



# Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences Graduate Brochure



# UWM Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences

## Graduate Program

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*Please Note:  
The information presented in this brochure is meant to assist you in your graduate studies application process.*

*A Graduate Student Handbook will be distributed to students admitted to our graduate programs, containing full program requirement*

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## **General Information**

Thank you for inquiring about graduate study in psychological and brain sciences at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (UWM)! UWM is located in a vibrant urban setting on Milwaukee's North Shore close to Lake Michigan. It serves nearly 23,000 undergraduate and graduate students, with the most diverse population of any school in the UW system. UWM is among the nation's major research universities. It is one of only 187 universities nationwide to receive the highest rating for a research institution (Research 1, also known as R1) from the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education.

The Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences places a premium on excellence in teaching and scholarly research. As a result, we are one of the most dynamic and productive departments on the UWM campus. The faculty are recognized experts in their various disciplines as well as accomplished teachers. Our clinic provides psychotherapy and assessment services to both the UWM campus and the greater Milwaukee community.

Perhaps the best indicator of our success, however, is the quality of our students. Our graduate students have been extraordinarily successful in research and scholarship. They publish cutting-edge research with our faculty, successfully compete for national funding awards, consistently secure postgraduate positions at some of the most prestigious universities in the country as well as employment in industry, government and academia.



## **Overview of Psychological and Brain Sciences Graduate Programs**

The Department offers two graduate degrees: the Ph.D. in Psychology and the M.S. in Psychology.

We are currently accepting applications to two of our Ph.D. programs (both of which include earning the M.S.):

- Clinical Psychology (accredited by the American Psychological Association)
- Neuroscience\*

*\* Please note that the Department of Biological Sciences and several other departments also offer opportunities for doctoral study in neuroscience.*

We offer one terminal M.S. program:

- Health Psychology

Note that our doctoral programs are actually combined M.S./Ph.D. programs (although applicants with advanced degrees are also encouraged to apply; see pp. 3, 4, 8 and 11 for more information for students with advanced degrees). All programs train students in the facts, methodologies, and theories of psychology, with special emphasis on developing research competence. The department has well-equipped laboratories and an on-campus training clinic. The city of Milwaukee provides additional opportunities for training at hospitals, social service agencies, and the Medical College of Wisconsin. Detailed program descriptions begin on p. 7.

The department refers students interested in Counseling Psychology or School Psychology to the [Department of Educational Psychology](#) in the School of Education.

In addition to the information in this brochure, information about our programs and faculty can be found at our [website](#).



## Financial Support\*

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Each admittee to our Ph.D. programs will receive an academic-year (mid August to mid May) teaching assistantship (TAship), which includes a stipend, full remission of tuition, and benefits such as health insurance. The academic-year TAship stipend is \$14,484 (for those who don't hold a thesis-based master's degree in psychology or neuroscience) or \$16,014 (for those who hold a thesis-based master's degree in psychology or neuroscience). TAs work approximately 20 hours per week and are typically assigned to lead discussion sessions or assist in face-to-face and online courses. Our department's doctoral students generally hold TAships or equivalent forms of support (e.g., research assistantships or full fellowships sponsored by the Graduate School) throughout their years at UWM. We anticipate providing 5 years of TA support for each incoming student.

Based on a review of credentials, admittees to the Neuroscience Ph.D. program will receive an additional \$4,000 per year, and admittees in the Clinical Psychology Ph.D. program will receive an additional \$2,500 per year through the Chancellor's Graduate Student Award (CGSA) for their initial five years in the program. The resulting total minimum financial package for students in their first year is \$18,484 for Neuroscience admittees and \$16,984 for Clinical.

Additional funding may be provided to incoming students by advising faculty with extramural grants, which may increase the first-year (and perhaps beyond) support package by another \$1,500 to \$3,500.

