Greetings!

Welcome to the New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences at Arizona State University.

Your acceptance into our graduate degree program is evidence of your past academic accomplishments and your future potential. It is both an honor and an indication of the hard work and dedication you have invested into your education. Congratulations! Chances are you probably have questions, answers for most of which you will find throughout this handbook. But there are at least two questions I want to address here. First, “for how long will New College be new?” New College will always be New! That’s because New is not measured on a stopwatch or even a calendar. New is a mindset to never settle for the status quo, but instead continue to push the bounds of knowledge and understanding.

The next most-often asked question I receive is, “what is Interdisciplinary?” The dictionary tells us interdisciplinary involves two or more disciplines. We put that in practice in New College by building degree programs that break down the silos between traditional academic disciplines. Your studies will likely include courses offered across our four unique schools.

Please know, starting a graduate degree program is a huge next step in your life – and I want you to know that throughout your journey with New College, all of us are ready to help you through every phase. If your schedule allows, I invite you to visit our beautiful campus at any point during your studies. Come meet your faculty and advisors. I would sincerely appreciate meeting you as well. Looking ahead, when you graduate, please consider joining us in person for commencement, convocation, and our special New College reception just for online students.

We are thrilled you have chosen New College to pursue your graduate degree and we commit to being here with you every step of the way.

Sincerely,

Todd R. Sandrin, Ph.D.
Dean, New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences
Vice Provost, West Valley campus
Professor, School of Mathematical and Natural Sciences
Senior Global Futures Scientist - Julie Ann Wrigley Global Futures Laboratory
Overview

ASU Charter

ASU is a comprehensive public research university, measured not by whom we exclude, but rather by whom we include and how they succeed; advancing research and discovery of public value; and assuming fundamental responsibility for the economic, social, cultural and overall health of the communities it serves.

Visit ASU Charter, Mission and Goals for more information.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

The New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences is guided by our commitment to fulfilling ASU’s Charter. As a comprehensive public research university that measures itself not by whom it excludes, but by whom it includes and how they succeed; advancing research and discovery of public value; and assuming fundamental responsibility for the economic, social, cultural and overall health of the communities it serves, New College supports inclusive excellence in all forms and aims to foster a sense of belonging for all its students, staff and faculty. In New College, our commitment to access means that we strive to create an educational and work environment that is free from discrimination. Our unit and the University are deeply committed to building excellence, enhancing access, and having an impact on our communities, state, nation, and the world. This is actualized by our faculty and staff who engage in the advancement of knowledge with the most inclusive understanding possible of the issues that are addressed through our scholarly activities.

Find more information at Graduate Student Diversity Resources; Center for the Study of Race and Democracy

Welcome

Welcome to Arizona State University’s Master of Science program in Psychology (Online). We have designed this program to give our students a strong, theory-based foundation in the modern field of psychology. Our program emphasizes the critical analysis and application of quantitative research and incorporates a wide range of perspectives from across the core subdisciplines of cognitive, social, developmental, and cross-cultural psychology. Special topics courses in areas such as positive psychology, psychopathology, and emotions allow students to personalize their learning experience. Many of our students are looking for non-academic careers in government, education, social services, behavioral health, human resources, and marketing.

Please note: This program does not provide hands-on research experience and it is not a pre-doctoral program. Additionally, this program does not prepare students for licensure as a counseling clinician.
This program requires 36 credit hours of coursework, including a capstone course. The program can be completed in as little as 12-months or at your own pace.

Arizona State University comprises sixteen colleges and schools spread across four campuses in the Phoenix, Arizona metropolitan area. The MS program in psychology is offered by the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences, which is part of the New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences, and is housed on ASU’s West Valley Campus in Phoenix, AZ.

If you have any questions about our Online MS Psychology program, feel free to contact ncgradonline@asu.edu.

Quick Facts

- Program location: Online
- Start terms (online): Fall A, Fall B, Spring A, Spring B, Summer
- Time to completion: 12-24 Months
- Schedule: Asynchronous, Part-Time or Full-Time

Student Support & Academic Advising

The New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences has a team of Academic Success Advisors available to support you throughout your graduate career. Academic Success Advisors are available weekdays from 8 am - 5 pm MST. Contact us at 602-543-3000 or email NCGradOnline@asu.edu.

If you’re a current student, schedule an appointment.

Although we typically provide same day responses, please allow up to 2 business days for an email response. If you have questions that are better suited for a verbal conversation please schedule an appointment with an Academic Success Advisor via your My ASU page.

Program Handbook Archives

To review archived handbooks, please visit New College Graduate Handbook Archives

My ASU Portal

On your My ASU portal you will find information about your courses, transcripts, transportation, student success and support, finances, university policies and the academic calendar. You can familiarize yourself with these resources.
Student Responsibility

As a graduate student, you’re responsible for reviewing and adhering to all university, college, and graduate college policies and procedures.

- Review this program handbook and communicate with your academic success team about any questions.
- Review your program website to ensure you have information related to course registration and course sequencing.
- Check your ASU email daily and review all messages from your New College Graduate Student Services team and Instructors.
- Monitor your My ASU account regarding your status, holds, action items and other important information to ensure you’re on track for your degree.

