

PSYCHOLOGY, PHD

The PhD program in psychology prepares students for applied, research, or teaching positions in the areas of developmental psychology, industrial/organizational psychology and neuroscience and behavior.

Program Related Information

Program Contact

unopsycgrad@unomaha.edu
402.554.2581

Program Website (<http://www.unomaha.edu/psych/>)

Admissions

General Application Requirements and Admission Criteria (<http://catalog.unomaha.edu/graduate/admission/>)

Application Deadlines

- Fall 2026: January 10

Other Requirements

- Entrance Exam:** Graduate Record Examination (GRE)
 - GRE scores are **OPTIONAL** for those applying to the PhD Program. All applications will be reviewed whether or not GRE scores are included.
- English Language Proficiency:** Applicants are required to have a command of oral and written English. Those who do not hold a baccalaureate or other advanced degree from the United States, **OR** a baccalaureate or other advanced degree from a predetermined country on the waiver list (<https://www.unomaha.edu/office-of-graduate-studies/admissions/entrance-exams.php>), must meet the minimum language proficiency score requirement in order to be considered for admission.
 - Internet-based TOEFL: 80, IELTS: 6.5, PTE: 53, Duolingo: 110
- Statement of Purpose**
- Writing Sample** (preferred APA style)
- Resume**
- Letters of Recommendation:** Three letters of recommendation are required from professors and individuals who can speak to the applicant's potential for success in a graduate program.

Degree Requirements

Concentrations

Student must select an area of concentration.

Students have ten (10) years to complete the PhD in Psychology from the time of filing a program of study.

Total Credit Hours: 90

Concentrations

Industrial/Organizational Psychology Concentration

Noted courses are required as part of our MA concentration in industrial/organizational psychology. These courses or their equivalent will be required for students who have earned their MA from another institution.

Code	Title	Credits
General Psychology Courses		
Included in MA concentration in industrial/organization psychology		
(Required)		
PSYC 9440	PROSEMINAR: SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY	3
Select one of the following:		3
PSYC 9040	PROSEMINAR LEARNING	
PSYC 9070	PROSEMINAR: COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY	
PSYC 9230	PROSEMINAR: BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE	
PSYC 9240	PROSEMINAR: EVOLUTIONARY PSYCHOLOGY	
Included in MA concentration in industrial/organization psychology		
Breadth Requirement		
From list provided by area		
Included in MA concentration in industrial/organization psychology		
PSYC 8000	THE PROFESSION OF PSYCHOLOGY ¹	0
Statistics and Methods Courses		
PSYC 9120	MULTIVARIATE STATISTICAL ANALYSIS	3
PSYC 9910	TOPICAL SEMINAR IN PSYCHOLOGY (With Approval)	3
Included in MA concentration in industrial/organization psychology		
(Required)		
PSYC 9010	PROSEMINAR: STATISTICAL METHODS I	3
PSYC 9020	PROSEMINAR: STATISTICAL METHODS II	3
PSYC 9090	PSYCHOMETRIC THEORY	3
PSYC 9650	RESEARCH METHODS IN PSYCHOLOGY	3
Required industrial/organizational courses		
Included in MA concentration in industrial/organization psychology		
PSYC 8636	ORGANIZATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY	3
PSYC 8646	PERSONNEL PSYCHOLOGY	3
Core industrial/organizational courses ²		
PSYC 9610	MOTIVATION & MORALE	3
PSYC 9620	TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT	3
PSYC 9630	LEADERSHIP THEORIES AND RESEARCH	3
PSYC 9660	CRITERION DEVELOPMENT AND PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL	3
PSYC 9670	PERSONNEL SELECTION	3
PSYC 9680	GROUPS AND TEAMS	3
Topical Seminar		
PSYC 9030	SEMINAR: TOPICS IN INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY ³	3-9
Practicum		
PSYC 9950	PRACTICUM FOR DOCTORAL STUDENTS ⁴	1-6
Research Other than Thesis		
PSYC 9960	RESEARCH OTHER THAN THESIS ⁵	1-12
Thesis		
PSYC 8990	THESIS ⁵	6
Dissertation		
PSYC 9990	PSYCHOLOGY DISSERTATION	12-24
Electives		

Any course that is not required can serve as an elective as approved by the chair of the PhD committee. It is recommended that one course be taken outside the psychology department.

- ¹ PSYC 8000: (required)
² Require all 4; 1 course taken as part of the MA
³ PSYC 9030: (topics will change); 2 required
⁴ PSYC 9950: (6 hours required for PhD); cannot be taken until AFTER completion of MA thesis
⁵ 6 hours required.