Notably, based on a review of credentials, two outstanding admittees—one Clinical and one Neuroscience—will be offered Cialdini Fellowships providing \$5,000 per year for 5 years instead of CGSAs. These fellowships are funded by a generous gift to UWM from Dr. Robert Cialdini '67 and Bobette Gorden. An internationally recognized social psychologist, Dr. Cialdini is an alumnus of our department who received UWM's Lifetime Achievement Award in 2015. A regents' professor emeritus at Arizona State University, his books, including the New York Times bestseller *Influence: Science and Practice*, are the result of decades of peer-reviewed research on why people comply with requests.

In addition to departmental support during the academic year, some students may also receive research funding during the summer. Typically, this support comes from the major professor, although some support may be available from the department in the form of a competitive summer fellowship. Availability of summer support varies by year, so students should discuss this with their major professor.

\*The department does not offer Chancellor's or Cialdini Awards, nor does it guarantee TA or RA positions, to students admitted into the Health Psychology master's program.

## Major Professor

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All graduate students must have a major professor (advisor) to oversee their progress and to supervise their research. It is therefore important that potential major professors be considered very carefully during the application process. Entering students will be assigned to one of the major professors indicated during the admissions process. The department also has a Director of Graduate Studies who advises students about courses and programs of study.

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## Information for Students with Master's Degrees in Psychology

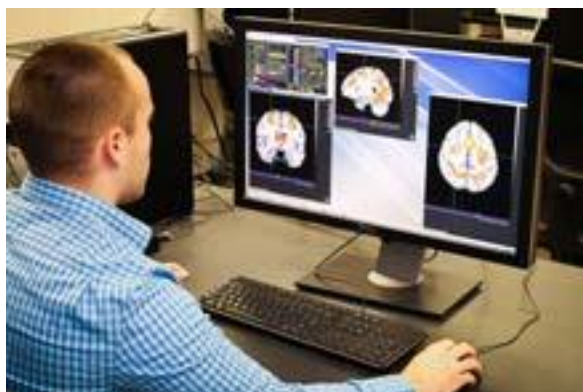
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Students admitted to the doctoral programs who already have a master's degree in psychology or neuroscience that included an empirically based master's thesis are exempt from the requirement of having to earn the M.S. at UWM. Students admitted with a master's degree in psychology or neuroscience that did not include a thesis must complete a thesis and earn the M.S. at UWM. In many cases, students admitted to the doctoral program with master's degrees in psychology or neuroscience are allowed to waive some of their UWM coursework based on courses they took in their master's programs.

## Time Limits

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Departmental regulations stipulate that students in the doctoral programs must be full-time students; no part-time study is allowed. Doctoral students must earn the M.S. within three years of enrolling (by March 10 of their third year for most favorable consideration within the teaching assistant priority system), and the Ph.D. within seven years (exclusive of the internship year for clinical students). The terminal master's program in health psychology has a time limit of seven years for earning the M.S. to allow for the possibility of part-time study.



## Admission Criteria

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Admission is very competitive, and is based on the evaluation of an applicant's entire record. In evaluating each application, the Admissions Committee examines GPA, courses taken, research record, and letters of recommendation (three letters are required). Please note that we will NOT consider GRE scores in our application review process. Applicants should NOT include GRE scores in their application to our MS/PhD programs. To be considered for admission, an applicant must also meet the Graduate School's [general admission requirements](#).

## How Many Students Are Admitted?

Students work in close association with their major professors. The student:major professor ratio is about 5:1. Given this ratio, the department has room for approximately 85 graduate students, with about 12 new students admitted each year to the doctoral programs.

About 3 or 4 students are admitted each year to the terminal M.S. program. A total of 314 students applied to the clinical doctoral program and 57 applied to the neuroscience doctoral programs for Fall, 2024. 52 students applied to the health M.S. program. Thirteen applicants were accepted to the graduate programs as follows:

6 clinical, 6 neuroscience, and 1 health M.S.

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## GPA of Recently Admitted Students

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The Graduate Admissions Committee is often asked about requirements for admission into the graduate program, in particular whether there is a minimum grade-point average. Below are summary statistics on students recently admitted to the doctoral programs. Average scores are included.

