

## Doctorate Degree in Psychology (PsyD)

### Program Overview

The Doctor of Psychology (PsyD) program is designed to prepare students for careers in clinical psychology in private practices, hospitals, mental health centers, and academic institutions. Practical clinical training and rigorous academic coursework are combined to ensure that graduates are equipped to address diverse psychological issues and effective therapeutic interventions. The curriculum provides a comprehensive understanding of psychological theories, assessment techniques, therapeutic interventions, and ethical practices.

### Learning Objectives

PsyD graduates will be able to:

- Exhibit advanced knowledge of theories and principles of psychology.
- Perform comprehensive psychological assessments and develop effective treatment plans.
- Address a wide range of psychological disorders, focusing on evidence-based interventions.
- Students will commit to ethical standards and professional guidelines in clinical practices.
- Recognize, respect, and be sensitive to cultural competencies as they work with a diversity of clients.
- Critically evaluate and integrate scientific research and faith-based practices.
- Recognize the values of effective communication with clients, families, and healthcare professionals.

### Curriculum Requirements

The requirements for the PsyD degree are as follows:

- **Complete 60 credit hours of core courses and electives**
- **Complete and defend a Dissertation:** a significant research project that demonstrates the student's ability to contribute to the field of clinical psychology
- **Defense**
- **Practicum:** Provides hands-on training under the supervision of a licensed psychologist in an area like:
  - Counseling Psychology
  - Marriage & Family Counseling

- Counseling Theory
- Addiction Counseling
- Professional Counseling

## Course Description

- **Core Courses:**

- **PSY710 New Treatments in Psychotherapy.** Study designed to offer top research in ways to promote individual wellbeing. The instructor will direct students on the type of research on methods of research (Core).
- **PSY711 Evidenced Based Practice in Counseling & Therapy.** This course will review some evidence-based practices used in counseling and therapy practices. Students will practice and demonstrate their knowledge in `real life situations by practicing with clients under the supervision of an instructor (Core).
- **PSY750 Pastoral Psychotherapy.** This course is an introduction to the biological – psychological – systemic – spiritual model of pastoral psychotherapy. Counseling theory, techniques, and clinical use of self are addressed through a collaborative perspective which integrates the literature of psychotherapy, medicine, body energy, cybernetics systems, theology and spirituality. The teaching is drawn from psychotherapy, supervision, medicine (psychiatry, sleep medicine, and collaborative family medicine) as well as Healing Touch. It also covers how these doctrines came to be clarified and discussed in later church history, and how some of them are interpreted differently by different branches of Christianity (core).
- **PSY760 Psychological Assessments.** Student will learn to administer, score, and interpret psychological assessment tools such as cognitive and intellectual assessments (Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale and Stanford Binet Intelligence Scale), personality and behavior tools such as (the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory (MMPI). The course covers assessment techniques, report writing, and feedback delivery (Core).

- **Electives.**

- **COUN712 Treatment & Diagnosis: Mental Health & Substance Abuse Treatment.** This course reflects the latest advancements and diagnosis of substance use and comorbid disorders, surveys current research in epidemiology, genetics, and management of dually diagnosed patients- comprehensively describing the treatment of major medical disorders that

are directly or indirectly related to substance abuse including alcohol-related gastrointestinal disorders, cocaine-induced cardiac disease, and hepatitis C infection.

- **COUN714 Case Management.** This course provides an orientation to students on how to link and refer people to community services. It addresses some community services skills such as interviewing clients, intake assessments, responding to clients with the special needs and or disabilities, developing case plans and discussing some legal related issues.
- **COUN717 Diet & Nutrition: Healthy Eating, Exercise, Weight Reduction.** The basic principles of human nutrition are investigated, emphasizing the nutrients, food sources, and their utilization in the body for growth and health throughout life. This course also assesses contemporary nutrition issues.
- **PsyD500 Clinical Psychology Methods.** An overview of the field of clinical psychology, which includes history, theoretical foundations, and areas of practice. Various roles and responsibilities of psychologists and understanding of the training and licensure requirements.
- **PSY510 New Treatments in Psychotherapy.** Study designed to offer top research in ways to promote individual wellbeing. The instructor will direct students on the type of research on methods of research (Core).
- **PSY512 Mental Health Treatment, Planning & Intervention.** Learning skills that effectively treat consumers in mental health & substance abuse by utilizing interventions which preferential use of Post Baccalaureate Studies.
- **PSY745. Basic Pharmacology.** This course gives new graduates students an orientation to the general concepts of pharmacologic science. The students will learn the underlying principles of pharmacology and study the historical, regulatory (FDA) and industrial aspects of pharmacology science. The course will cover the basic physiological, biochemical, and anatomical foundations for the interaction of drugs and chemicals with biological systems.
- **PSY747 Education in Medicine and Medical Terminology.** This course covers word roots, prefixes, and suffices used in medical language today. Learn how to combine words to create meaningful medical conditions as well as comprehend their definition and know the correct spelling. In this medical terminology course, we'll cover medical terms related to all major body systems, including: muscular system, skeletal system, respiratory system, circulatory system, digestive system, reproductive system, and urinary system. Whether you are new to the medical profession, or you just need a refresher class, this medical terminology course is for you!

- **PSY755 Integration of Psychology & Theology.** In this course, students critically examine the implications of Christian worldview for counseling and marriage and family practice. Ethical issues relevant to the use of spiritual and religious interventions with individuals, couples, & families are considered, along with current research related to spirituality and counseling.
- **8810 Internship.** Supervised work experience where individuals gain practical knowledge and skills in a specific area of study. Internships provide a bridge between academic study and the professional world.
- **8890 Practicum.** The practicum is a structured, supervised practical training experience, emphasizing the application of theoretical knowledge to real-world scenarios in a your area of study. It provides hands-on training under the supervision of a licensed psychologist in an area like:
  - Counseling Psychology
  - Marriage & Family Counseling
  - Counseling Theory
  - Addiction Counseling
  - Professional Counseling
  - Psychological Studies (PSY)
  - Theological Studies (TS)
- **Other electives in:**
  - Biblical Studies (BS)
  - Christian Ministry (CM)
  - Counseling (COUN)
  - Pastoral Counseling (PC)
  - Philosophical Studies (PS)