MASTER OF ARTS IN APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY (M.A.)

Format
This program is delivered online.

Purpose
The Master of Arts in Applied Psychology is to provide students foundational training in the study of psychology with the goal of glorifying God by understanding and optimizing human functioning.

Program Learning Outcomes
The student will be able to:

1. Analyze literature within the discipline of psychological science, including major concepts, theories, methodologies, and empirical findings.
2. Critique social scientific research.
3. Apply psychological research to practical problems of behavior and mental processes.
4. Evaluate psychological research in the context of biblical thought.

Developmental Psychology Concentration
The student will be able to use empirical research to evaluate developmental issues across the lifespan.

Industrial/Organizational Psychology Concentration
The student will be able to apply knowledge of psychology to understand human thinking and behavior in organizations.

Program Specific Admission Procedures
In addition to the General Admission Procedures outlined in this Catalog, applicants to the Master of Arts in Applied Psychology (M.A.) must have:

1. An earned baccalaureate degree or its equivalent from an institution accredited by an agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education (e.g., SACSCOC, TRACS, ABHE, etc.);
2. An undergraduate cumulative GPA of at least 2.5 (on a 4.00 scale).
3. Official transcripts must be provided before admission. Mail official college transcripts (sealed, unopened copy).

Transfer of Credit
Students may transfer up to 18 hours of coursework into the M.A. in Applied Psychology program. For a transferred course to replace a Liberty University course, the following requirements must be met:

1. The school at which the course was taken must be appropriately accredited.
2. The course credit must be at least three semester hours or five quarter hours.
3. The student must have earned a grade of B- or better in the course.
4. The course must overlap one of Liberty's courses by at least 80%.

Courses related to psychology and counseling that meet all but the last criterion may be transferred in as elective courses. Course work must have been completed within the previous 10 years. Transfer credits will not be accepted for the following courses: PSYC 520 Psychology and Christianity (3 c.h.).

Credits from a prior degree on the same academic level earned through Liberty University are considered transfer credits. Liberty University course work that is more than 10 years old must be repeated.

Programs of Study
Delivery Format: Online Only

- Applied Psychology (M.A.) - Developmental Psychology
- Applied Psychology (M.A.) - Industrial/Organizational Psychology

Career Opportunities
- Developmental Specialist
- Rehabilitation Counselor
- Human Resource Analyst
- Employment Counselor
- Social Service Manager
- Organizational Consultant
- Workforce Manager

Courses

Applied Psychology (MAOP)
MAOP 520 Foundations in I/O Psychology 3 Credit Hour(s)
Prerequisite: Statistics with a score of 3 and General Psychology with a score of 3 and Research Methods with a score of 3 and Psychological Measurement with a score of 3
Students will learn how to evaluate psychological research in organizations and apply that knowledge to work place settings. This will focus mainly in areas related to motivation, psychology and aptitudes in different organizational processes. Students will learn how to apply the scientist-practitioner model in a real life organization on campus. (formerly MSPS 513)
Offered: Resident

MAOP 526 Organizational Psychology 3 Credit Hour(s)
Prerequisite: Statistics with a score of 3 and General Psychology with a score of 3 and Research Methods with a score of 3 and Psychological Measurement with a score of 3
Exploration of current theory and research in industrial/organizational psychology. Focus on talent acquisition and management, leadership, job attitudes, and organizational development. (formerly MSPS 526)
Offered: Resident

MAOP 646 Personnel Psychology 3 Credit Hour(s)
Prerequisite: Statistics with a score of 3 and General Psychology with a score of 3 and Research Methods with a score of 3 and Psychological Measurement with a score of 3 and MAOP 520
Examination of personnel selection methods and perspectives. Focus on using advanced psychological methods to select high performing employees.
Offered: Resident
MAOP 650  Current Issues in I/O Psychology  3 Credit Hour(s)
Prerequisite: Statistics with a score of 3 and General Psychology with a score of 3 and Research Methods with a score of 3 and Psychological Measurement with a score of 3
Exploration of Current Topics in I/O Psychology. This course will focus on several topics related to the development and advancement of I/O consultants such as ethics, communication and leadership.
Offered: Resident