	Clinical	Neuroscience
GPA, all courses, 4 yrs.	3.78	3.55

## Information for Students Who Did Not Major in Psychology

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Students without an undergraduate major in psychology or neuroscience are welcome to apply, and will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. If they are offered admission, they will be informed about any additional courses that would need to be taken at UWM (in addition to the required graduate coursework) to fill gaps in training.

## Application Process

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Beginning students are accepted for the Fall Semester. Prospective students must apply directly to the [Graduate School](#).

In the graduate school application, you should indicate your preferred major professor. If you are admitted, every effort will be made to honor your first choice of major professor, however it is not always possible to do so. Most students in the clinical doctoral program choose clinical faculty as advisors; however, some students combine study and research in a non-clinical specialty with the clinical program and may choose a major professor from the non-clinical faculty. Similarly, most students applying to the neuroscience doctoral programs choose advisors within the neuroscience program, but may choose an advisor in the clinical program if appropriate for their research.

Because graduate study in psychology is highly individualized, applicants should read the material carefully and identify potential faculty advisors whose interests are compatible with their own. Do not hesitate to e-mail, write, phone, or possibly visit a potential major professor/advisor.

Information regarding academic rules and regulations, financial assistance, student services, etc., can be located on the [Graduate School](#) web site:

## Graduate School Application

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The graduate school application can be completed here:

[graduateschool-apply.uwm.edu](http://graduateschool-apply.uwm.edu)

The following items must be submitted for your application to be considered complete: unofficial transcripts from each undergraduate and graduate school that you attended, reasons statement, three letters of recommendation, and a non-refundable \$75 base application fee.

*Please Note: Students currently enrolled in a Masters or Ph.D. program within the department who wish to switch to a different program within the department are required to reapply.*



Please refer to our [Graduate School's Open House](#) event to learn more about the opportunity to get an **application fee waiver**.

## Deadlines

Those applying to a Ph.D. program should complete their application to the graduate school so that it is received by December 1, 2025. Applicants to the terminal M.S. program should complete their application to the graduate school so that it is received by early January, 2026, to ensure review, however they will continue to be accepted until March 1, 2026 and will be reviewed on a rolling basis until all spots are filled. Applicants who meet these deadlines and are accepted into the program can typically expect to receive information about their acceptance between late February and late April. Notification of non-acceptance is usually made by May 1.

### *Deadlines*

All application materials must be received by December 1, 2025 for both Ph.D Programs:

Review for the M.S. Program will begin in late January and continue until all spots are filled. Applications received after March 1, 2026 will not be considered.

## Interviews for Clinical Applicants

Finalists considered for admission to the Ph.D. program in clinical psychology will be interviewed. Interviews are typically held in late January or early February. Only top candidates will be interviewed. There may be later interviews if further openings become available.

## Interviews for Neuroscience Applicants

Finalists considered for admission to the Ph.D. program in neuroscience will be interviewed. Neuroscience Interview Day is typically held in late January or early February. Only top candidates will be invited.

## Special Guidelines for International Students

International students are required to follow additional instructions that are listed here: [uwm.edu/cie/international-admissions/graduate-application/](http://uwm.edu/cie/international-admissions/graduate-application/)



## **Doctoral Program in Clinical Psychology**

The Ph.D. program in clinical psychology is accredited by the American Psychological Association\* and follows the Boulder (scientist-practitioner) model. The UWM Clinical Psychology Program is also a member of The Academy of Psychological Clinical Science, which is a coalition of doctoral training programs that share a common goal of producing and applying scientific knowledge to the assessment, understanding, and amelioration of human problems. In addition, the program is a member of the Child Clinical and Pediatric Psychology Training Council (CCaPPTC). Our program is committed to excellence in scientific training, and to using clinical science as the foundation for designing, implementing, and evaluating assessment and intervention procedures. Students gain competence as scientists by reviewing basic and applied literatures relevant to clinical psychology and by conducting research under the direction of their major professor each semester. Students gain competence as practitioners by completing seminars, practica, and community placements in private and institutional settings. Although it is expected that some clinical students may emphasize either the basic or applied aspects of the Boulder model, the goal is excellence and integration of both areas. Evaluation of students is based on performance in courses, clinical teams, practica (clinical skills, ethical behavior, accepted professional behavior), a preliminary examination, and on the quality of their master's and doctoral research.

