Master of Arts in Psychology

Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology with an Emphasis in Marriage and Family Therapy

INSPIRATION for change

PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY
Graduate School of Education and Psychology
“Our psychology graduate programs offer academically superior training in a supportive environment. We seek to facilitate intellectual and professional growth, while also encouraging personal development. Our distinguished faculty represent a variety of specializations and offer teaching perspectives that are seasoned by research and clinical experience. Southern California provides unique opportunities for service learning, research, and community involvement, all of which strengthen and enrich our graduate curriculum.”
With its unique combination of social understanding and scientific analysis, the Master of Arts in Psychology program prepares students for a wide range of professional fields, from researchers to counselors, from business leaders to entrepreneurs. This prestigious program focuses on:

**Personal Growth.** Psychology is a human science, and our students come to us with a desire to understand and aid the human experience. This process begins with the self, so our program assists students with their quest for self-understanding and promotes personal growth.

**Professional Development.** Whether you’re looking to build your career with a master’s degree or use it as a stepping stone to pursue doctoral studies, our faculty mentors, supportive career services department, and extensive alumni network can help you achieve your professional goals.

**Changing Lives.** The Graduate School of Education and Psychology draws upon Pepperdine’s values-based heritage and takes a holistic approach to education. The practical skills and clinical experience of this program prepare our students to build communities and inspire change across the nation and throughout the world.

**Pepperdine University at a Glance:**

- Prestigious programs
- Nationally-recognized faculty
- Supportive environment with small class sizes
- Class availability
- Day and evening formats to suit your academic needs
- Professional development training
- Dedicated career services department
- Strong alumni network

Pepperdine University has four graduate campuses located across Southern California in Encino, Irvine, Malibu, and West Los Angeles.

Cover photo: Dr. Dennis W. Lowe, Professor
“The master’s in psychology program at Pepperdine has prepared me to work in a clinical setting and to further my education at the doctoral level. My experiences in the master’s program solidified my desire to continue my education at Pepperdine and I am extremely happy with my decision. The support and mentorship I received from professors in the program have helped develop my specific research interests. I have gained a great deal of knowledge while interacting with experts in the field. Through Pepperdine’s scholar-practitioner model, coursework translates into the clinical setting and allows me to maintain a balance between theory and practice in all of the work that I do.”
Master of Arts in Psychology

Curriculum

The Master of Arts in Psychology (MAP) program is designed to provide students with a thorough understanding of the principles of psychology. Within a strong clinical framework, the 36–44-unit program offers theoretical and practical learning in a supportive environment. Courses in this program provide students with an in-depth understanding of the principles of psychology and prepare them for a host of professional endeavors.

Doctoral Study Preparation

The MAP program serves as a stepping stone for students interested in pursuing a doctoral degree (PhD or PsyD) in psychology or a related field.

Course Sampling

- Research and Evaluation Methods for Mental Health Professionals
- Interpersonal Skills and Group Therapy
- Theories of Counseling and Psychotherapy
- Assessment of Intelligence
- Personality Assessment
- Techniques of Counseling and Psychotherapy
“GSEP’s emphasis on service to the community instilled in me a desire to be a voice for the voiceless and led me to a career in animal advocacy. The versatile Master of Arts in Psychology curriculum is also easily applied to the nonprofit sector and taught me the best ways to engage with people, so I can share with them the many benefits of choosing vegetarian foods.”
Career Options

The MAP degree also serves as a gateway into the human services field. Potential career pathways are varied and include many positions within the field of clinical/research psychology, as well as multi-industry job functions working in corporate, nonprofit, higher education, government, NGOs, social enterprise, and health care. Alumni are enjoying careers in the following positions:

Clinical/Research Psychology:

- Care Coordinator
- Group Facilitator
- Behavior Therapist
- Child Development Specialist
- Research Assistant

Multi-industry:

- Case Manager at agencies such as the Department of Children and Family Services, Foster Care, and the Department of Public Social Services
- Corrections Officer
- Activist/Advocate
- Grant Writer
- Human Resources
- Corporate Recruiter
- Market Research Analyst
- Academic Advisor
- Career Counselor
- Executive Coach

For a comprehensive course list, please visit us online at: gsep.pepperdine.edu/masters-psychology/courses
Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology with an Emphasis in Marriage and Family Therapy

The Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology with an Emphasis in Marriage and Family Therapy program is a minimum 60-unit program, which offers an academic and practical foundation that prepares students to serve individuals, couples, families, and groups. Faculty scholar-practitioners provide high-quality training in a supportive learning environment.

