Applications are evaluated when they are complete, and offers of admission are made on a rolling basis, so please note: We do not always have space remaining in our programs when an application deadline arrives. You should always apply for admission as soon as possible. Please also note that several of our admission requirements, policies, and deadlines differ from those of other programs at SHSU.

In addition, once they have completed their first 18 hours of graduate study, all students must be admitted to candidacy for the Master of Arts degree before continuing their graduate coursework. As part of this process, students are asked to submit satisfactory scores on the Psychology Subject Test of the GRE. Unsatisfactory performance on the exam, in one’s classes, or in one’s practicum training may block a student from further graduate training.

Inquiries about the Psychology Master’s programs and requests for application materials can be sent to:

A. Jerry Bruce, Ph.D.
Coordinator of PSY Master’s Study
Department of Psychology and Philosophy
Sam Houston State University
Box 2447
Huntsville, TX 77341-2447
Telephone: (936) 294-1173
Email: bruce@shsu.edu

Information and materials are also available at www.shsu.edu/~psy_www/ma.htm.

Degree Requirements

Students in all of our master’s programs must pass a written Comprehensive Exam at the close of their training in order to claim their M.A. degree. Students must be enrolled in the University during the semester or summer session in which the comprehensive exam is administered.

M.A. in Clinical Psychology
There are two plans of study in our Clinical track. The first involves 45 hours of coursework and includes a Master’s thesis. The second is a non-thesis option that involves 48 hours of study and that replaces the thesis with selections from a group of approved courses. Both of the Clinical tracks are applied programs that include 450 clock hours of supervised practicum experience, and both prepare students either for ultimate licensure as Psychological Associates or as Licensed Professional Counselors in Texas.

Thesis Option: 45 hours

Required General Core:

A. Your choice of:
   PSY 532 Advanced Social Psychology or
   PSY 597 Advanced Developmental Psychology

B. Your choice of:
   PSY 536 Advanced Cognitive Psychology,
   PSY 560 Advanced Physiological Psychology, or
   PSY 581 Advanced Learning Theory

C. PSY 587 Advanced Statistics
Required Clinical Core:
A. PSY 533 Theory and Research in Psychotherapy I
B. PSY 530 Psychopathology
C. PSY 594 Psychometrics,
   PSY 595 Assessment of Intelligence and Achievement, and
   PSY 596 Assessment of Personality and Psychopathology
D. PSY 691 Practicum I,
   PSY 692 Practicum II, and
   PSY 693 Practicum III

Thesis Courses:
A. PSY 698 Thesis I and
   PSY 699 Thesis II

Two Electives:
   These may be any graduate courses on campus.

Non-Thesis Option

Required General Core:
A. Your choice of:
   PSY 532 Advanced Social Psychology or
   PSY 597 Advanced Developmental Psychology
B. Your choice of:
   PSY 536 Advanced Cognitive Psychology,
   PSY 560 Advanced Physiological Psychology, or
   PSY 581 Advanced Learning Theory.
C. PSY 587 Advanced Statistics

Required Clinical Core:
A. PSY 533 Theory and Research in Psychotherapy I
B. PSY 530 Psychopathology
C. PSY 594 Psychometrics,
   PSY 595 Assessment of Intelligence and Achievement, and
   PSY 596 Assessment of Personality and Psychopathology
D. PSY 691 Practicum I,
   PSY 692 Practicum II, and
   PSY 693 Practicum III

Two Electives:
   These may be any graduate courses on campus.

Supplemental Practitioner Courses:
Three courses in addition to those above selected from:
PSY 534 Theory and Research in Psychotherapy II
PSY 539 Advanced School Psychology
PSY 561 Neuropsychopharmacology
PSY 581 Advanced Learning Theory
PSY 582 Advanced Industrial/Organizational Psychology
PSY 694 Practicum in Psychometrics

M.A. in School Psychology
The School Psychology track is a 60-hour program that provides the training needed
for certification by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) and licen-
sure as a Licensed Specialist in School Psychology in Texas. It includes 300 hours
of practicum experience and a year-long internship in public schools. The program is approved by NASP.

