

Doctor of Psychology

Psy.D. in Counseling and School Psychology



Train to become a Health Service Psychologist.

Prepare to serve your community as a licensed psychologist in a variety of professional settings.

Rivier's Psy.D. program in Counseling and School Psychology prepares students to become Health Service Psychologists. The program prepares graduates to obtain licensure as professional psychologists who are trained to work with diverse populations. As trained and licensed psychologists, graduates have the education and experience for the independent delivery of healthcare services. They provide preventive, consultative, assessment, and treatment services in a broad range of settings including independent or group practice, multidisciplinary clinics, counseling centers, hospitals, and schools.

Program Overview

Rivier's program follows a practitioner-scholar training model, which integrates clinical skills with the empirical foundations of the discipline. The program is designed to be completed in no fewer than four years, including a three-year academic residency (one or two days a week required on campus) and a 2,000-hour internship. Doctoral students attend the University full-time during all semesters and are expected to limit outside employment. This allows students to devote time to their studies, program activities and events, practicum placements, research, and faculty advising and mentoring.

Licensure and Accreditation

Rivier's program is fully accredited by the American Psychological Association. The standards for accreditation are designed to ensure preparation for entry-level psychological practice. Some states require licensure candidates either to have a degree from an APA-accredited doctoral program or to prove that their program is equivalent. Rivier's curriculum meets the New Hampshire Board of Psychologists' requirements for licensure.

Rivier's Psy.D. program requires students to have a Master's degree in a mental health practice field, including completing 36 credits or the equivalent of specific foundation courses.



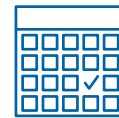
Course Format

On campus
1-2 days per week,
2-3 evenings per week
(depends on number of courses enrolled in)



78 Credits

to complete
program



4 Years

estimated
program length



Psy.D. in Counseling and School Psychology

Program of Study

The number of credit hours required to earn the Psy.D. degree is dependent upon each student's prior education. However, the Program of Study in the doctoral coursework is consistent for each student who enters with applicable foundation courses and without transfer credits. Foundation courses must be completed before core doctoral courses begin. Foundation courses are also open to students currently pursuing graduate study.

FOUNDATION COURSE REQUIREMENTS

CNSL 501	Research Literacy & Program Evaluation for Counselors
CNSL 505	Advanced Psychology of Human Development
CNSL 610	Basic Human Interaction
CNSL 614	Clinical Counseling Theories
CNSL 615	Clinical Counseling Techniques
CNSL 616	Group Counseling
CNSL 618	Ethics of Clinical Counseling
CNSL 623	Marriage and Family Therapy
CNSL 622	Diagnosis and Treatment
CNSL 629	Addictive Behaviors
CNSL 720	Social and Cultural Foundations
CNSL 721	Advanced Multicultural Perspectives

ELECTIVE COURSES

Choose three courses from the following, and from additional courses in development to be announced for 2027:

CNSL 807	Psychopharmacology
CNSL 808	Foundations of Neuropsychology
CNSL 814	Seminar: Group Psychotherapy
CNSL 830	School Based Consultation
CNSL 831	Classroom Based Assessment
CNSL 832	Community Consultation
CNSL 835	School Neuropsychology

CORE REQUIREMENTS

CNSL 530	Assessment of Learning & Reading Disabilities
CNSL 538	Cognitive Assessment I
CNSL 704	Personality Assessment I
CNSL 705	Neuropsychological Assessment I
CNSL 801	History and Systems
CNSL 802	Biological Bases of Behavior
CNSL 803	Cognitive-Affective Bases of Behavior
CNSL 804	Social Bases of Behavior
CNSL 806	Seminar: Psychopathology and Interventions
CNSL 809	Psychometrics
CNSL 810	Cognitive Assessment II
CNSL 812	Personality Assessment II
CNSL 815	Evidence-Based Treatment: Children and Families
or	
CNSL 816	Evidence-Based Treatment: Adults
CNSL 820	Developmental Psychology
CNSL 821	Professional Psychology: Ethics and Standards
CNSL 825	Aging
CNSL 833	Supervision, Consultation & Systems
CNSL 838	Seminar: Internship and Professional Development
CNSL 864	Research Methods and Design in Psychological Research
CNSL 881	Quantitative Analysis in Psychology
CNSL 886	Doctoral Clinical Internship I
CNSL 887	Doctoral Clinical Internship II
CNSL 888	Doctoral Clinical Internship III

Practicums

TIER 1	CNSL 840	PsyD Practicum I	TIER 2	CNSL 843	Advanced Clinical Experience I
	CNSL 841	PsyD Practicum II		CNSL 844	Advanced Clinical Experience II
	CNSL 842	PsyD Practicum III		CNSL 845	Advanced Clinical Experience III
				CNSL 846	Advanced Clinical Experience IV
				CNSL 847	Advanced Clinical Experience V

Practicum experiences occur across diverse settings which include community mental health, testing/assessment sites, and schools. Diversity of client population is emphasized, and students must spend at least two semesters working with an underserved population. Students work closely with advisors to plan their practicum experiences.

