

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN COMMUNITY PSYCHOLOGY

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Master of Science in Community Psychology program is designed for students interested in working within communities to affect changes that enhance the opportunities of all members, with a particular focus on the most vulnerable.

The program coursework focuses on applied community psychology while also covering the basic areas of cognitive, developmental, and social psychology, and providing an additional background in the theories and methods of scientific psychology.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Graduates of the program will develop:

- Knowledge base in psychology
 - Describe major community psychology theories in depth
- Scientific mindedness
 - Design research studies, then collect, analyze and report data
- Ethical and social responsibility in a diverse world
 - Apply the ethical standards of psychology
- Communication
 - Demonstrate competence in written, oral, and interpersonal communication
- Professional Development
 - Demonstrate a high level of professional performance

CURRICULUM

Students are required to complete 48 quarter hours to confer the MS degree. Within this 48-hour program, students must also complete a fieldwork-based internship or, in selected cases, a traditional master's thesis or a capstone research project. The curriculum highlights three facets of psychology as a domain of inquiry:

- **Theory:** the knowledge and theory relevant to the many areas of psychological study
- **Research:** the methodologies and skills whereby the science of psychology is advanced
- **Application:** the use of psychology for the benefit of individuals and society

CAREER OUTCOMES

Graduates from this program will be trained on the most current, research-based skills and knowledge to be valuable members in leadership roles across a wide range of community-based organizations. These might include health care, local social service, educational settings, and other organizations who need expertise in improving program planning and strategic development. Other areas include the not-for-profit industries and the for-profit industries as well as local and state governments. Additionally, the curriculum in the program is built to enhance the skills for individuals with other experience or training such as the criminal justice system involving police and the court systems, in areas of trauma, and in areas of public safety. Graduates from this program will be prepared to help organizations achieve the broader goals of program development through their expertise in implementing data-driven empowerment programs.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Research Core Courses

(three courses, 12 quarter hours) PSY

410	Advanced Statistics I
PSY 411	Advanced Statistics II
PSY 420	Quantitative Research Design

Graduate Basic Core

(two of three courses, eight quarter hours)

Two of	Cognitive Seminar Course
	Developmental Seminar Course
three	Social Seminar Course

Community Psychology:

(four courses, 16 quarter hours)

PSY 492	Consultation
PSY 493	Principles of Community Psych
PSY 520	Diversity Program
PSY 569	Evaluation

Elective Courses*

(three courses, 12 quarter hours)

Students may choose from a variety of electives across multiple disciplines based on individual interest.

Culminating Experience

PSY 585	Fieldwork
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**Students may enroll in psychology or non-psychology graduate courses with approval from the program director.*

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The application process takes place once per year. Students are accepted as a cohort and will begin taking courses in the Autumn Quarter. For students completing two courses per quarter, the program will last two years.

Preference is given to applicants who have a demonstrated interest in community psychology and who have some background in science and mathematics. To be considered, applicants are advised to have completed approximately six upper level psychology or related discipline courses, including a four-quarter hour (three-semester hour) elementary statistics course and a four-quarter hour research methods course. Students who do not have an undergraduate major in psychology but who otherwise satisfy the admission requirements may apply.

To apply, please submit the following:

- Undergraduate transcript
- GRE Scores
- Three letters of recommendation
- Personal statement
- Psychology course history list
- Community psychology-related volunteer or employment activities

Students educated outside the United States must present proof of English proficiency. The college requires a minimum TOEFL score of 80 on the TOEFL iBT, 213 on the computer-based test or 550 on the paper-based test. While applicants who meet the university minimum will be reviewed, most graduate programs prefer TOEFL scores of at least 96 on the TOEFL iBT, 243 on the computer-based test or 590 on the paper-based test. A minimum 7.5 on the IELTS may be submitted for this requirement.

HOW TO APPLY

Online applications can be submitted at go.depaul.edu/apply. Application credentials including letters of recommendation, personal statement and course history can be submitted through the online application at graddepaul@depaul.edu. Additionally, official electronic transcripts can be emailed to graddepaul@depaul.edu directly by the issuing institution. Please make sure your name is on all documents. Transcripts also can be mailed to:

The Office of Graduate Admission College of Science and Health DePaul University 2400 N. Sheffield Ave.
Chicago, IL 60614

The application deadline is May 1. Admission decisions are finalized by May 15. Student cohorts begin in the Autumn Quarter.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Web: go.depaul.edu/psychology
Visit: go.depaul.edu/gradopenhouse Email: graddepaul@depaul.edu Phone: (773) 325-7315

Department Contacts

Email: gradpsych@depaul.edu
Phone: (773) 325-7887

The Office of Graduate Admission 2400

North Sheffield Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60614-3936

Telephone: (773) 325-7315
Outside Illinois: (800) 4DEPAUL Email: graddepaul@depaul.edu
Web: csh.depaul.edu

Please note the information provided is current as of September 2019 and is subject to change.