Developmental Psychology Concentration

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
PSYC 8900	PROBLEMS IN PSYCHOLOGY ¹	1-6
PSYC 9500	SOCIOEMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT	3
PSYC 9530	COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT	3
PSYC 9550	PSYCHOSOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	3
PSYC 9560	PROSEMINAR: DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY	3

Additional Psychology Coursework

Select at least 12 hours from the following (must include at least one additional proseminar course):

PSYC 8446	ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY	
PSYC 8526	PSYCHOLOGY OF LANGUAGE	
PSYC 9040	PROSEMINAR LEARNING ²	
PSYC 9070	PROSEMINAR: COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY	
PSYC 9230	PROSEMINAR: BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE	
PSYC 9430	PROSEMINAR: PERSONALITY	
PSYC 9440	PROSEMINAR: SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY	
PSYC/GERO 9460	SEMINAR IN AGING AND HUMAN BEHAVIOR	

Methods, Design and Evaluation Coursework

Select at least 12 hour from the following:

Required:		
PSYC 8316	PSYCHOLOGICAL AND EDUCATIONAL TESTING	
PSYC 8520	FOUNDATIONS OF ASSESSMENT	
PSYC 9510	RESEARCH METHODS IN DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY	
PSYC 9650	RESEARCH METHODS IN PSYCHOLOGY	
Eligible courses:		
PSYC 9090	PSYCHOMETRIC THEORY	
PSYC 9320	SEMINAR IN PROGRAM EVALUATION	
SOC 8060	QUALITATIVE METHODS	

Statistical Analysis Coursework

Select at least 12 hours from the following:

Required:		
PSYC 9010	PROSEMINAR: STATISTICAL METHODS I	
PSYC 9020	PROSEMINAR: STATISTICAL METHODS II	
Eligible courses:		
PSYC 9120	MULTIVARIATE STATISTICAL ANALYSIS	
PSYC 9910	TOPICAL SEMINAR IN PSYCHOLOGY	
GERO 8356	ISSUES IN AGING ³	

Human Diversity Coursework

PSYC 8590	PSYCHOLOGY OF EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN	3
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Course in Cross-Cultural Development 3

Elective Coursework

Select at least 12 hours of elective coursework. Students will also find eligible courses in (among other disciplines):

Child, Youth, and Family Studies		
Sociology/Anthropology		
Gerontology		
Latino/Latin American Studies		
Empirical Research Coursework		
PSYC 9960	RESEARCH OTHER THAN THESIS ³	1-12
Included in MA concentration		
PSYC 8990	THESIS ⁴	6
PSYC 9990	PSYCHOLOGY DISSERTATION ⁵	12-24

- ¹ PSYC 8900: Readings, Presentation, Review Paper
² PSYC 9040: (in conjunction with MMI)
³ PSYC 9960: (at least 3 hours)
⁴ PSYC 8990: (6 hours; required for Master's degree)
⁵ PSYC 9990: (12-24 hours)

Every student must complete a two-party qualifying examination consisting of:

- Psychology readings including a written and oral examination across domains
- Grant proposal OR course development (child development, adolescent development or lifespan development)

Additionally, each student is expected to demonstrate proficiency with at least one research tool.

Neuroscience and Behavior Concentration

Code	Title	Credits
Required Course		
	12 hours in graduate-level courses in biological and behavioral sciences	12
Electives		
	To be determined by the student's supervisory committee	15
Exit Requirement		
PSYC 9990	PSYCHOLOGY DISSERTATION (12-30 Hours Required)	

- ¹ PSYC 9990: (12-30 hours)

Exit Requirements

- Comprehensive Examination
- Dissertation

Special Performance Quality Rule

If at any time a grade of "C", (2.0 on a 4.0 scale) in graduate courses become a matter of record, a graduate student in the Department of Psychology will be placed on probation. An unexcused grade of "W" in a proseminar course will be considered equivalent to a grade of "C" for purposes of this policy. An excused "W" must be approved by the chair of the department of psychology. Students placed on this probation will forfeit any departmental graduate assistantship they may have and any approved programs of study will be subject to re-evaluation and change. Before registering for additional courses, a student placed on probation must, with the assistance and approval of his/her advisor, submit a plan for remediation of his/her academic problems, and have that plan approved by the Graduate Program Committee. The Graduate Program Committee will review and, if appropriate, modify the plan. Further, any enrollment in graduate courses must be approved by the Graduate Program

Committee. The student will remain on probation until the Graduate Program Committee approves termination of probation status. If a student earns a second "C", the student will be dismissed from the program and the GPC will work to come up with a plan, and evaluate if it is possible for the student to return to the program at some point.