Most students in the clinical doctoral program choose clinical faculty as advisors; however, some students combine study and research in a non-clinical specialty with the clinical program and, therefore, choose a major professor from the non-clinical faculty.

*\*UWM's Clinical Psychology Program is Accredited by the American Psychological Association. Please use the contact information below to contact APA:*

Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation  
750 First Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20002-4242  
Phone: 202-336-5979

### **Core Faculty**

Shawn Cahill  
W. Hobart Davies  
Kevin Haworth  
Gabriela Nagy  
Bonnie Klein-Tasman  
Christine Larson  
Han Joo Lee  
Krista Lisdahl  
Stacey Nye  
Ajeng  
Puspitasari  
Shristi Sardana  
Ryan Shorey

## **Administration**

The Director of Clinical Training (DCT), Ajeng Puspitasari, Ph.D., administers the policies and procedures of the program in clinical psychology. Stacey Nye, Ph.D is the director of the Psychology Clinic. An important part of the program involves practicum work in the department's training clinic. Christine Larson, Ph.D. oversees the Clinical Program as the area head. The members of the Clinical Training Committee are the Clinical Program core faculty, a Department faculty representative from outside the Clinical program and two voting clinical graduate students.

## **Financial Support**

All students admitted to the doctoral program in clinical psychology receive academic-year financial support, usually in the form of teaching assistantships, which include not only a stipend but also full remission of tuition, and benefits such as health insurance. Many students also receive supplemental financial support. See p. 2 of this brochure for more information.



## Applicants with Advanced Degrees

Individuals with advanced degrees, usually in psychology or neuroscience, are eligible to apply to the doctoral program in clinical psychology.

## Coursework

The minimum degree requirement is 54 graduate credits beyond the bachelor's degree, at least 27 of which must be earned in residence at UWM. Students in psychology may earn more than 54 credits to satisfy the specific requirements of the program.

### 1. Clinical Courses

Students in the clinical program satisfy their major by completing a sequence of required clinical courses, which can be seen in the table below. Note that in addition to classroom courses, students in the clinical program must also complete a sequence of practicum courses for a minimum of 400 hours of training in assessment, diagnosis, therapy, and professional practice; and later, a pre-doctoral, extramural, full-time (2000 hour) internship.

	Fall Semester	Spring Semester
Year 1	Assessment I (831) Developmental Psychopathology (912) First Year Clinical Practicum (802)	Clinical Research Methods (710) First Year Clinical Psychology Practicum (802)
Year 2	Professional Ethics and Issues in Clinical Psychology (712) Practicum in Assessment I (821)	Assessment II (832) Empirically Supported Interventions (742) Practicum in Empirically Supported Interventions (845) Practicum in Assessment II (822)
Year 3	Practicum in Therapy (842)	Practicum in Therapy (842)
Year 4	Community Placement in Clinical Psychology (811)	Community Placement in Clinical Psychology (811)
Year 5	Community Placement in Clinical Psychology (811, optional)	Community Placement in Clinical Psychology (811, optional)

2. Statistics requirement: Students must complete two semesters of statistics including one of the following: Educational Psychology 724 OR Public Health 711 OR both Psychology 510 and 610, plus a second course to be determined in consultation with your advisor.
3. Breadth requirement: Students must follow American Psychological Association requirements and must complete two breadth courses: Psych 727 (which covers the cognitive/affective aspects and biological aspects of behavior) and one of three options for the social aspects of behavior requirement, Psychology 930, Educational Psychology 833.
4. Multicultural requirement: Students must complete a course in multicultural issues in clinical or counseling psychology.
5. Developmental psychology requirement: Students must complete a graduate level lifespan developmental psychology course.
6. History of psychology requirement: Students who took a History of Psychology course as undergraduates, and/or who majored in psychology, have already satisfied the History of Psychology requirement. Other students must complete a course in the History of Psychology in our department (Psychology 750).