Doctoral Dissertation

Working closely with faculty, students complete a doctoral dissertation as part of the program. These dissertation courses enable students to develop their dissertation proposal, complete their dissertation, and prepare for their dissertation defense.

CNSL 892 Directed Research in Psychology
CNSL 896 Research in Psychology

Degree Completion Requirements

- Satisfactory completion of all doctoral core and elective courses
- Satisfactory completion of field experience and practicum seminar, including a minimum of six semesters
- Successful completion of a 50-week, 2,000 hour clinical internship (one year full-time or two years part-time)
- Successful completion of both an oral and written comprehensive exam
- Mentor with an advisor and dissertation committee to complete a dissertation related to your area of interest and defend and complete a dissertation
- Cumulative grade-point average of 3.0 or higher
- Satisfaction of all University financial obligations



Academic Accreditation

Rivier University is accredited by the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE).

The Psy.D. program is fully accredited by the American Psychological Association, which grants national accreditation for programs in health service psychology. The University's next accreditation review is scheduled for 2033. Rivier's Psy.D. curriculum meets the State of New Hampshire licensing requirements for psychologists.

Questions related to the program's accredited status should be directed to the Commission on Accreditation, Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation, American Psychological Association, 750 1st Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002, (202) 336-5979, apaaccred@apa.org, www.apa.org/ed/accreditation.



Application Requirements

To apply to the Doctor of Psychology in Counseling and School Psychology (Psy.D.) program, the following requirements must be met:

- A master's degree in psychology from an accredited institution
- Official transcripts from all undergraduate and graduate institutions where you have received degrees and/or course credit
- A written Statement of Purpose (3-6 pages) that reflects on the following:
 - Your professional experience and how this experience relates to doctoral study
 - Your reasons for pursuing doctoral study
 - Research and/or clinical goal(s), problem(s), and/or question(s) you may wish to address during doctoral study and research
 - How doctoral study will enhance your personal and professional career goals
 - Why you think you would be a good fit for the combined program in counseling and school psychology
 - Diversity experiences and evidence of a commitment to serving diverse populations
- Should include evidence of commitment to the values, goals, and mission of the program
- At least three letters of reference that speak to your professional and/or academic work, your potential for successful completion of doctoral study, and your character
- A resume or curriculum vitae
- An interview with the Core Faculty Committee and/or Program Director

The number of credit hours required to complete the program is dependent on previously completed coursework. There is no upper limit to the number of foundation (graduate) courses that can be counted toward completion. However, only nine credit hours of doctoral course(s) at the 800 level can be transferred.

Application Process

1. Complete and submit an application online using PSYCAS, the Centralized Application Service for graduate psychology.
 - For more information about PSYCAS and to apply, visit: psycas.liasoncas.com.
2. Review all application requirements and request official transcripts.
3. Ask questions by contacting us at (603) 897-8507 or email admissions@rivier.edu.

Schedules and Deadlines

Applications are accepted by December 1 for the fall semester start. Interviews are conducted in January and February, with Admissions decisions released in mid-march. Admitted students must confirm intent to enroll by submitting a non-refundable deposit of \$500 (applied toward first-term tuition) by April 15.

Interviews

Applicants considered for admission are invited to campus for an interview. While an in-person interview is preferable, alternate interview options can be accommodated. In this interview, applicants are asked to clarify and/or expand on aspects of their application, including but not limited to their personal Statement of Purpose and reasons for seeking doctoral study.

Acceptance into the Program

Shortly after their interview, the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies Admissions notifies each applicant of their admission status.

Quick Links



Ask a Question
admissions@rivier.edu



Talk to an Enrollment Counselor
rivier.edu/team



Register for a Virtual Information Session
events.rivier.edu



Tuition & Fees
rivier.edu/tuition



Request Information
inquire.rivier.edu



Rivier's Psy.D. Website
rivier.edu/psyd