MAOP 655 Psychology of Performance  3 Credit Hour(s)
Prerequisite: Statistics with a score of 3 and General Psychology with a score of 3 and Research Methods with a score of 3 and Psychological Measurement with a score of 3 and MAOP 520 and MAOP 646
Examination of theory and practice in regard the psychological evaluation of performance in the workplace. This course will focus on the assessment, measurement and evaluation of employee performance.
Offered: Resident

MAOP 658 Special Topic in I/O Psychology  3 Credit Hour(s)
Prerequisite: Statistics with a score of 3 and General Psychology with a score of 3 and Research Methods with a score of 3 and Psychological Measurement with a score of 3 and PSYC 510 and PSYC 515
Exploration of Contemporary Issues in I/O Psychology. This course will focus on using the most current organizational psychology principles/skills to help organizations answer day-to-day questions related to both employee and organizational performance and overall functioning.
Offered: Resident

MAOP 660 Industrial Psychology  3 Credit Hour(s)
Prerequisite: Statistics with a score of 3 and General Psychology with a score of 3 and Research Methods with a score of 3 and Psychological Measurement with a score of 3 and MAOP 520 and MAOP 646 and MAOP 655
Evaluation of techniques for training and development purposes. Focus on design, implementation, and evaluation of training, continuing education, and staff development programs, looking to organizational improvement.
Offered: Resident

MAOP 693 Candidacy Exam  0 Credit Hour(s)
Prerequisite: Statistics with a score of 3 and General Psychology with a score of 3 and Research Methods with a score of 3 and Psychological Measurement with a score of 3 and MSPS 513 and MAOP 526 and MAOP 646 and MAOP 650 and MAOP 655 and MAOP 658 and MAOP 660
A comprehensive examination of the concepts and content of the degree program.
Offered: Resident

MAOP 698 Applied Organizational Practicum  3 Credit Hour(s)
Prerequisite: Statistics with a score of 3 and General Psychology with a score of 3 and Research Methods with a score of 3 and Psychological Measurement with a score of 3 and MAOP 526 and MAOP 646 and MAOP 650 and MAOP 655 and MAOP 658
Get placed in an Approved Organizational Psychology Practicum Location and gain 80 hours of experience. The class will help students at their practicum process their experience and help them gain knowledge/tools on how to make their practicum experience as beneficial as possible.
Offered: Resident

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Psychology (PSYC)

PSYC 510 Research Methods and Statistics in Psychology I  3 Credit Hour(s)
Overview of research methodology and statistical techniques for psychological research. Emphasis on the three basic types of research - descriptive, predictive, and experimental. Also, addresses ethics in research. A computer package is used for analysis of data. (Crosslisted with MSPS 500)
Offered: Online

PSYC 512 Social Psychology  3 Credit Hour(s)
Examination of scientific literature involving individual behavior in relation to social contexts. Topics include attribution, social perception, socialization, attitude formation/change, group dynamics, prosocial behavior, aggression, social influence, and applications. (Crosslisted with MSPS 513)
Offered: Online

PSYC 515 Research Methods and Statistics in Psychology II  3 Credit Hour(s)
Resident Prerequisite: PSYC 510
This course examines advanced research methodology and statistical techniques for psychological research. This course equips students to design, conduct, and present research using APA formatting guidelines. A computer software package is used for analysis of data. (Crosslisted with MSPS 505)
Offered: Online

PSYC 516 Industrial/Organizational Psychology  3 Credit Hour(s)
Exploration of current theory and research in industrial/organizational psychology. Focus on talent acquisition and management, leadership, job attitudes, and organizational development. (Crosslisted with MSPS 526)
Offered: Online

PSYC 520 Psychology and Christianity  3 Credit Hour(s)
Exploration of the relationship between psychological science and Christian faith. Topics include philosophical foundations and models of conceptualizing the relationship between the disciplines. (Crosslisted with MSPS 521)
Offered: Online

PSYC 525 Developmental Psychology  3 Credit Hour(s)
Advanced study of developmental processes across the lifespan. Examination of theories and current research in physical, mental, emotional, and social domains. Special consideration given to varying social situations and cultural contexts. (Crosslisted with MSPS 540)
Offered: Online

PSYC 545 Test Construction/Validation  3 Credit Hour(s)
Resident Prerequisite: PSYC 510
Discussion of principles to produce and improve tests and assessments of knowledge, skills, and other psychological constructs. A focus on techniques for evaluating existing measures for reliability and validity evidence and guidelines for the rigorous development of new instruments.
Offered: Online

