specific therapeutic strategies. Same as CEPD 7132.

PSYC 7133. TRANSACTIONAL ANALYSIS. An overview of transactional analysis with emphasis on application for personal and professional development. This course will cover the

historical and theoretical development of transactional analysis as well as specific strategies for personal and professional development. Same as CEPD 7133.

PSYC 7250. FOUNDATIONS OF PSYCHOANALYSIS. Addresses fundamental concepts in psychoanalysis through a return to Freud's texts and exploration of the basic schools in psychoanalysis after Freud. The emphasis is on clinical practice and the relationship between psychoanalysis and psychology. Course will require clinical and/or research applications.

PSYC 7430. CROSS-CULTURAL COMMUNICATION. This course is a combination of on-campus experiences, travel to foreign countries, and other appropriate experiences specifically designed to thematically explore cultural and ethnic dimensions in order to deepen psychological understanding. May be repeated for up to 12 hours.

PSYC 7460. ADV ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT. An analysis of the processes for organizational development and renewal with emphasis on individual and organizational health. Special attention will be given to effective processes for change agent in the organizational context.

PSYC 7470. ADVANCED ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT. An analysis of the processes for organizational development and renewal with emphasis on individual and organizational health. Special attention will be given to effective processes for change agent in the organizational context.

PSYC 7490. PHENOMENOLOGY OF SOCIAL EXISTENCE. An exploration of the phenomenology of intersubjectivity as a horizon of human existence.

PSYC 7500. EXISTENTIAL PSYCHOLOGY. An inquiry into the influences of selected existential themes—such as anxiety, being-in-the-world, being-for-others—with an emphasis on their appearance in psychology.

PSYC 7600. PERSONALITY AND MOTIVATION. Survey of theories of personality and motivational factors from a sampling of psychological, spiritual, and philosophical traditions.

PSYC 7650. BUDDHIST PSYCHOLOGY. An introduction to the teachings and psychospiritual methods of the major schools of Buddhism.

PSYC 7670. MUSIC AND THE MIND. An inquiry into the relationship between sound and the mind, including music and therapy.

PSYC 7895. HORIZON SEMINAR. A special series of topical seminars meant to explore subjects at the leading edge of contemporary psychology which are of interest to students and faculty.

PSYC 7810. TUTORIAL 1. Students meet in small groups with instructor once a week to discuss a research topic. Subject matter varies each semester. May be repeated for credit.

PSYC 7820. WORKSHOP 1. This course is offered over three consecutive weekends, 4.25 hours each weekend. Subject matter varies each semester. May be repeated for credit.

PSYC 7830. INVITED LECTURES 1. Invited lectures by a visiting professor. Subject matter varies each semester. May be repeated for credit. At the 8000 Level (Courses currently being proposed):

PSYC 8185. SPECIAL TOPICS IN HUMAN DEVELOPMENT. Special series of topical seminars meant to explore subjects in human development which are of special interest to students & faculty.

PSYC 8102. PSYCHOSPIRITUALITY AND TRANSFORMATION. An examination of wisdom traditions and approaches to psychospiritual personality integration and how they apply to modern human problems.

PSYC 8103. SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND CONSCIOUSNESS. An examination of the individual and social psychological significance of living in an increasingly technological world, including implications for such issues as identity, agency, cultural change and adaptation.

PSYC 8260. EPISTEMOLOGY AND ETHICS. An examination of the human capacities to know, to love, and to act with respect to self, relationships, and historic time.

PSYC 8270. DEPTH PSYCHOLOGY. Topics in depth psychological theories of the unconscious.

PSYC 8280. HISTORY OF CONSCIOUSNESS. Examination of the evolution of human consciousness, through a focus on key historical epochs in civilization and the transformations in consciousness wrought in each.

PSYC 8290. APPROACHES TO COMMUNITY. Identification of the interplay of social, individual, and other factors at work in given community issues and problems.

PSYC 8300. EXPLORATORY METHODS IN CONSCIOUSNESS STUDIES. Practice in the cultivation of methods of conscious awareness, such as meditation, yoga, and other methods relating to mental disciplines.

PSYC 8301. PROGRAM EVALUATION. Advanced studies in program evaluation: applied settings are emphasized.

PSYC 8584. ADVANCED SEMINARS. These seminars will offer advanced study in special topics: Child & Youth Care, Organizational Transformation, Community Building & Generativity, Disaster Mental Health, Cultural Diversity and Community.

PSYC 8581. INDEPENDENT PROJECT. (var. credit 1-4) Independent research in a particular topic under the supervision of a professor.

PSYC 8884. PSYCHOLOGY PROSEMINAR.

PSYC 8887. ADVANCED PRACTICUM IN PSYCHOL.

PSYC 9887. INTERNSHIP. Internship is defined as intensive and independent fieldwork experience that occurs concurrently with dissertation research. It typically follows proposal defense and comprehensives. The internship should bear a clear and articulated relationship to student's interests and doctoral program aims and teachings. It is at least one semester long. Site, hours, and supervisory contract will be negotiated by the student, the internship instructor and appropriate personnel site supervisors. May be repeated for credit.

PSYC 9999. DISSERTATION. Student enrolls in PSYC 9999 each semester after completing comprehensives and coursework. (Required.)