## **Waiver of Coursework for Students with Prior Graduate Work**

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Equivalent coursework taken elsewhere as a graduate student may substitute for one or more of the courses described above. Waiver of a required practicum course requires the consent of the major professor and the DCT. Waiver of a required lecture course requires the consent of the major professor, the instructor of the course in question, and the DCT. Demonstration of proficiency is typically required before a waiver is granted.

## **Clinical Training and Program of Excellence in Scientifically Validated Interventions**

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Students receive a minimum of eight semesters of clinical training. During their first three years in the program they receive both assessment and intervention training from the clinical faculty at the department's on-campus clinic, after which they work in various community agencies under the supervision of adjunct faculty. Some of the community agencies involved in the department's training program include Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, the Zablocki Veterans Affairs Medical Center, the Medical College of Wisconsin Behavioral Medicine and Clinical Neuropsychology services, and Rogers Memorial Hospital. A criminal background check is required once admitted, and may affect placement.

The Clinical Psychology program was recognized with a "Program of Excellence in Scientifically Validated Behavioral Interventions" grant from NIH, which resulted in further development of our curriculum in scientifically validated interventions for various psychological conditions. While offerings vary by year according to faculty interests and availability, we currently offer specialized training in prolonged exposure for PTSD and cognitive-behavioral therapy for anxiety, treatments for childhood elimination disorders, treatments for eating disorders, and cognitive behavior therapy for anxiety. Specialized training in Clinical Neuropsychology is also available in collaboration with our community partners. Upon successful completion of our program, students will have been trained as competent generalist psychologists in addition to receiving specialized training in the competent administration-delivery of assessment and treatment in specific empirically-supported interventions.

## **Master's Thesis**

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The student, under the direction of his or her major professor, must develop an acceptable thesis based on empirical research. The student must pass an oral examination in defense of the thesis. Note: Students who, upon admission, already have a master's degree in psychology that included an empirically based master's thesis are exempt from the requirement of having to earn the M.S. at UWM, pending approval by the student's UWM advisor and the DCT. Students admitted with a master's degree in psychology that did not include a thesis must complete a thesis and earn the M.S. at UWM.

## **Doctoral Preliminary Examination**

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To advance to doctoral candidacy, students must pass a preliminary examination in clinical psychology after they earn the M.S., and within five years of enrolling.

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## **Dissertation**

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The candidate must write an empirically-based dissertation that demonstrates the ability to formulate a research topic and pursue an independent and original investigation, and must pass an oral examination in defense of the dissertation.

## **Clinical Internship**

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An extramural, one-year, full-time 2000 hour internship is required. Students must pass their preliminary examination and dissertation proposal before applying for internship. It is recommended that they pass their doctoral dissertation defense before beginning internship. This internship must be completed at an APA-accredited site, or one approved by the department's Clinical Training Committee. Students from UWM have been very successful in obtaining internships at highly competitive sites across the country. In recent years, UWM's clinical psychology students have completed internships at Texas Children's Hospital, University of Chicago, Zablocki Milwaukee VA Medical Center, Duke University Medical Center, University of Mississippi Medical Center, University of California-San Diego, Brown University Medical School, University of Cincinnati Medical Center, Seattle VA, Houston VA, and Harvard Medical School/Massachusetts General Hospital.

## **Time Limits**

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Doctoral students must earn the M.S. within three years of enrolling (by March 10 of their third year for most favorable consideration within the teaching assistant priority system), and they must earn the Ph.D. within seven years of enrolling (exclusive of the internship year).



## **Doctoral Program in Neuroscience**

The Ph.D. program in neuroscience follows an apprenticeship model in which the student is exposed to individualized research experiences within the laboratory of his or her major professor and, in many cases, other faculty as well. This research training is accompanied by an integrated set of courses and seminars. The goal of the program is to train students to be independent researchers who can develop novel questions and hypotheses, craft and conduct well-controlled experiments, analyze and interpret data, and communicate findings in written and oral forms. Students will also learn to teach in the classroom and lab.

