



School of Graduate
and Professional
Education



Graduate Certificate in Psychology

A fast-track option for students wishing to re-specialize in the field of psychology and acquire a solid knowledge base in the science of psychology.

If you have little or no prior background in psychology, the Graduate Certificate in Psychology carries full academic credit and will help you build your academic and career competencies in the field of mental health.



Deree – The American College of Greece is accredited by the New England Commission of Higher Education.



Graduate Certificate in Psychology

Overview

The Graduate Certificate in Psychology is a post-baccalaureate program that serves as a solid basis and a conversion course for advanced study in psychology. It is appropriate for people who hold a first degree in a field other than psychology, giving them the opportunity to obtain the necessary theoretical and practical foundations for graduate psychology training and a future career in psychology.

Career Prospects & Placement Opportunities

The Graduate Certificate in Psychology allows people who wish to pursue a professional career in psychology to continue their studies in their chosen graduate psychology field of interest. Rewarding careers exist in counseling, clinical, health, educational, and occupational psychology, as well as in more theoretical fields within psychology such as developmental, cognitive, experimental, etc.

Psychologists are also welcome in many other contexts, such as human resources and general management, and as members of research or design teams in a variety of settings. Students who complete the Certificate in Psychology with a grade of B or better will be eligible to apply for entry to the MS in Counseling Psychology & Psychotherapy, provided they successfully pass a personal interview.

Program Structure

To be awarded the Graduate Certificate in Psychology, candidates must successfully complete 4 courses, representing a total of 192 taught hours (16 US credits or UK 80 credits) as described below. The modules are assessed through examinations and projects.

- Module I: Fundamentals of Psychology Science (4 credits)
- Module II: Human Development & Personality Theories (4 credits)
- Module III: Psychopathology (4 credits)
- Module IV: Research Methods in Psychology (4 credits)

Purpose & Learning Outcomes

The purpose of the program is to provide a broad grounding in the science of psychology, enabling participants to develop and/or advance their basic knowledge in psychology in relation to their professional and academic interests. The program provides students the opportunity to:

- Acquire comprehensive knowledge of fundamental psychology theories and build critical awareness of current debates in psychology.
- Develop essential skills and understanding of the principles, methods, and ethical practices in psychology.
- Develop an in-depth understanding of the literature, theories, and issues specific to their field of interest.
- Develop the ability to design, carry out, and evaluate research in psychology.

Flexible Study & Course Duration

The program may be completed in 19 weeks (full-time) or over 10 months (part-time). Classes run one or two evenings every second week, depending on full-time or part-time study. Only for Fall Term 2019 classes will run from 17:00-21:00; from Spring 2020 onwards, classes will run from 17:30 - 21:45. In addition, participants are required to attend four workshops related to each of the modules.

Courses are offered in a blended format, an innovative method that combines in-class meetings with online activities and classes. Therefore, the students' presence on campus is not required for eight of the nineteen meetings, making attendance convenient for working professionals or students residing outside Athens.

Admission to Program

Admission to the program requires that students have obtained a bachelor's degree prior to enrolling, and can demonstrate evidence of proficiency in English. New students are admitted at the start of the fall and spring terms.

FAQs about Blended Courses in the Graduate Certificate in Psychology Program

What are the advantages of this format?

The blended format is highly convenient for professional students because it limits the number of times you must commute to campus. This format also has learning advantages: during the online weeks everyone gets a "front row seat" – that is, everyone actively contributes to, and benefits from, online conversations about the course material. The online learning activities will challenge you to think more deeply about what you are learning while allowing considerable flexibility about when, where, and how you do this.

Does blended format mean that I am getting less from my instructor?

Quite the contrary! Blended learning challenges instructors to think more deeply about how to help students succeed. Before your blended course meets for the first time, your instructor has chosen the learning activities and worked with an instructional designer to set up the online weeks, in order to create the best possible learning experience for you. Once the course is running, your instructor will be present in the online weeks by: monitoring and participating in online conversations; giving group and individual feedback; and holding online office hours by Skype or phone. When an in-person class follows an online week, your instructor already has a wealth of information about how you are doing, individually and as a group, and what you need next.

What are the technology requirements of this program?

- A desktop or laptop computer with sound capability and with Firefox* installed
- A headset with a microphone, for listening and speaking on your computer
- A broadband Internet connection
- Recommended: Skype for connecting with your instructor during online class weeks

*Mozilla Firefox is the supported browser software. Other browsers such as Google Chrome and Internet Explorer do not always display online course content correctly. After you register, we will send you information about how to get Firefox and Skype.

What does it mean to attend an online class week?

Attendance during online weeks is defined as *active and timely engagement* with online weekly activities. Each online week has two deadlines – one in the middle of the week (typically for posting your ideas) and one at the end of the week (typically for responding to colleagues) – but you can set the daily and weekly work schedule that works best for you.

Am I required to participate in the online class weeks?

Yes. You are expected to attend at least 75% of in-class meetings and at least 75% of online weeks.

How will I know what to do during the online weeks?

After you register for a blended course, you will receive login information for Blackboard Learn, an easy-to-navigate site (also called a learning management system). All Deree courses, blended and not blended, use this system. Online learning activities for your blended courses will be organized by weeks within Blackboard Learn. The Graduate School Orientation will include a special half-hour session on Blackboard Learn for students in blended courses.

How can I connect with my instructor during the online weeks?

Your instructor is available to answer questions by email and can also meet with you on Skype during his or her online office hour.

What support is available to me?

Blackboard Learn and all related online course elements are web-based – so if your own computer or connection is down you use can use a computer on campus or any other computer that has the required utilities loaded and working.





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For more information on how to apply, fees and our scholarship program
visit our website: www.acg.edu/graduate
or contact the Office of Admissions: +30 210 600 2208 · graduate@acg.edu
Online application: www.acg.edu

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Deree – The American College of Greece accepts students of any race, color and national or ethnic origin and does not discriminate in its programs