

DIVISION OF PSYCHOLOGY AND PHILOSOPHY

Web Site: <http://www.twu.edu/psychology-philosophy/>

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Graduate Degrees Offered

- M.A. in Counseling Psychology (<http://catalog.twu.edu/graduate/arts-sciences/psychology-philosophy/counseling-psychology-ma/>)
- M.S. in Psychological Science (<http://catalog.twu.edu/graduate/arts-sciences/psychology-philosophy/psychological-science-ma/>)
- Specialist in School Psychology (S.S.P.) (<http://catalog.twu.edu/graduate/arts-sciences/psychology-philosophy/specialist-school-psychology-ssp/>)
- Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology (<http://catalog.twu.edu/graduate/arts-sciences/psychology-philosophy/counseling-psychology-phd/>)
- Ph.D. in School Psychology (<http://catalog.twu.edu/graduate/arts-sciences/psychology-philosophy/school-psychology-phd/>)

School Psychology

The School Psychology Program offers an American Psychological Association-accredited (<https://accreditation.apa.org/accredited-programs/>) / National Association of School Psychology (<https://www.nasponline.org/>) approved Ph.D. degree, and a National Association of School Psychologists accredited Specialist degree. (<https://www.nasponline.org/standards-and-certification/graduate-program-approval-and-accreditation/program-accreditation/accredited-programs/>) The School Psychology Program is designed to prepare students in the scientist-practitioner model with an emphasis on scientific rigor and problem-solving applied to practice in intervention, consultation, assessment, program evaluation, and research. Doctoral students are prepared to assume leadership roles in educational settings, independent practice, and supervision. Doctoral graduates qualify for licensure as psychologists by the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists (<https://www.bhec.texas.gov/texas-state-board-of-examiners-of-psychologists/>) and listing in the National Register of Health Service Providers in Psychology (<https://www.nationalregister.org/>) following appropriate internship and postdoctoral experience. Both specialist and doctoral graduates are eligible to take the national school psychology examination, which leads to being eligible for licensure as a Licensed Specialist in School Psychology by the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists (<https://www.bhec.texas.gov/texas-state-board-of-examiners-of-psychologists/>), and towards credentialing as a Nationally Certified School Psychologist.

Counseling Psychology

The department offers two graduate programs in Counseling Psychology. The doctoral program offers an American Psychological Association accredited (<https://accreditation.apa.org/accredited-programs/>) Ph.D. degree. The Master's program leads to a Master of Arts degree. Both provide systematic training within a practitioner-scientist model to prepare students for professional mental health practice in a wide range of settings.

Both programs are grounded in feminist multicultural philosophy and pedagogy and have a focus on developing practitioners with a strong understanding of individuals within their gendered and sociocultural contexts. Social justice and advocacy are highly valued and practiced. Graduates of the program are expected to embrace strong multicultural values and to be conversant with and competent in the diversity-sensitive applications of theory, practice, research, and other professional functions.

The programs are situated within the unique context of TWU, focusing primarily on the educational advancement of women. The Counseling Psychology programs strive to create an atmosphere that is inclusive, supportive, and flexible while maintaining strong academic rigor. The programmatic goals are to create a climate that challenges without competition, promotes professional competence while minimizing the power hierarchy, and incorporates student participation at high levels. The program faculty make a concerted effort to attend to students' training needs within a contextual framework and to create an environment in which collaboration, self-direction, community, and respect for individual differences are promoted. Students and faculty make every effort to maintain open communication and clear expectations.

Applicants should be aware that, as is typical of graduate training in professional psychology, part of one's development as a psychologist entails personal growth and disclosure in addition to academic learning. As such, students may be expected to share appropriate personal material in various classes and practicum situations. APA guidelines require that students be informed of this requirement.

Doctoral graduates qualify for Licensure as Psychologists and listing in the National Register of Health Service Providers in Psychology (<https://www.nationalregister.org/>) following appropriate internship and postdoctoral experience. Master's graduates qualify for licensure as Professional Counselors (LPC).

Psychological Science

The Psychological Science program offers an M.S. degree. The Psychological Science Program is designed to prepare students in a variety of areas of psychological science with exceptional, student-focused research training. Through one-on-one mentoring, students will develop a deep understanding of the scientific basis of human psychology and highly marketable research skills. The program prepares students for direct entry into the workforce as a behavioral scientist or analyst with tech companies, marketing firms, defense contractors, pharmaceutical and cosmetic industries, federal and local governments, academic and private research labs, and other private industry employers. Graduates of the Psychological Science program are well-positioned for entry into a doctoral program in psychology or entry into teaching positions at community colleges. The 36-credit hour program is designed to be completed in as few as 12 months and includes the completion of a thesis project with a faculty mentor.