

# DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PHD) DEGREE IN THE FIELD OF PSYCHOLOGY AND A MAJOR CONCENTRATION IN PSYCHOMETRICS AND QUANTITATIVE PSYCHOLOGY

## Program Learning Outcomes for the PhD Degree in the field of Psychology and a Major Concentration in Psychometrics and Quantitative Psychology

Upon completing the PhD degree in the field of Psychology and a major concentration in Psychometrics and Quantitative Psychology, students will be able to:

1. Critically assess scholarship in the psychological sciences with regard to the psychometric tools discussed and used.
2. Incorporate psychometrics within psychological research activities at a high level of competence.
3. Communicate research involving psychometrics clearly and effectively in papers and presentations.

## Requirements for the MA and PhD Degrees in the field of Psychology

### MA Degree Program

The MA degree is a thesis master's degree. For general university requirements, please see [Thesis Master's Degrees \(https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-thesis-masters-degrees/\)](https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-thesis-masters-degrees/). For additional requirements, regulations, and procedures for all graduate programs, please see [All Graduate Students \(https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-all-degrees/\)](https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-all-degrees/). Although students are not normally admitted to study for an MA in Psychology, graduate students may earn the MA degree after obtaining approval of their candidacy for the PhD. For general university requirements for PhD degrees, please see [Doctoral Degrees \(https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-doctoral-degrees/\)](https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-doctoral-degrees/). For both MA and PhD degrees, students must complete a research thesis, including a public oral defense. Required coursework is determined by the student's major concentration. Students must complete an admission-to-candidacy procedure to establish their expertise in their chosen major concentration. Competence in a foreign language is not required.

The requirements listed in the General Announcements (GA) satisfy the minimum requirements for this degree program. In certain instances, courses (or requirements) not officially listed here may be substituted upon approval of the program's academic advisor or, where applicable, the department or program's Director of Graduate Studies. Course substitutions or any exceptions to the stated official curricular requirements must be approved by the [Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies \(https://graduate.rice.edu/\)](https://graduate.rice.edu/). Students and their

academic advisors should identify and clearly document the courses to be taken.

### Summary

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Total Credit Hours Required for the MA Degree in the field of Psychology		30

## Requirements for the PhD Degree in the field of Psychology

### PhD Degree Program

For general university requirements, please see [Doctoral Degrees \(https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-doctoral-degrees/\)](https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-doctoral-degrees/). For additional requirements, regulations, and procedures for all graduate programs, please see [All Graduate Students \(https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-all-degrees/\)](https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-all-degrees/). In addition, students pursuing the PhD degree in the field of Psychology must:

- Complete all coursework with a minimum grade of B- (2.67 grade points) in each required course.
- Complete all of the course requirements in their major concentration.
- Successfully complete and present the first-year project in May of the first year.
- Successfully complete and present the second-year project in May of the second year.
- Write and defend a thesis. The thesis committee must be in the area of Psychometrics and Quantitative Psychology and be overseen by a Psychology faculty member affiliated with the Psychometrics and Quantitative Psychology Major Concentration.

Students who have not previously completed a master's degree in Psychology or a related field, must successfully defend a master's thesis and earn the MA degree in Psychology. Students who come to Rice with a master's degree in a related field can be exempted from this requirement.

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### Summary

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Total Credit Hours Required for the PhD Degree in the field of Psychology and a Major Concentration in Psychometrics and Quantitative Psychology		90

Degree Requirements for the PhD Degree in Psychology and a Major Concentration in Psychometrics and Quantitative Psychology

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Core Requirements		
PSYC 502 / STAT 509	ADVANCED PSYCHOLOGICAL STATISTICS I	4
PSYC 503 / STAT 510	ADVANCED PSYCHOLOGICAL STATISTICS II	3
PSYC 507	RESEARCH METHODS	3
PSYC 602	PSYCHOMETRICS	3
PSYC 631	FOUNDATIONS OF INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES	3
Elective Requirements		
Select 3 courses from the following: <sup>1</sup>		9
PSYC 543	COMPUTATIONAL MODELING OF COGNITIVE PROCESSES	
PSYC 601	MULTIVARIATE STATISTICS	
PSYC 635	MULTILEVEL MODELING IN PSYCHOLOGICAL RESEARCH	
PSYC 637	META-ANALYSIS IN PSYCHOLOGICAL RESEARCH	
PSYC 638	STRUCTURAL EQUATION MODELING	
First-Year Project		
Second-Year Project		
Thesis Requirement		
Completion and public defense of a thesis		
Additional Coursework as Approved by Department		
Total Credit Hours		Minimum of 90

Footnotes and Additional Information

<sup>1</sup> Elective courses selected must be approved by department.

Policies for the PhD Degree in the field of Psychology

Department of Psychological Sciences Graduate Program Handbook

The General Announcements (GA) is the official Rice curriculum. As an additional resource for students, the department of Psychological Sciences publishes a graduate program handbook, which can be found here: [https://gradhandbooks.rice.edu/2024\\_25/Psychological\\_Sciences\\_PhD\\_Graduate\\_Handbook.pdf](https://gradhandbooks.rice.edu/2024_25/Psychological_Sciences_PhD_Graduate_Handbook.pdf).

Transfer Credit

For Rice University's policy regarding transfer credit, see [Transfer Credit](https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-all-degrees/#transfer) (<https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-all-degrees/#transfer>). Some departments and programs have additional restrictions on transfer credit. Requests for transfer credit must be approved for Rice equivalency by the appropriate academic department offering the Rice equivalent course (corresponding to the subject code of the course content) and by the Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (GPS). Students are encouraged to meet

with their academic program's advisor when considering transfer credit possibilities.

Additional Information

For additional information, please see the Psychological Sciences website: <https://psychology.rice.edu/>.

Opportunities for the PhD Degree in the field of Psychology

Additional Information

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