The program is designed to prepare students to work in community counseling, governmental entities, or educational settings, or to launch their own private practices. The clinical training and academic preparation also equip students for doctoral programs in clinical psychology, counseling psychology, or family therapy. This program features:

- The choice between a full-time Day Format or an Evening Format for working professionals
- A clinical and practice-based course of study that emphasizes current applied methods of psychotherapy
- Assistance in field placements for supervised clinical experience/practicum
- Beginning fall 2013, students may choose specialization in serving Latinas/os

Licensure

In accordance with the Board of Behavioral Sciences (BBS), Pepperdine offers coursework that prepares students for licensure in both Licensed Marriage and Family Therapy (LMFT) and Licensed Professional Clinical Counseling (LPCC). As part of the program, students gain supervised counseling experience in clinical settings.

For a comprehensive course list, please visit us online at:
gsep.pepperdine.edu/masters-clinical-psychology-mft-day/courses
gsep.pepperdine.edu/masters-clinical-psychology-mft-evening/courses
**LMFT**

LMFTs are employed in both the public and private sector in a wide range of positions. They work in county mental health agencies, hospitals, educational institutions, Employee Assistance Programs, and private practice. LMFTs primarily conduct psychotherapy with individuals (adults and children), couples, and families and utilize a relational perspective in their work. They also work as clinical supervisors, administrators, and educators. LMFT is a state license.

**LPCC**

LPCC involves the application of counseling interventions and psychotherapeutic techniques to improve mental health and empower individuals to deal adequately with life situations, reduce stress, experience growth, and change behavior. LPCCs work with individuals and with groups, and with specialized educational and clinical training experiences, they can also work with couples and families. Our programs provide this specialization in couples and family counseling. LPCCs may also do specialized work in areas such as career counseling, rehabilitation therapy, and art and dance therapy with further post-graduation training. LPCC is a state license.

**Course Sampling**

- Diagnosis and Treatment of Mental Health Disorders
- Multicultural Counseling
- Individual & Family Treatment of Substance Abuse
- Couple and Family Therapy I
- Clinical Practicum
- Trauma in Diverse Populations
- Career Development Theories and Techniques

Pepperdine’s LMFT and LPCC preparation courses emphasize recovery-oriented care and provide opportunities within the classroom where students can meet with mental health consumers. The course curricula also provide contextual framework necessary for working with and understanding diverse cultures and populations. Additionally, program preparation includes familiarity with the social and psychological implications of socioeconomic position, as well as an understanding of the ways in which poverty and social stress impact the individual’s mental health and recovery.
Aliento, The Center for Latina/o Communities

Aliento is dedicated to addressing the individual and collective mental health needs of Latina/o communities. Aliento is Spanish for “breath,” and the Center’s overall purpose is to help people lead healthy and fulfilling lives and to “help communities breathe better.” The three main components of Aliento are:

- The Marriage and Family Therapy program with the Latina/o specialization
- Community-based research and program evaluation
- Community outreach and education

For more information about Aliento, please contact:
Dr. Miguel Gallardo: Miguel.Gallardo@pepperdine.edu
“The Latino community is the fastest-growing, and largest, ethnoculturally diverse group in the United States. As such, Pepperdine University has created Aliento to give voice to the strengths and values of the Latino community. We believe that empowerment of individuals begins with the inclusion of community members in the development of education, training, and research philosophies. In addition to the emphasis on Latino training and research within Pepperdine’s Clinical Psychology program, Aliento is committed to outreach and education programs in the wider community.”
Program Formats

**Day Format**

Designed for full-time students, the program’s day format opens for enrollment each fall and is offered at Pepperdine’s Drescher Graduate Campus in Malibu. The format allows students to be part of a selective cohort-based program that is completed in two academic years.

**Evening Format**

Designed for working professionals, the evening format offers classes in the late-afternoons and weeknights at the Encino, Irvine, and West Los Angeles Graduate Campuses. This program format admits new students three times a year, allowing for the creation of a flexible schedule, whether part-time or full-time.

**Latina/o Specialization**

Starting in fall 2013, the new specialization preparing students to serve Latina/o communities will be administered through Aliento at the Irvine Graduate Campus. Twenty students will be admitted during the fall term and will participate as a cohort for 26 units of Latina/o-specific content and experiential Spanish-language development courses.
“The Day Format uniquely offers students the ability to study with a cohort of diverse MFT trainees. Through a shared-learning experience, this model provides close peer interaction and support that is particularly valuable as students immerse themselves in clinical and practice-based study, and during practicum completion. Over the two-year program completion, students receive faculty mentoring and build personal and professional relationships that last a lifetime.”
Program Benefits

Professional Development.

Whether students are looking to continue their studies in a doctoral program, or to obtain LMFT or LPCC licensure to launch their careers, Pepperdine’s Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology program will provide the preparation needed. According to the California Board of Behavioral Sciences, Pepperdine graduates have a 90 percent pass rate of the MFT Standard Written Exam (2011).

Network Opportunities.

As members of Pepperdine’s diverse student body, students have access to the University’s career services department, which specializes in the field of psychology to support professional advancement. After graduation, students will join Pepperdine’s extensive alumni community network, which includes more than 18,000 professionals.

