

## SECTION 9: MASTER OF SCIENCE IN GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY DEGREE

### GOALS

The goal of the Master of Science in General Psychology (MGP) degree is to make a contribution to the supply of academically prepared graduates in the state of Oklahoma that will perform necessary duties in the field of behavioral sciences. More specifically, graduates will be prepared

1. To evaluate and utilize advanced knowledge and theories from psychology and related disciplines to identify, develop, and implement best practices in the Behavioral Sciences field.
2. To summarize and critique the psychology literature including core theories.
3. To demonstrate their understanding and ability to implement basic and applied research designs used to address psychological issues.
4. To engage in complex, evidence-based practice.
5. To communicate both orally and in writing at a level that is appropriate for professionals in the Behavioral Sciences field.
6. To demonstrate the ability to work ethically and effectively with diverse student populations.
7. To evaluate innovative approaches to mental health issues leading to holistic care for individuals, families, and communities.
8. To demonstrate critical thinking and accountability related to behavioral sciences.

### ADMISSION TO THE PROGRAM

In addition to the graduate office admission requirements listed in section 3 of this catalog, applicants must also meet the following additional requirements in order to be accepted into the Master of Science in General Psychology degree:

#### ***MGP Admission Requirements:***

1. Baccalaureate degree with at least 12 credit hours in psychology or related field from an accredited program.
2. An overall grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale in the last 60 hours of courses required for the undergraduate degree.
3. Completion of an undergraduate or graduate course in descriptive or inferential statistics with a grade of C or better.
4. Completion of an undergraduate or graduate course in research methodology with a grade of C or better.
5. Application may be made for conditional admission by students having an overall undergraduate GPA of at least 2.50 with no more than ten years having passed since the completion date of the required psychology credit hours.
6. Students with a native language other than English must submit evidence of English language proficiency. Evidence may include (1) completing a four-year bachelor's degree from a U.S. institution or the equivalent in your home country; (2) students meeting the English language requirements of an official TOEFL score (520 for a paper-based test, 190 for a computer-based test, or 68 for an internet-based test) or IELTS score is required for all students for whom English is a second language. The TOEFL must have been taken within the last two (2)

years.

7. Submission of completed Program Application with personal statement.
8. Submission of three (3) letters of recommendation attesting to academic ability, professional competency, and personal character.
9. Submit a written statement of career aspirations and a self-evaluation of strengths and weaknesses related to the field of study.
10. Submit a sample of scholarly written work (e.g., a research paper, term paper, professional report, or publication).
11. Complete an interview with psychology department graduate faculty.
12. Application and acceptance to NWOSU and the Office of Graduate Studies.

**Note:** Some potential students may also be asked to take the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) as an additional assessment as part of MGP requirements. This will be determined by the Psychology department.

### ACADEMIC RETENTION

#### ***Retention Standards:***

1. Student must file a plan of study, signed by both the student and members of the advisory committee, by the end of the first semester of graduate work.
2. Student must maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher. Students whose cumulative GPA falls below 3.0 at any time will receive a letter of academic warning and will meet with their graduate advisory committee to develop a personal plan for improvement.
3. Student must be enrolled in a minimum of one course per semester (summer optional) and is normally expected to complete all of the degree requirements within six years after admission to the program.

### GRADUATION STANDARDS

The following standards must be met before graduating:

1. Successful completion of all curricular requirements.
2. MGP candidates will either present a research project or submit a thesis for publication.
3. MGP candidates for graduation must successfully defend their Capstone Project or Thesis according to guidelines developed by the Office of Graduate Studies and the Department of Psychology and must be approved by the student's graduate advisory committee before graduation can occur.

# MASTER OF SCIENCE IN GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

(34-Hour Program)

REQUIRED COURSE (during first semester of graduate study)

UNIV 5010 Graduate Study Sem.

REQUIRED CORE COURSES (18 hours)

PSYC 5053 Advanced Social Psychology  
PSYC 5173 Statistics for Assessment  
PSYC 5183 Human Growth and Development  
PSYC 5453 Advanced Cognitive Psychology  
PSYC 5623 Advanced Personality

ELECTIVES (12 hours from at least 9 in psychology)

PSYC 5013 Counseling Ethics  
PSYC 5043 Advanced Human Sexuality  
PSYC 5133 Assessment: Achievement, Personality, and Cognitive Assessment (Pre: PSYC 5173)  
PSYC 5203 Family Systems  
PSYC 5213 Advanced Abnormal Psychology (pre: PSYC 4113)  
PSYC 5293 Advanced Psychopharmacology  
PSYC 5353 Addictions and the Family Theory  
PSYC 5513 Advanced Adolescent Guidance  
PSYC 5613 Advanced Child Guidance  
PSYC 5823 Multicultural Counseling  
PSYC 5833 Career Education  
EDUC 5212 Psychology of Teaching  
EDUC 5923 Adult Cognitive Styles and Differences

CAPSTONE/THESIS (4 hours)

PSYC 5914 Capstone Project

or

PSYC 5330 Thesis

## Trauma-Informed Certificate

Students who complete the classes listed below will receive a trauma-informed certificate as part of their graduate work. The certificate's purpose is for students to gain an enhanced awareness and comprehension of trauma, along with identifying behaviors resulting from coping with traumatic events. They will learn techniques to reduce the chance of causing further trauma, build resilience by emphasizing personal strengths, and cultivate skills resistant to trauma. Additionally, they will discover how to prevent compassion fatigue by encouraging self-care practices both for themselves and others. Through an evidence-based approach to trauma-informed care, students will develop a philosophy that helps them understand and address the impacts of trauma on individuals, groups, and society at large.

Core Courses (9 hours)

PSYC 5373 Advanced Overcoming Child Trauma  
PSYC 5513 Advanced Adolescent Guidance  
PSYC 5613 Advanced Child Guidance

Electives (Choose 6 hours)

PSYC 5213 Advance Abnormal Psychology  
PSYC 5313 Advanced DSM  
PSYC 5253 Intervention Strategies  
PSYC 5353 Addictions & Family Theory  
PSYC 5623 Advanced Personality  
PSYC 5823 Multicultural Counseling