

MS in Research Psychology and Data Analysis

NOTE: This program is not admitting new students for the 2024-25 academic year.

The Master of Science in Research Psychology and Data Analysis (<https://www.apu.edu/bas/programs/research-psychology-data-analysis/>) provides research and statistical experience needed to be competitive for doctoral programs and pursue, or advance within, careers related to psychological research. The program consists of a rigorous 36-unit curriculum that can be completed in one academic year, 18 months, or 2 academic years. Students in this program acquire skills in research methods and statistical analyses commonly used within psychological research, and complete a master's thesis. Courses feature lectures, seminars, and hands-on research labs that incorporate various popular statistical software used within psychology. All courses are offered in a distance learning format that consists of face-to-face and remote students. Face-to-face students attend courses at the Azusa campus, and remote students join the face-to-face course using video conferencing technology. Throughout the program, a faculty advisor works closely with individual students to provide guidance on completing the thesis or practicum/internship, applying to doctoral programs, and pursuing a career in research. In addition, students have the opportunity to participate in professional events, including academic conferences.

Coursework Schedule

Fall (10-13 units): Experimental Research Methods (3), Analysis of Variance (3), Analysis of Variance Lab (1), Theory, Research, and Practice in Psychology (3), Research Practicum (3)

Spring (16 units): Thesis Seminar (3) or Research Practicum (3), Non-Experimental Research Methods (3), Regression (3), Regression Lab (1), Introduction to Grant and Professional Writing (3), Program Evaluation (3)

Summer I (7 units): Thesis Seminar (3) or Research Internship (3), Psychometrics: Assessment and Measurement (3), Psychometrics: Assessment and Measurement Lab (1),

Summer II (3 units): Thesis Seminar (3)

Requirements

Code	Title	Units
Core Courses		
PSYC 501	Theory, Research and Practice in Psychology	3
PSYC 511	Experimental Research Methods	3
PSYC 512	Non-Experimental Research Methods	3
PSYC 518	Analysis of Variance	3
PSYC 518L	Analysis of Variance Lab	1
PSYC 519	Regression	3
PSYC 519L	Regression Lab	1
PSYC 520	Psychometrics: Assessment and Measurement	3
PSYC 520L	Psychometrics: Assessment and Measurement Lab	1
PSYC 517	Program Evaluation	3
PSYC 597	Introduction to Grant and Professional Writing	3
Students must choose one of the following:		9
Thesis Track		
PSYC 598	Thesis Seminar ¹	
Internship Track		
PSYC 578	Research Practicum ²	
PSYC 588	Research Internship	
Total Units		36

¹ Students on the thesis track are required to take 9 units of PSYC 598, but may take up to 12 units in order to complete their thesis.

² Students on the internship track are required to take 6 units of PSYC 578.

Code	Title	Units
Optional Concentration in Data Analytics		
STAT 521	Statistical Computing and Programming	3
STAT 551	Data Visualization	3
STAT 553	Data Mining	3
Total Units		9

Code	Title	Units
Optional Concentration in Industrial/Organizational Psychology		
OPSY 501	Introduction to Organizational Psychology	3
Choose two of the following:		6
OPSY 503	Group and Organizational Behavior	
OPSY 505	Individual and Team Assessment	
OPSY 510	Organizational Assessment and Interventions	
OPSY 534	Organizational Systems: Theories of Change	
Total Units		9

Code	Title	Units
Optional Concentration in Counseling Psychology		
Choose three of the following:		9
PSYC 526	Multicultural Counseling	
PSYC 530	Evidence-Based Practices in the Treatment of Children and Youth	
PSYC 531	Ethics and Professional Issues	
PSYC 532	Theories of Counseling and Therapy	
Total Units		9

Code	Title	Units
Optional Concentration in Public Health		
GSPH 510	Social Determinants of Health	3
Choose two of the following:		6
GSPH 504	Bioethics and Healthcare Policy	
GSPH 525	Epidemiology	
GSPH 535	Environmental Health	
Total Units		9

Optional Concentrations¹

Data Analytics

This concentration equips students with statistical and data visualization techniques. It consists of courses that develop students' skill in statistical programming, including R and SAS, data visualization using Tableau, and data mining. Such training prepares students to pursue careers in business and/or data analytics.

Industrial/Organizational Psychology

Organizational psychology, often called industrial/organizational psychology, considers the attitudes, feelings, and behaviors of people in the workplace. At the intersection of business and psychology, courses in this concentration help you discover your ability to diagnose organizational health; develop and implement change initiatives; administer and create job satisfaction surveys; increase employee morale and expand retention strategies; advance performance management programs; hire, train, and develop talent; and advise, coach, and build successful teams.

Counseling Psychology

This concentration is for students who are interested in getting a PhD in clinical/counseling psychology and would like to take graduate courses that would expose them to this area of psychology. Students wishing to complete this concentration need to complete three courses from the MS in Counseling Psychology program (<http://catalog.apu.edu/academics/college-education-behavioral-sciences/school-behavioral-sciences/psychology/counseling-psychology-ms/>) as outlined in program requirements.

Public Health

This concentration equips students with conceptual and applied knowledge of the public health field. Students learn important areas of public health, including how health and diseases are influenced by social, economic, and political risk factors; ethical considerations and healthcare policies; epidemiological procedures; and issues in environmental health.

¹ The cost per unit for the concentration is based on the cost of the concentration courses, and may be different from per-unit cost for the MS in Research Psychology and Data Analysis.

Graduation

In order to graduate, students must complete the required courses with an overall grade-point average (GPA) of at least 3.0 within five years of matriculation. This includes completing every required course with a *B-* or above. Students must also complete a master's thesis according to the guidelines outlined by the program and university, or a practicum and internship as outlined by the program.

Admission

University graduate admission and program-specific requirements must be met before an application is complete (see Admission to the University (<http://catalog.apu.edu/admissions/>)). **Program-specific application requirements are available online (<https://www.apu.edu/graduateprofessional/apply/>).**

International students should contact Graduate and Professional Admissions (<https://www.apu.edu/graduateprofessional/apply/>) for application procedures.

Program Learning Outcomes

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Students who successfully complete this program shall be able to:

1. Explain the knowledge and skills used in assessment/measurement, research design, and statistical methods in psychology.
2. Apply various theories of psychology used in assessment/measurement, research design, and statistical methods in psychology.
3. Examine the integration of psychological research with a Christian worldview.
4. Articulate the APA codes, standards, and ethics of psychological research and practice in various applied settings.
5. Demonstrate graduate level APA formatting skills for writing and presentations.