

Graduate Study
Department of Psychology
State University of New York at New Paltz
MS in Mental Health Counseling



The MS in mental health counseling program offers students the opportunity to pursue a specialized course of study leading to a 48-credit master of science degree in mental health counseling. It serves both students looking to become licensed as mental health counselors and those seeking to eventually proceed into doctoral programs. Degree requirements cover a core curriculum and specialization courses. Three required fieldwork courses provide unique, varied, and intense hands-on mental health counseling training experiences under supervision of licensed professionals. The program is registered with the State Education Department as meeting the educational requirements necessary for mental health counseling licensure in New York, which makes this a very marketable degree.

Admissions Requirements

The Department's Graduate Admissions Committee makes admissions decisions based on the following required criteria:

1. Baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution
2. Minimum grade point average of 3.0 for all undergraduate work with at least a 3.0 average in psychology courses, or strong evidence of recent academic achievement
3. Successful completion of undergraduate General Psychology, Statistics, Experimental Methods or Research Methods in Psychology
4. Satisfactory scores on the Graduate Record Examination (General Test); Psychology Subject GRE scores optional
5. Completed application for admission to the Master of Arts Program in Psychology
6. Two official transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate work
7. Three letters of recommendation
8. International Students must meet these additional university-wide requirements for admission: http://www.newpaltz.edu/admissions/intern_academic.html

Application Information

Application materials:

- Download applications or apply online at <http://www.newpaltz.edu/graduate/applications.cfm>
- You can also obtain application materials by contacting The Graduate School at HAB 804, SUNY New Paltz, 1 Hawk Dr., New Paltz, NY 12561-2443

Application Deadlines:

- **All Admissions are done for the Fall semester:** Application review begins Mar 15 and continues until the class is filled.
- **Assistantships:** Graduate assistantships are available to selected students each year. Current stipends are \$2,500 per semester (\$5,000 per academic year) plus a six-credit tuition waiver per semester. Assistantship duties involve assisting faculty in teaching and research. Contact the Graduate Coordinator for further information about assistantships.
- Admission to SUNY New Paltz and to the Graduate Psychology Program is based on academic qualifications, without regard to race, color, sex, disability, age, marital status, or religion.

Course Requirements

Foundation Courses (6 credits)

80551 - Design and Analysis (D & A) of Psychological Experiments

80554 - Research Methods in Psychology

Core Courses (9 credits)

80506 - Multicultural Psychology

80552 - Psychopathology

And one of the following courses to be chosen under advisement:

80528 - Developmental Psychology

80560 - Cognitive Psychology

80556 - Contemporary issues in Social Psychology

Specialization Courses (27 credits)

80553 - Techniques of Psychotherapy and Counseling

80508 - Career Counseling

80550 - Couple and Family Counseling

80555 - Personality Measurement

80557 - Group Dynamics

80580 - Fieldwork in Counseling I: Practicum (4 credits)

80581 - Fieldwork in Counseling II: Internship (4 credits)

80582 - Fieldwork in Counseling III: Internship (4 credits)

Capstone Course and Electives (3-6 credits)

80590 - Thesis in Psychology (3 or 6 credits)

ANY graduate psychology class taken that is NOT applied towards the foundation, core, specialization, or capstone requirements can be counted as an elective.

Contact Us

Graduate Study, Dept. of Psychology, JFT 302, SUNY New Paltz, 600 Hawk Drive, New Paltz, NY 12561-2440; (845) 257-3467; email: gradpsych@newpaltz.edu