

Graduate School and Careers for Psychology Majors

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Master's Degree Program in Psychology

A graduate-level program that is designed to lead to mastery of knowledge and experience in psychology - typically may have specific concentrations.

What you may expect? -

- Generally takes around two years.
- Specific course requirements vary.
- Thesis and/or comprehensive exam; may even involve getting experience
 - EX. SFSU - You may choose either a thesis or comprehensive exam depending on interest.

Master of Arts (M.A.) vs Master of Science (M.S.)

Master of Arts (M.A.) - Focus revolves around specializing in the general knowledge of psychology; usually no plan in specializing

- Can be a path for those who did not pursue a psychology degree during their undergraduate career.

Master of Science (M.S.) - Focus is oriented more toward research; usually may expect a specific concentration/specialization in psychology

- Can be a path for those who has pursued a psychology degree during their undergraduate career and may have a specific interest.
- Can be a better path to work toward a doctoral degree (e.g. PhD, PsyD) later on.

Graduate Schools to Consider?

There are many accredited universities that have Masters programs, each with unique requirements that lead up to a degree.

Think about M.A. vs M.S, career goals, and interests

Programs in California:

- EX. UC vs CSU

Psychology	Ph.D.	Irvine
Psychology	Ph.D.	Los Angeles
Psychology	Ph.D.	Riverside
Psychology	Ph.D.	San Diego
Psychology & Social Behavior	Ph.D.	Irvine
Psychology (social, cognitive, developmental)	Ph.D.	Santa Cruz

San Diego	MA	30	Psychology (Psychology - General)
San Diego	PhD	0	Clinical Psychology (Clinical Psychology)
San Francisco	MA	37	Psychology (Mind Brain and Behavior)
San Francisco	MS	57	Psychology (School Psychology)
San Francisco	MA	35	Psychology (Social Personality and Affective Science)
San Francisco	MS	60	Psychology (Clinical Psychology)

Job Opportunities with a Master's Degree

Examples:

- Counseling (substance abuse, rehabilitation, veterans, etc.)
- Therapist
 - EX. Cognitive Behavioral; Family and Marriage
- Education
 - EX. Counseling at school; Teaching
- Mental Health Services
 - EX. Family services; Child protection



Having a Master's Degree paves a road to many jobs in the field of psychology.

What is a PhD?

- “Doctorate of Psychology”
- Graduate degree geared towards research
- Good for those who have an interest in research, academics, data collection, and getting published
- Takes about 5-7 years, depending on program and school

What does a PhD program consist of?

1. Core Classes and Advanced Elective Classes
2. Research
3. Oral Exams
4. Papers and possible publication

Top Schools for PhD in Psychology

Some of the top rated schools are in California!

1. Stanford
2. UC Berkeley
3. UCLA

NAME/RANK	PEER ASSESSMENT SCORE
Stanford University Stanford, CA 🏆 #1 in Psychology (tie)	4.8
University of California--Berkeley Berkeley, CA 🏆 #1 in Psychology (tie)	4.8
Harvard University Cambridge, MA 🏆 #3 in Psychology (tie)	4.7
University of California--Los Angeles Los Angeles, CA 🏆 #3 in Psychology (tie)	4.7
University of Michigan--Ann Arbor Ann Arbor, MI 🏆 #3 in Psychology (tie)	4.7

<https://www.usnews.com/best-graduate-schools/top-humanities-schools/psychology-rankings>

Career Paths with a PhD

- Psychologist
- Researcher
- Professor
- Private practice

Overview of the PsyD Program in Psychology

- What it is & what to expect
- Possible professions available
- Difference between a PsyD and PhD
- Top programs to consider
- Jobs to consider

What is a PsyD?

- A PsyD degree is one of the two doctoral degrees (PsyD and PhD) in the field of clinical psychology. It has a field-study orientation and focus.
- Professions to be considered may include
 - Community mental health centers
 - Hospitals, schools
 - University counseling centers
 - Private practice
 - (More on this later!)



What to expect

- To learn to be a scholar as well as a practitioner
- Heavier emphasis on learning about clinically related subjects
- Working with clients rather than research

<https://psydprograms.org/phd-vs-psyd-of-psychology/>
<https://www.bestcounselingdegrees.net/best/psy-d-programs-clinical-psychology/>

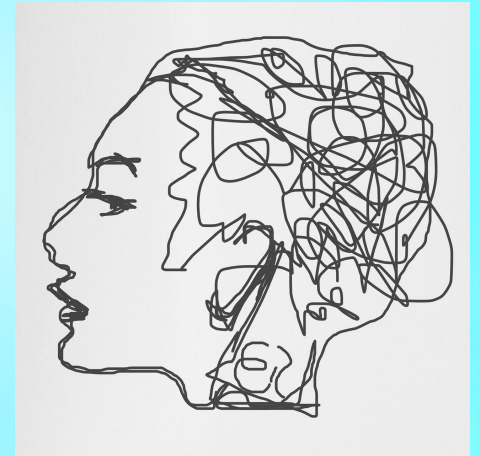
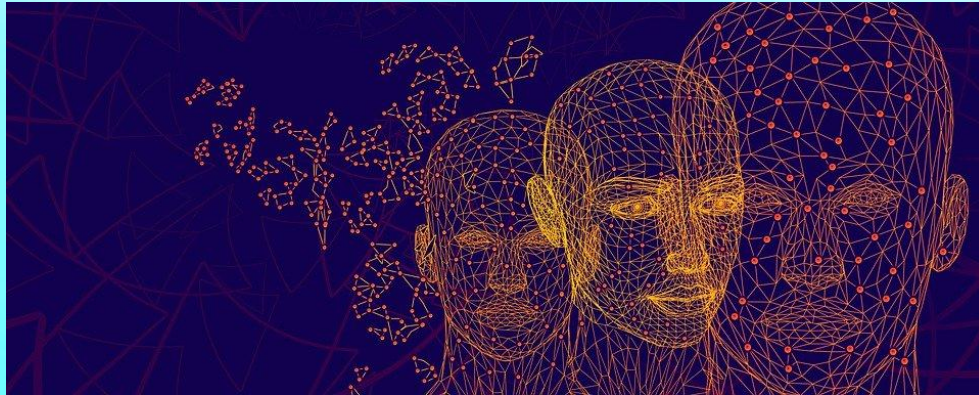
The Two Clinical Doctorate Degrees

