

# Doctor of Philosophy

## Clinical Psychology (PhD)

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The Department of Psychology has participated in the Virginia Consortium Program in Clinical Psychology for over 43 years. This unified PhD program is offered jointly by Old Dominion University and Norfolk State University, and it is nationally accredited by the American Psychological Association. Students are engaged in research activities and clinical work throughout their training. The Program follows a scientist-practitioner training model. NOTE: This joint program is no longer accepting applications and is scheduled to close by 2031 when the last accepted students complete the program.

## Admission

This program is no longer accepting applications. Please see the PhD in Psychology with a Concentration in Clinical Psychology page.

## Curriculum Requirements

The Clinical Psychology PhD program of the Virginia Consortium Program in Clinical Psychology (VPCP) provides students with a high level of professional training consistent with the standards required for accreditation by the American Psychological Association (APA). To attain the degree, a minimum of five years of post-baccalaureate training is required, including four years full-time in residence (excluding the pre-doctoral internship and doctoral dissertation). An oral and written comprehensive examination, empirical doctoral dissertation, multiple years of clinical practicum training, and a full-time one year APA-approved pre-doctoral clinical internship are also required for the degree. The APA pre-doctoral internships are offered outside the Consortium. Additional details about the VPCP program can be found in its Program Handbook which is available on the Consortium's website ([www.odu.edu/vpcp](http://www.odu.edu/vpcp) (<https://sci.odu.edu/vpcp/>)).

Two pathways toward degree completion are possible:

**PATH A:** For students **entering the program with a master's degree**, students are required to complete a minimum of **116 credit hours** as noted below. Students entering the program who have already completed an empirical master's thesis in a graduate program prior to admission may have it evaluated to meet the program's requirement for a Foundational Research Project (FRP). Students with a master's degree but without an empirical master's thesis will be required to complete an FRP or, alternatively, may elect to pursue a master's thesis (see Path B below). The following curricular requirements will be followed for students in Path A:

### Path A Curriculum Requirements

Core Courses		
CPSY 632	Intellectual Assessment	3
CPSY 651	Developmental Psychology	3
CPSY 661	Psychopathology	3
CPSY 664	Clinical Assessment: Personality and Individual Differences	3
CPSY 700	Clinical and Ethical Practice	3
CPSY 713	Research Methods in Psychology	3
CPSY 720	Multicultural Issues in Clinical Psychology	3
CPSY 725	Cognitive Behavioral Therapy	3
CPSY 727	Analysis of Variance and Experimental Design	4
CPSY 728	Regression and Correlation Design	4
CPSY 749	Social and Affective Bases of Behavior	3
CPSY 801	Empirically-Supported Therapies	3
CPSY 826	Biological and Cognitive Aspects of Behavior	3
<b>Total Credits for Core Courses</b>		<b>41</b>

Clinical Practicum		33
CPSY 895	Clinical Practicum	
or CPSY 896	Advanced Clinical Practicum	
Research		18
CPSY 883	Research in Clinical Psychology	
Clinical Dissertation		12
CPSY 899	Clinical Dissertation	
Internship		12
CPSY 890	Internship in Clinical Psychology	
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>		<b>116</b>

**PATH B:** For students **entering the program without a master's degree** from a graduate program, students are required to complete a minimum of **116 credit hours**. Students who are not interested in completing a master's thesis would complete a Foundational Research Project (FRP) and notify the program within their first semester their intention to follow Path A.

Otherwise, students entering the program without a master's degree earned from a graduate program may first attain a master's degree in Old Dominion University (36 credits) followed by completing the requirements for the doctoral degree (80 credits). The following curricular requirements will be followed for students in Path B:

### Path B Curriculum Requirements

Master's Degree in Psychology		36
See curriculum for M.S. in Psychology for more information.		
Clinical Psychology students will be advised by their research mentor or DCT regarding the appropriate courses to take to prepare them for the PhD in Clinical Psychology.		
The Graduate Program Director for the M.S. in Psychology program will work with Clinical Psychology students regarding curriculum choices for the master's program.		
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>		<b>36</b>

### PhD in Clinical Psychology

Section A-Required Foundational Core (9 credits)*		
Select three of the following:		9
CPSY 651	Developmental Psychology	
CPSY 661	Psychopathology	
CPSY 720	Multicultural Issues in Clinical Psychology	
CPSY 749	Social and Affective Bases of Behavior	
CPSY 826	Biological and Cognitive Aspects of Behavior	
(*whichever two courses not selected for master's Section B contribute here)		
Section B-Required Clinical Courses (54 credits)		
Required Clinical Courses		6
CPSY 725	Cognitive Behavioral Therapy	
CPSY 801	Empirically-Supported Therapies	
Clinical Practicum		33
CPSY 895	Clinical Practicum	
or CPSY 896	Advanced Clinical Practicum	
Internship in Clinical Psychology		12
CPSY 890	Internship in Clinical Psychology	
Section C-Required Research Courses (20 credits)		
Research in Clinical Psychology		8
CPSY 883	Research in Clinical Psychology	
Clinical Dissertation		12
CPSY 899	Clinical Dissertation	
Total Credit Hours		80

## **Additional Requirements**

### **Student Evaluation**

Students are regularly evaluated in academic course work, research activities, clinical work, and professional behavior. A formal evaluation of student's progress is conducted at least annually. Each student is also evaluated through a written and oral comprehensive examination.

### **Dissertation Award**

The David Leigh Pancoast Award is given to the student in the Virginia Consortium Program in Clinical Psychology with the outstanding doctoral dissertation.