### **About Neuroscience**

Neuroscience is the study of the nervous system. The curriculum provides students with the intellectual and technical skills necessary for a productive career in academia or industry. Students are part of the greater Milwaukee Area Neuroscience group, which includes faculty members and students from various departments at UWM, the Medical College of Wisconsin, and Marquette University. Students learn a wide range of techniques working with laboratory animals and human subjects. These techniques include behavioral testing and analysis, neurophysiology, aseptic surgical techniques, quantitative protein and mRNA assays, viral-mediated cell manipulation and activity methods, immunohistochemistry, confocal and other advanced microscopy, eye tracking, functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI), coding in Python and other languages, and advanced imaging analyses such as machine learning. Current research topics include cellular and molecular mechanisms of learning and memory; mapping brain areas involved in memory and emotion in humans using fMRI; sex differences and hormonal regulation of brain function and cognition; effects of aging on learning and memory; identifying circuitry underlying social memory and discrimination; and the role of calcium and calcium-binding proteins in ischemic cell death.

### **Financial Support**

All students admitted to the doctoral program in neuroscience receive academic-year financial support, usually in the form of teaching assistantships, which include not only a stipend but also full remission of tuition, and benefits such as health insurance. Many students also receive additional financial support from their advisor during the academic year and many receive financial support during the summer. See p. 3 of this brochure for more information.

### **Coursework**

The minimum degree requirement is 54 graduate credits beyond the bachelor's degree, at least 27 of which must be earned in residence at UWM. Students in psychology may earn more than 54 credits to satisfy the specific program requirements. The Neuroscience curriculum includes four core courses (behavioral neuroscience, cellular and molecular neuroscience, cognitive neuroscience, and proseminar in neuroscience). Other required courses include a statistics course, seminar in neuroscience (three semesters of official enrollment), and three electives chosen in consultation with the major professor.

### **Waiver of Coursework for Students with Prior Graduate Work**

Equivalent coursework taken elsewhere as a graduate student may substitute for one or more of the courses described above. Waiver of a required course requires consent of the major professor and the instructor of the course in question.

#### ***Core Faculty***

Caitlin Bowman  
Karyn Frick  
Polymnia Georgiou  
Deborah Hannula  
Jeffrey Lopez Rojas  
Neal Morton  
James Moyer  
Rodney Swain

#### ***Affiliated Faculty***

Christine Larson  
Krista Lisdahl



## Master's Thesis

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The student, under the direction of his or her major professor, must develop an acceptable thesis based on empirical research. Candidates must pass an oral examination in defense of their thesis. Note: Students who, upon admission, already have a master's degree in psychology or neuroscience that included an empirically based master's thesis are exempt from the requirement of having to earn the M.S. at UWM. Students admitted with a master's degree in psychology or neuroscience that did not include a thesis must complete a thesis and earn the M.S. at UWM.

## Doctoral Preliminary Examination

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To advance to doctoral candidacy, students must pass a preliminary examination in Neuroscience after they earn the M.S., and within five years of enrolling.

