



University
of Houston
Clear Lake

MASTER OF ARTS IN CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Revised February 2018

NOTE: Deadline for Master's program: January 25th of each year

CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

The Clinical Psychology program prepares students to become mental health professionals and includes theoretical training and practical experience in psychological assessment and psychotherapy with emphasis on behavioral and cognitive approaches. The program is a member of the Council of Applied Masters Programs in Psychology (CAMPP) and adheres to the academic and training standards of CAMPP. Graduates of the program regularly meet the requirements for licensure in Texas as a Professional Counselor and/or Psychological Associate (LPC and LPA).

ADMISSIONS: Applicants must apply to the program as described above. Admission is competitive. The program accepts a new cohort of approximately 15-20 students each year. **This cohort will typically start in the summer.** The Clinical Psychology faculty review all applications and interview the top candidates to discuss their interest in the field and assess personal readiness for the program. In selecting candidates for the program, the faculty are concerned with (1) academic ability to complete graduate course work, (2) personal maturity and interpersonal skills necessary for mental health practitioners, (3) life experience and professional background which might enhance professional competence, and (4) motivation for and commitment to studying clinical psychology including appropriate career and professional goals.

BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS (BA) CERTIFICATION: Students interested in pursuing BA certification along with the clinical psychology degree should consult with both their faculty advisor and the Director of the UHCL BA Program.

PRACTICUM: Clinical Practicum is a two-semester sequence which is often the student's first professional training contact with real clients. It is conducted in the university's Psychological Services clinic under the supervision of a faculty supervisor, using two-way mirrors and audio- and videotaping. Practicum has two prerequisites that must be completed prior to registering for the course; see the university Catalog for further information. The program director will consult with each student as each begins the program to determine when the student will take practicum. The two-semester sequence can begin in any semester, including summer.

INTERNSHIP: There are a number of facilities in the greater Houston area which provide internship training for students in the program. An intern spends 500 hours, spanning a minimum of two semesters, in a mutually selected facility where he/she is supervised by an appropriately credentialed clinician, preferably a licensed psychologist. Recent internship facilities include the Harris County Psychiatric Center (affiliated with University of Texas Medical School), University of Houston Counseling and Psychological Services, the University of Texas Mental Science Institute, and Texas Department of Criminal Justice, as well as a number of other hospitals, agencies and clinics. Internship may include the summer term.

SCHOLARSHIPS: For information on scholarships, see the Scholarships section above.

PREREQUISITES: Graduate admission to the university. The program requires five prerequisite undergraduate psychology courses (15 hours): Introductory Psychology, Abnormal Psychology, Social Psychology, Theories of Personality and one (3 additional hours) of upper-level psychology. Preference is given to applicants with all prerequisites completed.

CURRICULUM

REQUIRED CORE
COURSES
21 hours

PSYC 5031 Human Growth and Development
PSYC 5235 Learning Principles
PSYC 5734 Professional Practice, Law and Ethics^a
PSYC 6036/37 Research Design and Statistics I & II
PSYC 6134 Biological Basis of Behavior
PSYC 6531 Psychopathology^{a,b}

SOCIOLCULTURAL
ELECTIVE
Select 1 course,
3 hours

PSYC 5136 Multicultural Counseling^a
PSYC 5437 Aging
PSYC 5533 Psychology of Gender
PSYC 5534 Minorities and Majorities
PSYC 5535 Cross-cultural Perspectives on the Family
PSYC 5831 Gender Perspectives in Therapy

OTHER COURSES MAY BE SUBSTITUTED WITH CONSENT OF FACULTY

ASSESSMENT
REQUIREMENTS
2 of 3 courses, 6 hours

PSYC 6031 Behavioral Assessment^b
PSYC 6032 Intellectual Assessment^{a,b}
PSYC 6033 Personality Assessment^{a,b}

THERAPY
REQUIREMENTS
4 courses, 12 hours

PSYC 5231 Psychotherapy: Theory and Research^{a,b}
PSYC 5239 Group Psychotherapy^{a,b}
PSYC 5731 Basic Psychotherapy Skills^{a,b}
PSYC 6235 Behavioral/Cognitive Therapies^{a,b}

