

# DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN THE FIELD OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY (STEM)

The PhD in clinical psychology program follows the scientist-practitioner model. In this American Psychological Association-accredited program, students are trained as applied researchers and scientists, developing skills in the research methods used to advance knowledge of the causes, prevention and treatment of emotional, behavioral and physical health problems within diverse communities.

The program's coursework, research and clinical training are grounded in developmental and social-ecological perspectives that attend to the intersection of multiple forms of diversity and recognize the impacts of systemic oppression on individuals and communities.

Faculty subscribe to a range of theoretical orientations, including cognitive-behavioral, family systems, social-ecological, and community frameworks. These perspectives enable students to develop a broad base of knowledge and the opportunity to specialize in particular areas of research and evidence-based application.

This is a STEM-designated program.

Visit the program website (<https://psychology.columbian.gwu.edu/graduate/phd-clinical-psychology/>) for additional information

## ADMISSIONS

Admission deadlines: Fall: December 1

Standardized GRE general test is not required. test scores:

The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), the academic International English Language Testing System (IELTS), or the PTE Academic is required of all applicants except those who hold a bachelor's, master's, or doctoral degree from a college or university in the United States or from an institution located in a country in which English is the official language, provided English was the language of instruction.

Minimum scores for the program are:

-Academic IELTS: an overall band score of 7.0 with no individual score below 6.0; or

-TOEFL: 600 on paper-based or 100 on Internet-based; or

-PTE Academic: 68;

Prerequisite requirements program course requirements in one of three ways:

a) Have an undergraduate Bachelor's degree in psychology

b) Have a Master's degree in psychology

c) For Non-Psychology majors - Complete at least six undergraduate or graduate courses in psychology, including Statistics, Research Methods, Abnormal Psychology, and three general content courses (such as developmental psychology, social psychology, cognitive psychology, personality, biological bases of behavior, or history and systems of psychology).

Recommendations: Three (3) recommendations required:

Prior academic records: Transcripts are required from all colleges and universities attended, whether or not credit was earned, the program was completed, or the credit appears as transfer credit on another transcript. Unofficial transcripts from all colleges and universities attended must be uploaded to your online application. Official transcripts are required only of applicants who are offered admission. If transcripts are in a language other than English, English language translations must be provided. The English translation alone should be uploaded into your application.

Statement of purpose: In an essay of 500-1000 words, state your purpose in undertaking graduate study in your chosen field. Include your academic objectives, research interests, research experience, and career plans. Describe how you see your role as a scientist-practitioner within the context of social justice and diversity considerations. In responding to this question, we encourage you to reflect upon how your cultural, ethnic, or personal background brings a unique perspective to the Clinical Psychology graduate program. Also describe how your interests resonate with the Clinical Psychology Program's mission statement ([https://docs.google.com/viewer?url=https%3A%2F%2Fpsychology.columbian.gwu.edu%2Fsites%2Fg%2Ffiles%2Fzaxdzs4741%2Ffiles%2F2024-08%2FFaculty%2520Preference%2520Ranking%2520Form%25202025-26\\_acc.pdf](https://docs.google.com/viewer?url=https%3A%2F%2Fpsychology.columbian.gwu.edu%2Fsites%2Fg%2Ffiles%2Fzaxdzs4741%2Ffiles%2F2024-08%2FFaculty%2520Preference%2520Ranking%2520Form%25202025-26_acc.pdf)) and the faculty member(s) whom you've selected to work with.

Interview: An interview is required.

Additional requirements: Applicants will rank two faculty members whose research interests best match their current research interests (1 = first choice, 2 = second choice). Applicants should review eligible core faculty and bios and indicate their ranking on the online application for the PhD program in clinical psychology (<https://columbian.gwu.edu/sites/g/files/zaxdzs4901/files/2022-08/faculty-preference-ranking-form-2023-24.pdf>).

International Please review International Applicant Information applicants (https://columbian.gwu.edu/international-graduate-applicants (https://columbian.gwu.edu/international-graduate-applicants/)) carefully for details on required documents and English language requirements.

Supporting documents not submitted online should be mailed to:

Columbian College of Arts and Sciences, Office of Graduate Studies  
The George Washington University  
801 22nd Street NW, Phillips Hall 107  
Washington DC 20052

For additional information about the admissions process visit the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences Frequently Asked Questions (https://columbian.gwu.edu/graduate-admissions-faq/) page.

Contact:

askccas@gwu.edu  
202-994-6210 (phone)

Hours: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday

## REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements must be fulfilled:

The general requirements stated under Columbian College of Arts and Sciences, Graduate Programs (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/#degreeregulationstext).

The requirements for the Doctor of Philosophy Program (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/#doctoralstext).

72 credits, including 54 credits in required courses, at least 6 credits in dissertation courses, and 15 credits in dissertation or elective courses. Students also take five 0-credit courses and successfully complete a comprehensive examination.

In addition, students are required to obtain clinical training, including a minimum of two assessment practica and two therapy practica in the Meltzer Center (https://psychology.columbian.gwu.edu/meltzer-center/)’s Psychological and Community-Based Services, and to complete a one-year psychology internship training program. In almost all cases this will be an APA- approved pre-doctoral internship program.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required</b>		
Methods/Statistics		
PSYC 8205	Multiple Regression Analysis in Psychological and Social Sciences	
PSYC 8206	Multivariate Analysis and Modeling	

PSYC 8202 Psychological Research Methods and Procedures

Breadth

PSYC 8210 Developmental Theories and Issues

PSYC 8250 Foundations in Cognitive Neuroscience

PSYC 8253 Social Cognition

Clinical core

PSYC 8207 Psychological Assessment I

PSYC 8208 Psychological Assessment II

PSYC 8211 Community Psychology I

PSYC 8212 Community Psychology II

PSYC 8218 Evidence-Based Interventions

PSYC 8220 Ethics and Professional Issues

PSYC 8236 Ethnic and Racial Diversity in Psychology

PSYC 8237 The Practice of General Psychology I

PSYC 8238 The Practice of General Psychology II

PSYC 8239 Lifespan Developmental Psychopathology I

PSYC 8240 Lifespan Developmental Psychopathology II

### Required 0-credit courses

PSYC 8280 Theories and Practice of Clinical Supervision

PSYC 8283 First Year Seminar I: Motivational Interviewing

PSYC 8284 First Year Seminar II: Introduction to Therapy

PSYC 8285 History and Systems of Psychology

PSYC 8286 Clinical Psychology Externship

### Dissertation courses

At least 6 credits total taken in the following courses:

PSYC 8998 Advanced Reading and Research

PSYC 8999 Dissertation Research

### Dissertation or elective courses

15 credits to be taken in dissertation or elective courses.

## **Comprehensive examination**

Successful completion of a comprehensive examination is required.