## Dissertation

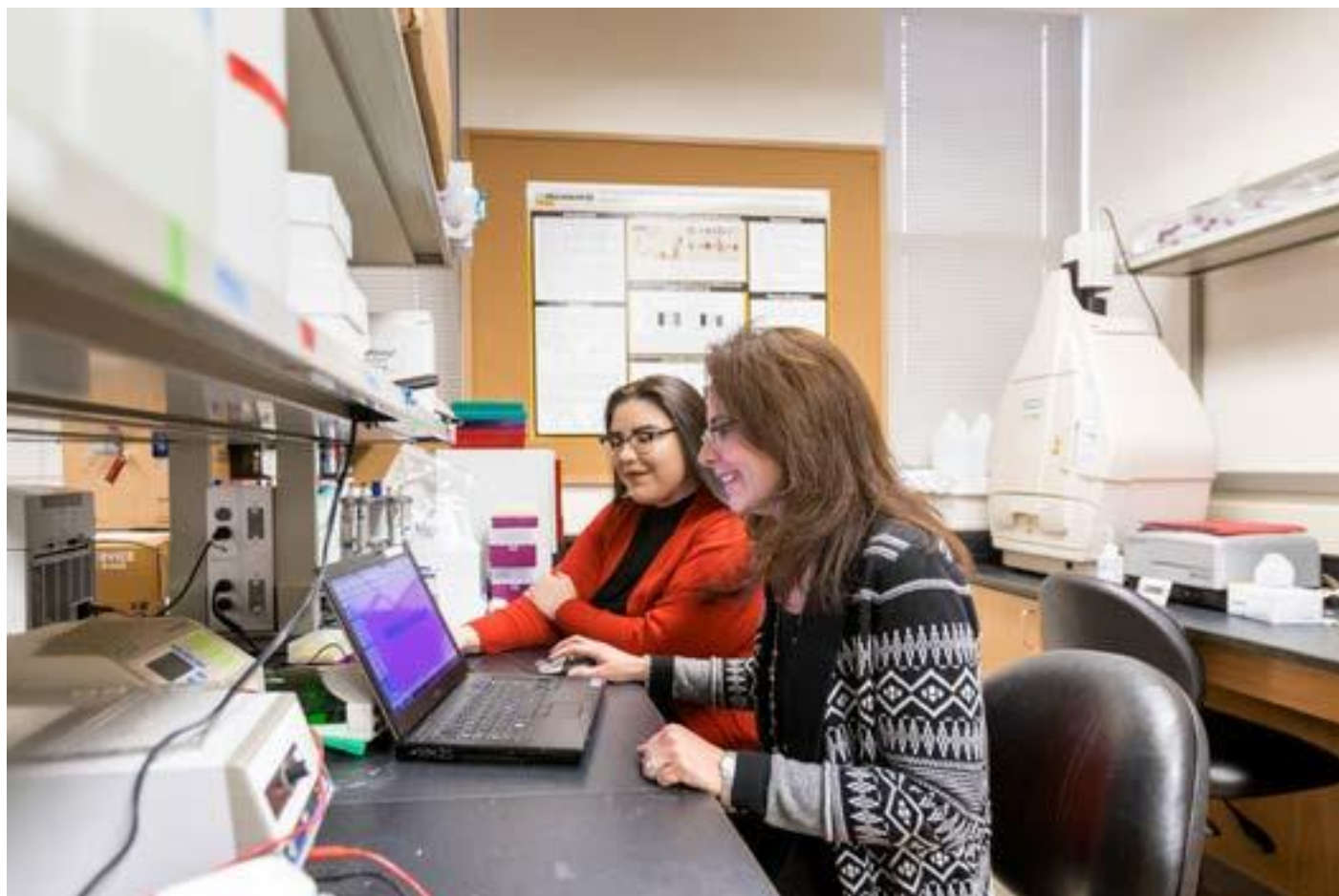
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Candidates must write an empirically-based dissertation that demonstrates the ability to formulate a research topic and pursue an independent and original investigation. Candidates must pass an oral examination in defense of the dissertation.

## Time Limits

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Doctoral students must earn the M.S. within three years of enrolling (by March 10 of their third year for most favorable consideration within the teaching assistant priority system), and they must earn the Ph.D. within seven years of enrolling.



## **Terminal Master's Program in Health Psychology**

Health psychology is concerned with the psychological variables that influence physical health and illness. The M.S. program in health psychology offers training in research and theories relevant to health promotion. The program of study consists of core health psychology coursework, research coursework, psychology breadth coursework, and an optional field placement. Recent research topics include gender and health, cancer prevention and health education, reproductive health and STD prevention, patient advocacy and self-care behaviors, the effects of stress and mechanisms of coping with it, and child abuse prevention. Research is conducted in laboratory as well as clinical settings and many of the faculty have strong ties to the Milwaukee community.

