

# Medical/Clinical Psychology

To obtain specific instructions for how to apply to the graduate concentration in Medical/Clinical Psychology, prospective students should visit this page: <https://www.uab.edu/cas/psychology/graduate-programs/medical-clinical-psychology>

The Medical/Clinical Psychology specialization places strong emphasis on integration of biological and behavioral sciences. Thus, the research and clinical training that the program provides assumes an undergraduate background in both psychology and life science. The program engages students in continued pursuit of knowledge and skill fundamental to research and clinical practice. In addition, students focus their research and a clinical training in one or more of the several areas of clinical and health psychology that the program emphasizes, and pursue advanced scientific and applied coursework, clinical practica, and directed research activities that culminate in the doctoral dissertation.

Course requirements for the Medical/Clinical Psychology specialization include:

1. General Psychology and Neuroscience – cognitive, biological, social, emotional and developmental bases of behavior, as well as the history of the discipline
2. Statistics and Research Design – statistical methods, research design, and the responsible conduct of research. The statistics courses have associated computer labs.
3. Foundations of Clinical and Health Psychology – personality, psychopathology, an overview of psychotherapeutic methods, health psychology and the ethics of professional practice
4. Psychological Assessment and Intervention – interviewing; behavioral, cognitive and personality assessment; and an introduction to cognitive-behavior therapy.

Additional courses and/or seminars may be taken as electives and may be required depending on the student's area(s) of emphasis.

Students in Medical/Clinical Psychology are actively engaged in research throughout the time that they are enrolled in the program and typically complete a master's thesis project during their second or third year. Clinical practicum experiences begin in the summer of the first year, and in their final year students complete an APA-accredited clinical psychology internship, typically in a medical facility. The doctoral degree is awarded upon successful defense of the dissertation and completion of the internship.

## Master's Degree

Requirements	Hours
<b>Graduate Coursework</b> <sup>1</sup>	<b>24</b>
PY 701 Professional Issues and Ethics in Psychology	
PY 619 Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in Research and the Workplace	
PY 716 Introduction to Statistics and Measurement	
PY 716L Lab for Introduction to Statistics and Measurement	
PY 717 Applied Statistical Methods	
PY 717L Lab for Applied Statistical Methods	
PY 740 Adult Personality and Psychopathology	
PY 760 Interviewing and Behavioral Observation	

PY 764 Cognitive Assessment: Child and Adult	
PY 765 Personality Assessment	
PY 770 Survey of Psychotherapeutic Methods	
PY 777 Psychotherapy Practice Shadowing	
<b>Thesis Research</b>	<b>6</b>
PY 699 Master's Level Thesis Research	
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>30</b>

<sup>1</sup> Individual course requirements may be waived based on evaluation of coursework completed prior to matriculation, either at UAB or elsewhere. If a course requirement is waived, then the credit hours must be replaced by approved electives or by coursework required for the doctoral degree in Medical/Clinical Psychology. Course waivers may not exceed half of the required credit hours across the master's and doctoral degrees in Medical/Clinical Psychology; research, clinical practicum and internship hours are not included in this computation. No course may satisfy requirements for both the master's in Medical/Clinical Psychology and another degree, whether completed at UAB or elsewhere.

## Doctoral Degree

Requirements	Hours
<b>Required Coursework</b> <sup>1,2</sup>	<b>28</b>
PY 704 Social Psychology	
PY 707 Brain and Cognition	
PY 708 Developmental Psychology	
PY 718 Advanced Research Design	
PY 719 Multivariate Statistical Methods	
PY 719L Lab for Multivariate Statistical Methods	
PY 720 Human Neuropsychology or PY 731 Health Psychology or PY 741 Child and Adolescent Psychopathology and Treatment	
PY 769 Cognitive Behavior Therapy	
PY 779 Foundations of Clinical Supervision and Consultation	
PY 797 Clinical Practicum in Medical Psychology (1 credit hour)	
PY 798 Predoctoral Degree Graduate Research (1 credit hour)	
GRD 717 Principles of Scientific Integrity	
<b>Wavier Deficit</b> <sup>3</sup>	
<b>Doctoral Dissertation</b>	<b>12</b>
PY 799 Doctoral Dissertation Research	
<b>Internship</b> <sup>4</sup>	<b>27</b>
PY 790 Internship in Clinical Psychology	
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>67</b>

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<sup>2</sup> At least 28 hours (including 3 hours of GRD 717) must be completed prior to admission to candidacy. Remaining hours must include at least 15 hours of graduate-level Psychology coursework. PY 797 and PY 798 do not count towards this 15 hour coursework minimum.

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<sup>3</sup> Students who do not meet the 28-hour minimum in this category due to course waivers can make up the deficit with any combination of the following:

- Other elective courses approved by the program for this purpose.
- Up to 3 additional hours of non-dissertation research credits (PY 698, 699, and 798) that were not used to satisfy requirements for the master's degree.

<sup>4</sup> Includes 12 hours that satisfy the Graduate School's requirement for "appropriate research-based coursework which has been approved by the graduate student's program."