PsyD

- Practice oriented
- Field-study focused
- Can be completed in four years, with a one-year internship & dissertation

PhD

- Academic study
- If you want to publish work, this serves better
- On average is completed in five years



Top Programs to Consider

Degree Offered Online

1. Baylor University - Psy.D. in Clinical Psychology
2. Rutgers- The State University of New Jersey- Psy.D. in Clinical Psychology
3. Indiana State University- Psy.D. in Clinical Psychology
4. Palo Alto University- PGSP-Stanford Psy.D. Consortium
5. Indiana University of Pennsylvania- Psy.D. in Clinical Psychology

Programs to Consider in California

- University of California San Francisco
- Alliant University- Fresno
- Alliant International University- Los Angeles
- Loma Linda University



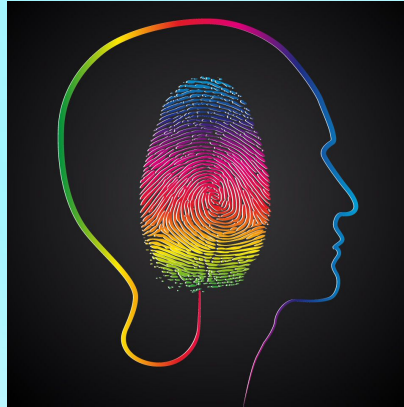
Baylor University



Palo Alto University

Jobs to Consider with a PsyD

- Clinical Psychologist
- Forensic Psychologist
- School Psychologist
- Social Worker
- Counselor



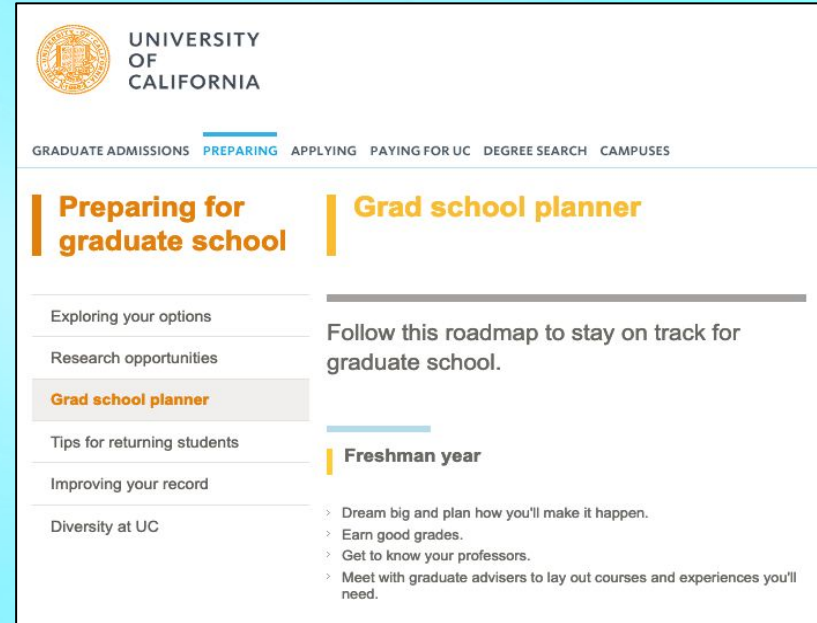
Possible Approach/Preparation

Plan ahead

- UC Grad School Planner
- Get involved in research.
 - PSYC 194/195
- Keep up your grades.
- GRE

Gap year

- Getting a job; experience
 - Career Center: <https://careers.ucsc.edu/>
- Getting prepared



The screenshot shows the University of California Graduate Admissions website. The header includes the University of California logo and the text 'UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA'. Below the header is a navigation menu with links for 'GRADUATE ADMISSIONS', 'PREPARING', 'APPLYING', 'PAYING FOR UC', 'DEGREE SEARCH', and 'CAMPUSES'. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column has a sidebar with links: 'Exploring your options', 'Research opportunities', 'Grad school planner' (highlighted), 'Tips for returning students', 'Improving your record', and 'Diversity at UC'. The right column features a section titled 'Grad school planner' with the text 'Follow this roadmap to stay on track for graduate school.' and a sub-section titled 'Freshman year' with a list of tips: 'Dream big and plan how you'll make it happen.', 'Earn good grades.', 'Get to know your professors.', and 'Meet with graduate advisers to lay out courses and experiences you'll need.'

Thanks!

Questions?