*Note: funding opportunities for students admitted into the master's program are limited. Please see p. 3, Financial Support, for more details.*

### **Coursework and Model Course Plan**

Coursework includes 36 credits distributed as follows (Course substitutions are permissible with the director's approval):

1. Twelve credits in core Health Psychology courses. All students must take Psych 955 (Seminar in Social Psychology and Health), and any three of the following courses: Psych 711 (Current Topics, only when the topic is Child Health Psychology or another topic directly relevant to health), Psych 754 (Proseminar in Biological Psychology), Psych 756 (Psychophysiology), Psych 854 (Behavioral Neuroscience), or Psych 930 (Seminar in Social Psychology). These core courses introduce students to research, theories, and applications of health psychology.
2. Fifteen credits in research courses: Psych 510 (Advanced Psychological Statistics), Psychology 610 (Experimental Design), Psych 932 (Proseminar in Evaluation Research), and six credits of Psych 790 (Independent Research) for those selecting the thesis option or six credits of Psych 791 (Master's Project for Master's Students) for those selecting the project option. These courses prepare students for conducting basic and applied research.
3. Nine credits in psychology breadth courses (virtually any psychology graduate-level course not listed above).
4. Optional: Although students are exposed to theories and applications in coursework, field placements offer further opportunity to apply theory. Students are encouraged to complete at least 3 credits of 812 (Field Placement in Psychology) in their area of interest.

	Fall Semester	Spring Semester
Year 1	Advanced Psychological Statistics (510) Seminar in Social Psychology and Health (955) Core Selection 1 Breadth Selection 1	Experimental Design (610) Seminar in Evaluation Research (932) Core Selection 2 Breadth Selection 2
Year 2	Core Selection 3 Master's Research (790) Optional:Field Placement (812)	Breadth Selection 3 Master's Research (790) Defend Thesis

## Thesis or Project Time Limit

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The student, under the direction of an advisor, has the option of developing either a thesis based on empirical research or a project (a review or theoretical paper). If the student chooses the thesis option, he or she must pass an oral defense of the thesis. The student must complete all degree requirements within seven years of initial enrollment.

## Relation of the Master's Program in Health Psychology to Doctoral Study in Psychology

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The M.S. program in health psychology is self-contained and primarily prepares students for work within the community. However, the emphasis on research training and basic principles also prepares students for doctoral studies. Some students may change their goals and wish to pursue a doctoral degree. Such students, if they do not have an undergraduate psychology degree from UWM, are eligible to apply for admission to the department's doctoral programs. Please note that the department's doctoral programs are highly competitive; admission is neither automatic nor guaranteed. Applications from students in the M.S. specialization in health psychology are not given preferential treatment in the doctoral admission process.

## Faculty

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All graduate students must have a major professor (advisor) to oversee their progress and to supervise their research. It is, therefore, important that potential major professors be considered very carefully on the graduate school application. Only those individuals listed in the graduate school application have openings for new students for the coming year. Those offered admission will be assigned to one of the major professors they have chosen during the application process.

Follow the links to faculty webpages to learn more about their areas of expertise.

### *Clinical Psychology*

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<a href="#">Shawn Cahill, Associate Professor</a>	<a href="#">Hanjoo Lee, Professor</a>
<a href="#">H. William Davies, Professor</a>	<a href="#">Krista Lisdahl, Professor</a>
<a href="#">Gabriela Nagy, Assistant Professor</a>	<a href="#">Stacey Nye, Clinical Professor</a>
<a href="#">Bonnie Klein-Tasman, Professor</a>	<a href="#">Ryan Shorey, Associate Professor</a>
<a href="#">Christine Larson, Professor</a>	<a href="#">Srishti Sardana, Associate Professor*</a>

### *Health Psychology*

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[Marcellus Merritt, Associate Professor](#)

### *Neuroscience*

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<a href="#">Caitlin R. Bowman, Assistant Professor</a>	<a href="#">Jeffery Lopez Rojas, Assistant Professor</a>
<a href="#">Karyn Frick Associate, Distinguished Professor</a>	<a href="#">Neal Morton, Assistant Professor</a>
<a href="#">Polymnia Georgiou, Assistant Professor</a>	<a href="#">James Moyer, Associate Professor</a>
<a href="#">Deborah Hannula, Associate Professor</a>	<a href="#">Rodney Swain, Professor</a>

\* New faculty Fall 2024