Award-Winning Faculty.

Pepperdine’s nationally-recognized faculty members provide real-world experiences that link classroom learning to field of practice. These scholar-practitioners provide mentorship and are dedicated to students’ academic and professional success.
Flexibility and Accessibility.

With graduate campuses located across Southern California, and flexible class schedules, Pepperdine’s program and format options allow students to choose the right path for their educational needs, whether as a working professional or as a full-time student.

Course Availability and Support.

As a private, student-centered university, Pepperdine is able to offer the courses students need so they can graduate on time. Additionally, small class sizes provide a supportive learning environment with close interaction between faculty and peers.

Financial Aid.

Scholarships, grants, loans, graduate student assistantships, and payment plans are available for qualified students. More than 80 percent of students qualify for federal loans and more than 40 percent are eligible for Pepperdine-funded assistance.

Current information and all forms necessary to apply for financial aid are available online: gsep.pepperdine.edu/financialaid
When I decided to attend graduate school, I knew my goals included learning about best practices in therapy and best interventions to work specifically with people suffering from eating disorders. Pepperdine provided me with the education and foundation I needed to understand the complexities of emotional barriers and disconnectedness. My professors encouraged my passion to create a recovery model for the treatment of eating disorders. They helped me further develop my vision and beliefs for recovery, which include spiritual, emotional, and physical components.
Admission Requirements

- Application for admission with a nonrefundable processing fee.
- A baccalaureate degree from a regionally-accredited institution. The Day Format prefers a bachelor’s degree in psychology or a closely related field.
- Official transcript in a sealed envelope from the accredited institution that awarded the baccalaureate degree to the applicant, as well as transcripts from all other colleges or universities attended to earn the degree.
- GRE (or MAT for the evening program) scores (test must have been taken within the last five years).
- Two professional recommendations attesting to the applicant’s competencies, character, and potential and/or ability as a mental health professional.
- A two- to five-page typed autobiographical description of previous training and experience, current interests, future professional goals, and reasons for applying to the program.

For complete program-specific admission requirements or to request an application, apply online, or download materials, please visit: gsep.pepperdine.edu/admission

GSEP Campuses

Pepperdine University’s Graduate School of Education and Psychology has accessible graduate campuses located throughout Southern California. The Master of Arts in Psychology and Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology - Evening Format programs are offered at the Encino, Irvine, and West Los Angeles Graduate Campuses. The Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology - Evening Format program with Latina/o specialization is held at the Irvine Graduate Campus. The Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology - Day Format program is offered at the Drescher Graduate Campus in Malibu.

**Drescher Graduate Campus**  
24255 Pacific Coast Highway  
Malibu, CA 90263

**Encino Graduate Campus**  
16830 Ventura Blvd., Suite 200  
Encino, CA 91436

**Irvine Graduate Campus**  
18111 Von Karman Avenue  
Irvine, CA 92612

**West Los Angeles Graduate Campus**  
6100 Center Drive  
Los Angeles, CA 90045
To learn more about the master’s programs at GSEP, including the application process and deadlines, please contact us:

**Master of Arts in Psychology (MAP)**
Evening Format
310.568.5605 • psychology-masters@pepperdine.edu
gsep.pepperdine.edu/masters-psychology

**Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology (MACLP)**
Day Format
310.568.4608 • psychology-masters@pepperdine.edu
gsep.pepperdine.edu/masters-clinical-psychology-mft-day

**Evening Format**
310.568.5605 • psychology-masters@pepperdine.edu
gsep.pepperdine.edu/masters-clinical-psychology-mft-evening

**Aliento (Latina/o Specialization)**
310.568.2524 • miguel.gallardo@pepperdine.edu
gsep.pepperdine.edu/masters-clinical-psychology-mft-evening

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**GSEP Mission**

The Pepperdine University Graduate School of Education and Psychology is an innovative learning community where faculty, staff, and students of diverse cultures, perspectives, and faiths work collaboratively to foster academic excellence, social purpose, meaningful service, and personal fulfillment.

As a graduate school within a Christian University, GSEP endeavors to educate and motivate students to assume leadership roles in professions that improve and enrich the lives of individuals, families, and communities. To this end, GSEP is dedicated to exemplifying and providing inspiration for change.

**Pepperdine University is accredited through the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC).**
For those who wish to further their education beyond a master’s degree, GSEP also offers an APA-accredited doctoral program in clinical psychology (PsyD). There is a separate application process for admission into the doctoral program. Applicants to the doctoral program must have a completed master’s degree, or will have completed a master’s degree prior to starting the program. Acceptance to one of the GSEP master’s programs in psychology does not guarantee admission to the doctoral program. Additional details on this program may be found at: gsep.pepperdine.edu/doctorate-clinical-psychology