THERAPY
ELECTIVES
Select 2 courses,
6 hours

PSYC 5138 Mindfulness and Acceptance Therapies^a
PSYC 5233 Introduction to Family Therapy
PSYC 5735 Behavioral Parent Training
PSYC 5736 Behavioral Medicine
PSYC 6238 Applied Behavioral Analysis
PSYC 6534 Development/Treatment of Mood and Anxiety Disorders
Other courses may be substituted with consent of Advisor

FREE ELECTIVE
3 hours

Students working toward the LPC should take PSYC 5335 Career Counseling

SUPERVISED
CLINICAL EXPERIENCE
12 hours
Footnotes:

PSYC 6038 Clinical Practicum (2 semesters)^{a,b}
PSYC 6636 Clinical Internship (2 semesters)^{a,b}

^aRestricted Course open only to students admitted to a professional psychology program

^bCourse requires one or more prerequisites—see University catalog

TOTAL SEMESTER HOURS = 63

RECOMMENDED SEQUENCE OF STUDY

These are the recommended course sequences for full-time students. In sequences 1 and 2 students complete the program in two academic years but must register in the summer following admissions and the two summers thereafter. It is possible to complete the program in two years without attending the summer after admission by taking five courses in two long semesters, which is, however, a very heavy course load. Sequence 3 offers more flexibility regarding hours per semester and summer enrollment but requires a minimum of one additional semester to complete the degree.

Practicum Sequence 1 in which practicum begins in Spring1

<p>SUMMER 1 Basic Psychotherapy Skills <i>1 course from this list:</i> Biological Basis of Behavior Human Growth and Development Therapy Elective 1 Therapy Elective 2 Sociocultural Elective Free Elective* <i>or</i> <i>2 courses from list [take Basic Skills in FALL1]</i></p>	<p>FALL 1 Learning Principles Psychopathology Research Design and Statistics I <i>1 course from this list:</i> Biological Basis of Behavior Group Therapy Human Growth and Development Therapy Elective 1 Therapy Elective 2 Sociocultural Elective Free Elective* <i>or Basic Psychotherapy Skills</i></p>	<p>SPRING 1 Psychotherapy: Theory and Research Research Design and Statistics II Behavioral/Cognitive Therapies Clinical Practicum[§]</p>
<p>SUMMER 2 Clinical Practicum[§] <i>1 course from the FALL1 List</i></p>	<p>FALL 2 Professional Practice, Law & Ethics <i>Assessment Course[‡]</i> <i>2 courses from the FALL1 List</i></p>	<p>SPRING 2 <i>Assessment Course[‡]</i> Clinical Internship[†] <i>1-2 courses from the FALL1 List</i></p>
<p>SUMMER 3 Clinical Internship[†] <i>[1 courses from the FALL1 list if not already completed]</i></p>		

Practicum Sequence 2 in which practicum begins in Summer2

Clinical Practicum is a two-semester sequence which can begin in Spring 1, Summer 2 or Fall 2 as shown in the examples above. Practicum placement will be negotiated with each student based on several factors including tenure in the program, completion of prerequisites and individual needs and preferences.

†**Clinical Internship** is a two-semester sequence, requiring 500 clock hours of clinical training in a mutually selected facility. At least one semester of **Clinical Practicum** and **Professional Practice, Law and Ethics** must be completed before beginning internship. It is recommended that students also complete the other specific courses listed for Fall 1, Spring 1 and Fall 2 and **Group Therapy** prior to internship.

*Students should take either Intellectual Assessment or Personality Assessment in Fall 2 and the remaining course in Spring 2.

*PSYC 5335 **Career Counseling** is required for all students working toward LPC licensure, though it is not a degree requirement in the curriculum.

Part-time students should note the sequencing of courses listed here as well as being aware of prerequisite requirements for many courses.

