Forensic Psychology, MS

Acquire an overview of forensic psychology to aid in your career advancement, additional graduate study or personal interests related to law and human behavior.

Program Description

Degree Awarded: MS Forensic Psychology
The MS program in forensic psychology provides working professionals with an understanding of mental health issues and human behavior with respect to crime and the criminal justice and legal systems.

The curriculum involves specialized coursework in criminal law, criminal behavior, the diagnosis and treatment of mental disorders, and legal decision-making. Through these courses, students learn about the various roles for psychologists in the legal system and help them discover which roles they might like to pursue through careers in mental health, criminal justice or through additional graduate training.

Graduates are not license-eligible for clinical practice but are well prepared to pursue advanced degree and continuing education programs in counseling and related fields.

At a Glance

- **College/School:** New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences
- **Location:** Online

Degree Requirements

33 credit hours including the required capstone course (PSY 549)

**Required Core (15 credit hours)**
PSY 544 Advanced Psychology of Criminal Investigation (3)
PSY 545 Advanced Legal Psychology (3)
PSY 546 Advanced Forensic Psychology (3)
PSY 547 Advanced Correctional Psychology (3)
PSY 573 Psychopathology (3)

Electives (9 credit hours)

Statistics and Methods (3 credit hours)
PSY 514 Fundamentals of Forensic Psychology Research (3)

Criminal Justice System Courses (3 credit hours)
Choose one of the following:
CRJ 501 Seminar in Criminal Justice (3)
CRJ 513 Seminar in Courts and Sentencing (3)

Culminating Experience (3 credit hours)
PSY 549 Capstone in Forensic Psychology (3)

Admission Requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree in psychology, criminal justice, social science or a closely related field from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. one letter of recommendation
4. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information

An applicant whose native language is not English must provide proof of English proficiency regardless of current residency.

Applicants must provide evidence of successful completion of an undergraduate or graduate social science statistics and research methods course.
Attend Online

ASU Online

ASU offers this program in an online format with multiple enrollment sessions throughout the year. Applicants may view the program description and request more information here.

Career Opportunities

The Master of Science in forensic psychology opens the door to a wide variety of careers. The field of forensic psychology offers many career options, from consulting on public policy to working within the criminal justice system. Many forensic psychologists will work in the court system in order to help lawyers, judges and juries better understand the motivations behind criminal behavior. Some graduates choose this path to advocate on behalf of underserved populations, including African-Americans, Latinos, those from lower-economic areas, children or those with mental illness.

Career examples include:

- correctional counselor
- crime analyst
- forensic research psychologists
- forensic social worker
- investigative journalist
- jail supervisor
- jury consultant
- police consultant
- probation officer
- victim advocate

Contact Information

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Admission Deadlines