PSYC 565 Psychology of Learning  3 Credit Hour(s)
Advanced study of associative learning. Special emphasis on instrumental conditioning, motivation, and affect as they relate to the field of developmental psychology. (Crosslisted with MSPS 570)
Offered: Online
PSYC 575  Cognitive Psychology  3 Credit Hour(s)
Discussion of theory and research in cognitive psychology. Topics include attention, memory, language, learning, reasoning, and decision-making. (Crosslisted with MSPS 531)
Offered: Online

PSYC 620  Intervention and Behavior Support  3 Credit Hour(s)
Discussion of traditional and contemporary intervention strategies. Special emphasis on evidence-based practices and application to real-world scenarios. (Crosslisted with MSPS 625)
Offered: Online

PSYC 621  Child Psychology  3 Credit Hour(s)
Online Prerequisite: PSYC 525
Advanced study of developmental processes from conception until adolescence. Focus on contemporary research in biological, cognitive, and socio-emotional development. (Crosslisted with MSPS 627)
Offered: Online

PSYC 631  Adolescent Psychology  3 Credit Hour(s)
Online Prerequisite: PSYC 525
Advanced study of developmental processes during adolescence. Focus on contemporary research in biological, cognitive, and socio-emotional development. (Crosslisted with MSPS 637)
Offered: Online

PSYC 635  Adult Psychology  3 Credit Hour(s)
Online Prerequisite: PSYC 525
Advanced study of developmental processes in adulthood. Focus on contemporary research in various domains, such as work, marriage and family, personality, cognition, and physical change. (Crosslisted with MSPS 647)
Offered: Online

PSYC 636  Geropsychology  3 Credit Hour(s)
Online Prerequisite: PSYC 525
Review of empirical literature in gerontology. Topics include cognition, personality and adjustment, physical change, social roles, and more. (Crosslisted with MSPS 657)
Offered: Online

PSYC 640  Organizational Behavior and Development  3 Credit Hour(s)
Online Prerequisite: PSYC 516 or PSYC 716
Discussion of organization theories and organizational change. Consideration also given to group structure and processes. (Crosslisted with MSPS 646)
Offered: Online

PSYC 642  Human Resource Training and Development  3 Credit Hour(s)
Online Prerequisite: PSYC 516
Evaluation of techniques for training and motivating personnel. Focus on design, implementation, and evaluation of training, continuing education, and staff development programs, looking to organizational improvement. (Crosslisted with MSPS 650)
Offered: Online

PSYC 644  Organizational Ethics  3 Credit Hour(s)
Online Prerequisite: PSYC 516
Exploration of ethical/legal issues confronted by organizations, and discussion of ethical theories pertaining to decision-making and problem solving in organizations. Special consideration given to how Christian faith informs ethics. (Crosslisted with MSPS 655)
Offered: Online

PSYC 645  Developmental Psychopathology  3 Credit Hour(s)
Exploration of developmental pathways, including specific disorders and their contexts, and risk/resilience. Special attention devoted to normal and deviant development, and principles of adaptive functioning. (Crosslisted with MSPS 610)
Offered: Online

PSYC 648  Leadership and Motivation  3 Credit Hour(s)
Online Prerequisite: PSYC 516 or PSYC 716
Review of psychological theories of and research on motivation and their application to work. Highlights how leadership relates to motivation, workplace climate and attitudes, and group performance. (Crosslisted with MSPS 658)
Offered: Online

PSYC 651  Personnel and Performance Management  3 Credit Hour(s)
Online Prerequisite: PSYC 516 or PSYC 716
Examination of personnel psychology. Topics include workforce planning, recruitment and selection of employees, performance criteria and appraisal, job analysis, job evaluation, and compensation. (Crosslisted with MSPS 660)
Offered: Online

PSYC 658  Developmental Neuropsychology  3 Credit Hour(s)
Online Prerequisite: PSYC 525
Exploration of the relationship between brain and behavior across the lifespan. Special emphasis on contemporary research and issues in the field. (Crosslisted with MSPS 580)
Offered: Online

PSYC 689  Thesis Proposal and Research  3 Credit Hour(s)
This course will allow a student to work individually with the director of his/her thesis.
Offered: Online

PSYC 690  Master's Thesis  3 Credit Hour(s)
Research on approved topic under direction of thesis committee with chair approval. (Crosslisted with MSPS 691)
Offered: Online