APPLYING TO THE PROGRAM

Students wishing to enroll in the Clinical Psychology Program must formally apply. Applications to the M.A. program are accepted for the **Summer semester only**. For additional information please visit the Clinical Psychology web site and read the Frequently Asked Questions document. After reviewing this document and the web site carefully, if you still have questions about the program, please contact the Program Director. If you have specific questions about the application process, please email: clinicalschool@uhcl.edu.

Application requires that both **Steps 1 and 2** below are completed

Step 1: Apply for admission to the University of Houston-Clear Lake:

- a. Complete the “ApplyTexas” on-line university application. Currently there is a fee for the university admission application. Go to www.uhcl.edu. Select the “Admissions” tab, and click on “Apply Now” near the top of the page. Once you create a profile, you will complete the application. Select U.S. Graduate Application. If applying to the master’s program, select HSH-Clinical Psychology MA as your major. The university application should be completed as early as possible before the admissions deadline to allow adequate time for the Office of Admissions to process the application and evaluate transcripts.
- b. Submit GRE scores (not more than 5 years old) through the standard reporting procedures.
- c. Submit official transcripts from all institutions attended. Transcripts should be mailed to this address:

Office of Admissions
University of Houston-Clear Lake
2700 Bay Area Blvd.
Box 13
Houston, TX 77058

Step 2: Submit Additional Supporting Documents for the Clinical Psychology Program

- (a) You will be assigned a UHCL account after you have completed the ApplyTexas (university on-line application). You will receive an e-mail with instructions on how to access your account. The following supporting documents must be uploaded within your account (see additional, detailed instructions at the end of this packet):
- Curriculum Vitae: An expanded résumé describing previous education; all work experience; relevant course work and relevant volunteer activities; any honors, presentations, papers, avocations or other relevant life experiences
 - Statement of purpose and goals, not to exceed 2 pages single-spaced, describing your reasons for wanting this degree and how it fits into career goals.
- (b) Three letters of recommendation and recommendation forms (found on program web site) **should be submitted directly by the recommenders to clinicalschool@uhcl.edu**. Recommendations from academic faculty and/or work supervisors who know the applicant well are preferred.
- (c) In addition to the university application fee, **there is an additional application fee of \$35 for the Clinical Psychology application**. Make check payable to “University of Houston-Clear Lake” and send it to:

Clinical Psychology Program Applications
University of Houston-Clear Lake
2700 Bay Area Blvd., **Box 73**
Houston, TX 77058

Applications received without fee paid by the deadline may not receive consideration.

Deadline for Application:

Applications will be accepted between December 10th-January 25th. Review of applications for admission into the next calendar year cohort will begin on January 25th. Applications attempted after this date may not be reviewed. The next cohort starts in the summer. It is the applicant’s responsibility to ensure that his/her application for university admission and supporting transcripts are received by the university **Office of Admissions**, that all additional supporting documents have been uploaded, and that letters of recommendation are submitted directly by the references by the application deadline. Applicants can check the status of their application by logging into their accounts.

Required Application Materials Checklist:

- _____ **ApplyTexas University Application**
- _____ **Transcripts**
- _____ **GRE scores**
- _____ **Curriculum Vitae**
- _____ **Statement of Purpose/Goals**
- _____ **Three Letters of Recommendation**
- _____ **Clinical Psychology Program application fee**

Additional information regarding applications:

Any evidence of tampering with recommendations or transcripts could result in disqualifying the applicant from admission. Applicants should note that admission to graduate status at the university is not equivalent to admission to the Clinical Psychology Program. Applicants are not admitted into the Clinical Psychology Program until they receive formal notice from the Clinical Psychology Program Admissions Committee that they have been accepted.

In adherence to Texas State HB1508, effective September 1, 2017, amended Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 53, the UHCL Clinical Psychology Program hereby informs anyone planning to enroll in our program that individuals who have been convicted of certain criminal offenses might not be eligible to obtain professional licensure in Texas. An individual may request a licensing authority to issue a criminal history evaluation letter regarding the person's eligibility for a license issued by that authority. Thus, students interested in becoming a Licensed Professional Counselor or Licensed Psychological Associate would be advised to contact the Texas State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors or the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists, respectively.