Psychological Foundations (21 hours)
PSY 530  Psychopathology
PSY 560  Advanced Physiological Psychology
PSY 581  Advanced Learning Theory
PSY 587  Advanced Statistics
PSY 597  Advanced Developmental Psychology
PSY 760  Multicultural Psychology or BSL 571 or CNE 592
SPD 535  Education of Individuals with Disabilities

Educational Foundations (6 hours)
ASE 532  Administration and Organization of Public Schools
SPD 568  Teaching Methods for Learners with Mild to Moderate Disabilities

Assessment (12 hours)
PSY 594  Psychometrics
PSY 595  Assessment of Intelligence and Achievement
PSY 535  Assessment of Children
PSY 694  Practicum in Psychometrics

Intervention (6 hours)
PSY 533  Theory and Research in Psychotherapy I
PSY 535  Special Problems in Psychology: Consultation

Professional Practice (15 hours)
PSY 539  Advanced School Psychology
PSY 691  Practicum I: Counseling Practicum
PSY 692  Practicum II: School Practicum
PSY 671A Master’s Internship in Psychology: Part I
PSY 671B Master’s Internship in Psychology: Part II

M.A in General Psychology
The General track is a 36-hour program that concentrates on the scientific sub-disciplines of psychology. Both a thesis track and non-thesis option are available. Both tracks allow several electives, providing students the opportunity to pursue personal academic and research interests.

M.A. in General Psychology—Thesis Option
This plan involves 36 hours of coursework that includes a Master’s thesis. It does not allow training in the delivery of psychological services, but it does provide more elective flexibility than our other programs do.

Required General Core:
A.  PSY 532  Advanced Social Psychology
B.  PSY 536  Advanced Cognitive Psychology
C.  PSY 560  Advanced Physiological Psychology
D.  PSY 581  Advanced Learning Theory
E.  PSY 587  Advanced Statistics
F.  PSY 597  Advanced Developmental Psychology
Thesis Courses:
A. PSY 698 Thesis I and 
   PSY 699 Thesis II

Four Electives: 
These may be any graduate courses on campus.

M.A. in General Psychology—Non-Thesis Option
A. PSY 531 Graduate Seminar in General Psychology
B. PSY 532 Advanced Social Psychology
C. PSY 536 Advanced Cognitive Psychology
D. PSY 560 Advanced Physiological Psychology
E. PSY 581 Advanced Learning Theory
F. PSY 587 Advanced Statistics
G. PSY 588 Introduction to Experimental Design
H. PSY 597 Advanced Developmental Psychology

Four Electives: 
These may be any graduate courses offered by SHSU. Concentrations in Criminal Justice, Business, or any other field are possible. Any Psychology courses on campus other than PSY 595, PSY 596, and the Practicum courses are also open to you.

The Doctor of Philosophy in Clinical Psychology

Mission

The Clinical Psychology Ph.D. Program seeks to train professionals with a broad knowledge of scientific psychology who will be skilled clinicians. Consistent with the training model first enunciated by the American Psychological Association at the Boulder Conference in 1949, the program’s educational philosophy is to produce scientists/practitioners who possess expertise in both research and clinical practice. The department believes that experience in applied settings produces scientists who are sensitive to pragmatic issues and who are on the cutting edge of research questions essential to practitioners in the field. Conversely, clinicians who have been trained as scientists understand emerging research results and assimilate them into their daily practice. Consistent with the Boulder Model, psychology’s dominant training model, all students are required to complete a dissertation and to be enrolled full-time. The demands of the program’s training are not amenable to part-time or weekend course schedules.

Clinical psychology is the psychological science that seeks to understand, assess, and treat psychological disorders and conditions. Sam Houston State University Psychology students’ published research has examined test development, personality assessment, psychopathology, gender and minority issues, and public policy, among other topics. The students’ practicum experiences have involved work with severely disturbed clients, people with brain injuries, persons with addictions, troubled adolescents, children and families, and persons in the legal system. Practicum settings have included a variety of inpatient and residential settings (neuropsychiatric, rehabilitation, and university medical center), private psychological practices, and university counseling center. In addition, the program operates its own Psychological Services Center where students encounter a broad range of community clientele.

Additionally, the Ph.D. Program exposes all students to applications of clinical psychology within the legal system (such as explaining psychopathology to the courts, intervening with families in the social service system, providing psychological treatment to