

# Clinical Psychology Concentration

## B.S. Degree in Psychology

### Frequently Asked Questions



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#### **What is the Clinical Psychology concentration?**

This concentration focuses an undergraduate's Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree on courses aimed the study of abnormal behaviors and mental illnesses. Clinical psychology focuses on the study of mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders, by observation or experimentation, with the intention of promoting change. Clinical psychology integrates the science of psychology with the prevention, assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of diverse and complicated human problems. To add the Clinical Psychology concentration to your degree program, speak to your advisor ([cosm-advisors@wright.edu](mailto:cosm-advisors@wright.edu)).

#### **What does the Clinical Psychology concentration prepare me for?**

A solid background in clinical psychology will prepare you well for more advanced studies in the area and related fields (e.g., graduate studies in clinical psychology, neuropsychology, counseling, mental health, medical school, law school) and working in applied settings. The required and recommended courses for the concentration will also equip you with the analytic skills to evaluate and apply scientific data.

A few examples include:

- A counselor may help clients address emotional or psychological struggles in their lives and work with them to determine an evidence-based solution.
- A clinical psychology work with those struggling with mental illness to address problematic behaviors, thoughts, and emotions.
- A neuropsychologist may seek to understand brain-behavior relationships either in a research or clinical setting; these professionals are trained in a variety of assessment techniques in order to accomplish this goal.

#### **Should I go to graduate school?**

Graduate school attendance depends on one's career goal. In general, the higher the level of education, the higher the degree of responsibility has in one's job. For example, the principal investigator of a research project at an academic institution, a government laboratory, or at a medical institution would typically have an advanced degree; a research assistant would not. There are a wide variety of jobs available to those within the clinical psychology field for bachelor's (e.g., registered behavior technician) and master's (e.g., marriage and family counseling) level trainees.

#### **Besides the classes required for the B.S. degree and the Clinical Psychology concentration (see next page), what other preparation will I need?**

- We recommend you seek out research experiences while you are an undergraduate student. Reach out to faculty members from whom you've taken classes to see if you could serve as a research assistant in their lab. You can earn Independent Research credit (PSY 4060) or even engage in an undergraduate Honors Research project (PSY 4070) with a faculty member. Faculty members' interests are listed on the Department's webpages: <https://science-math.wright.edu/psychology/faculty-and-staff-directory>
- We also encourage you to become active in professional organizations, including Psychology Club and Psi Chi, on WSU's campus.
- The Undergraduate Practicum is a course (PSY 4030) where a student does work in the community for course credit. To learn more about this program, see the Practicum webpage: <https://science-math.wright.edu/psychology/practicum-in-psychology>
- Faculty occasionally have reading groups during the year or over the summer, in conjunction with activities in their labs. Additionally, the Department holds a weekly Brown Bag seminar on Fridays where Department members or community associates present colloquia.
- For those planning to go to graduate school, medical school, law school, or other post-baccalaureate programs, do your research on how to prepare, including pre-requisite courses, standardized tests (e.g., GRE, MCAT, LSAT) in your field. Build up your verbal, quantitative, and analytical skills during your entire undergraduate period.

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### Required and Recommended Courses

*This list focuses on some of the requirements for the Clinical Psychology Concentration. The Psychology B.S. degree checklist (available on Wings Express on your degree audit) should be used as your master checklist for those requirements. Courses below are some of the required and recommended courses for the Clinical Psychology Concentration, but you are not limited to taking only these courses to satisfy your Psychology electives requirements. Please consult with a COSM advisor when planning your semesters ([cosm-advisors@wright.edu](mailto:cosm-advisors@wright.edu)) and use your degree audit (available on Wings Express) to stay up-to-date on your progress. A minimum grade of 3.2 in Psychology coursework is required to graduate with the concentration.*

#### **A. CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY CONCENTRATION-REQUIRED COURSES**

<b>PSY 3070</b> , Tests and Measures	<b>PSY 3910</b> , Behavioral Neuroscience
<b>PSY 3110</b> , Abnormal Psychology	<b>PSY 3010</b> , Research Methods I
<b>PSY 3310</b> , Personality Psychology	<b>PSY 3020</b> , Research Methods II
<b>PSY 3410</b> , Lifespan Development	<b>PSY 4020</b> , Advanced Topics in Research Methods
<b>PSY 3510</b> , Social Psychology	<b>One additional Psychology Core Course</b>

#### **B. CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY CONCENTRATION CAPSTONE COURSES: (Select **two** from this list.)**

<b>PSY 4300</b> , Abnormal Psychology Capstone	<b>PSY 4900</b> , Behavioral Neuroscience Capstone
<b>PSY 4310</b> , Clinical Psychology Capstone	<b>PSY 4540</b> , Human Sexuality Capstone

#### **C. CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY CONCENTRATION ADVANCED RESEARCH METHODS (Complete **one**.)**

<b>PSY 3130</b> , Qualitative Methods in Clinical Psychology	<b>PSY 3530</b> , Social Psychology Methods
<b>PSY 3310</b> , Personality Research Methods	<b>PSY 3930</b> , Behavioral Neuroscience Methods

#### **D. CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY CONCENTRATION RECOMMENDED ELECTIVES (Choose **three**.)**

<b>PSY 2110</b> , Human Sexuality	<b>PSY 2520</b> , Forensic Psychology
<b>PSY 2160</b> , Counseling Psychology	<b>PSY 2810</b> , Psychology of Incarceration
<b>PSY 2420</b> , Psychology of Men and Women	<b>PSY 2910</b> , Drugs and Behavior
<b>PSY 2430</b> , Issues in Aging	<b>PSY 2920</b> , Hormones and Behavior
<b>PSY 2510</b> , Stereotyping & Prejudice	<b>PSY 2940</b> , Mind, Body, Consciousness and Reality

#### **E. ADDITIONAL ELECTIVES TO CONSIDER**

*Consider taking an Independent Reading or Independent Research course, entering the Honors Program<sup>a</sup>, or participating in a Practicum.*

**PSY 2030**, Careers in Clinical Psychology  
**PSY 4030**, Practicum in Applied Psychology (in relevant areas)  
**PSY 4040**, Independent Reading<sup>b</sup>  
**PSY 4050**, Honors Seminar<sup>a</sup>  
**PSY 4060**, Independent Research<sup>b</sup>  
**PSY 4070**, Honors Research Project<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Information about the Honors Program can be obtained from the Department of Psychology Office in 335 Fawcett.

<sup>b</sup> To participate in Independent Readings or Independent Research, directly contact the faculty member with whom you are interested in working.