



**CAL POLY**

Psychology & Child  
Development

# Master of Science in Psychology

## Career Opportunities

**Public Agencies**  
**Private Non-Profit Agencies**  
**Mental Health Departments**  
**Victims/Witness Programs**  
**Substance Abuse Treatment**  
**Alcohol Abuse Rehabilitation**  
**Departments of Social**  
**Services**

**Adoptions**  
**Child Protective Services**  
**Foster Placement Services**

**Rape Crisis Centers**  
**Crisis Intervention Teams**  
**Probation Departments**  
**Military Assignments**  
**Veterans Administration**  
**Hospice**  
**Hospitals**  
**Correctional Institutions**  
**Women's Shelters**  
**Employee Assistance**  
**Programs**  
**Private Practice Clinics**

For additional information, contact  
Psychology and Child Development  
Department  
Cal Poly  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93407  
(805) 756-2456  
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The M.S. in Psychology is a 90-quarter unit professional degree program designed for persons who desire to practice in the field of clinical/counseling psychology. The program's mission is to provide the state of California with highly competent master-level clinicians who are academically prepared for the marriage and family therapist license (MFT) and counseling with individuals, couples, families, and groups in a multicultural society. Its mission is also to provide students who want to proceed on to doctoral programs in clinical or counseling psychology with sound research skills, thesis experience and clinical intervention training.

Cal Poly's Master of Science in Psychology program fulfills the educational requirements for the state of California's Marriage and Family Therapist License.\* Graduates find career opportunities in public social service agencies such as Departments of Mental Health and Social Services as well as in private non-profit and private practice counseling centers.

*\*Additional post-graduate work is required for licensure.*

### Program Strengths

Cal Poly's M.S. degree program emphasizes personal, academic, and practical knowledge and skill development which will enable each graduate to become competent in assessment, diagnosis, and treatment for individuals, couples, families, groups, and children. Research competence and ethical practices are also emphasized.

The program is particularly well known for its clinical training. Closely supervised clinical training practicum experiences leading to challenging fieldwork in agencies is the cornerstone of Cal Poly's preparation for the future clinician. Cal Poly's practicum training clinic serves clients from the community and provides trainees with the opportunity to develop skills and confidence before undertaking fieldwork in community agencies.

The Central Coast of California offers numerous well-supervised clinical traineeships in public and private non-profit agencies with a variety of client populations.

Traineeship Settings have included:

- Santa Maria Valley Youth and Family Center
- Hospice – SLO
- RISE – SLO County
- Women's Shelter Program – SLO
- SLO County Behavioral Health Services
- SLO County Drug and Alcohol Services
- Community Counseling Center
- Domestic Violence Solutions, Santa Maria
- Casa Pacific, SAFTY Program, Santa Maria/Lompoc
- CALM (Child Abuse Listening and Mediation), Santa Maria
- Atascadero High School-Wellness Center
- Transitions Mental Health Association

# CURRICULUM FOR MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN PSYCHOLOGY

2017-2019 and 2019-20 Catalogs

	<b>Units</b>
PSY 504            Psychopharmacology	4
PSY 520            Marriage & Family Therapy: Professional Identity, Theory and Practice	4
PSY 535            Child and Adolescent Psychopathology	4
PSY 555            Counseling and Communication	4
PSY 556            Multicultural Counseling and Psychology	4
PSY 560            Individual Therapy: Theory and Application	4
PSY 564            Ethics and the Law: MF Therapy	4
PSY 565            Diagnosis and Treatment: Psychopathology	4
PSY 566            Group Therapy: Theory and Application	4
PSY 569            Counseling Clinic Practicum (3)(3)	6
PSY 571            Advanced Family Therapy: Theory and Application	4
PSY 572            Child and Adolescent Therapy: Theory and Application	4
PSY 574            Psychological Assessment	4
PSY 575            Gender and Couple Therapy	4
PSY 576            Traineeship: Marital and Family Therapy (4) (4) (4) (4)	16
PSY 577            Community Mental Health: Issues and Practices	4
PSY 585            Research Methods for Counseling Psychology	4
PSY 588            Assessment and Treatment of Substance Use Disorders	4
 Select from the following:	 4
PSY 599            Thesis	
OR	
Written comprehensive exam and one of the following:	
PSY 568            Advanced Psychotherapies	
or an approved 400-level PSY course	

90

\*Must register for thesis credit each quarter of advisement.

**Program prerequisites:** Abnormal Psychology, Lifespan Development, Personality, Introductory Statistics, Research Methods in Psychology (or related discipline)