Admissions

Application Requirements & Deadlines

Admissions to the MS Psychology – Online is offered for the Fall A (August), Fall B (October), Spring A (January), Spring B (March), Summer (May). Completed admission files are reviewed on a rolling basis. Admission decisions are typically made within five business days. Applicants are encouraged to apply early and have all application materials on file with ASU on or before any posted deadlines.

The Graduate College at ASU maintains a minimum requirement of admission to master’s, certificate and doctoral programs. These minimum requirements can be reviewed on the ASU Graduate Admission site. Each degree program also establishes specific admission requirements. Please visit ASU Degree Search for details on application requirements. Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences.

View application deadlines for online New College graduate degree programs.

Admissions Contact Information:

Future Students: EnrollmentOnline@asu.edu

Current Applicants: ncgradadmissions.online@asu.edu
Investment and Funding

Tuition and Fees

All amounts shown in the Tuition and Fees Schedules or in other University publications or web pages represent tuition and fees as currently approved. However, Arizona State University reserves the right to increase or modify tuition and fees without prior notice, upon approval by the Arizona Board of Regents or as otherwise consistent with Board policy and to make such modifications applicable to students enrolled at ASU at that time as well as to incoming students.

To view current year tuition, program fees, other fees, please visit the Tuition and Cost Calculator.

To view historical information about tuition and fees, please visit Tuition and Fees Schedule.

Financial Aid and Scholarship Services

For information on investing in your graduate degree visit Financial Aid and Scholarship Services online.

Current or incoming ASU Online students can call 24/7 at 855-278-5080.

Course Assistantships

Students in the Online MS Psychology program have an opportunity to work as a Course Assistant (CA). These positions assist with graduate and undergraduate courses that are offered online. Courses are typically half-semester (7.5 weeks) and a few are full semester (15 weeks), and CAs are paid a flat stipend for each course depending on the number of hours per week they are assigned (20, 15, or 10). A higher stipend is provided to CAs selected for work in literacy, statistics, and research methods courses. Calls for applications will be sent out via email prior to the start of each session, when applicable. Although these positions are not guaranteed, most students who desire to serve as a CA have done so in one or more classes per year. No tuition remission or other benefits are provided.
Travel and Research Funding

Although research is not a core/required component of this program, some students may be invited to conduct research with program (or non-program) faculty on their own and present research at national and international academic conferences. We are happy to offer two options for funding research (e.g., participant payment, supplies, equipment) and conference travel expenses. (Note: You will not be allowed to apply any research credit hours toward your MS Psych degree requirements.) As with the other funding requests, the Director must approve this request.

- **Online MS Psychology Program Funding.** The MS program makes available approximately $750 in travel/research funding to each student, to be used over the course of the standard two-year program. Students may choose to use that money in one year or split it over the two years in the program. Please complete the appropriate form on our website under student resources and submit to the Online MS Psychology Director.

**Funding Priorities for Psychology Program Fee Monies (not rank ordered)**

- Presenter at a professional conference
- Co-authorship on a conference presentation
- Thesis/Applied Project research expenses
- Attending only at a professional conference (eligible for a lower amount of funding)

**How to Get Reimbursements**

Typically, to get a reimbursement for research expenses, you need to submit the original receipt and justification (and a log for the gift cards) to Abigail Garcia (Abigail.G.Garcia@asu.edu) for reimbursement. For travel reimbursement, you will need to set up a Travel Profile and use the Concur program to submit a Travel Request (prior to travel) and an Expense Request (after travel). No advances are given for travel to conferences. Please see the following PowerPoint on information about reimbursements and the Concur system: How to get reimbursements and use Concur (PPT).
Program Requirements

Degree Requirements

The MS Psychology – Online requires 36 credit hours including a 3 credit hour culminating capstone experience.

Visit ASU Degree Search for more information.

Course Descriptions

The program offers courses in half-semester formats known as sessions. During Fall and Spring, courses usually span 7.5 weeks, while in Summer, they are condensed to 6 weeks.

In general, the courses in this program do not operate on a fully self-paced model. Various aspects such as deadlines, access to specific learning materials, and assignment schedules may be structured. Typically, courses advance on a weekly basis, allowing you to complete the material for a particular week at your convenience.

It’s important to carefully review each syllabus to understand the setup of the courses you enroll in.

Note: The Required Core PSY 502 must be taken in the first semester of enrollment. The Research and Statistics coursework must be taken in order of PSY 513 first, then PSY 500 second. Both must be completed with a C or higher before registration in the culminating experience PSY 553.

Required Core (3 credit hours):

PSY 502 Professional Issues in Psychology (3): Introduce graduate students to various aspects of the professional roles of psychology, as well as to the ethical standards of the profession.

Required Foundation, Research & Statistics (21 credit hours):

PSY 500 Research Methods (3): Course on research methods in a specific discipline.

PSY 513 Fundamentals of Quantitative Methods (3): Fundamental concepts in quantitative research, with an emphasis on basic statistical knowledge and skills.

Required Foundation (15 credit hours):

PSY 506 Advanced Cognitive Science (3): Examines cognition from the varied perspectives of philosophy, linguistics, psychology, computer science (artificial intelligence), and neuroscience.

PSY 550 Advanced Social Psychology (3): Theory and research concerning interpersonal perception, decision making, attitude formation and change, group processes, social motivation, and interaction processes.
PSY 577 Advanced Developmental Psychology (3): Provides an advanced overview of human development across the lifespan. Both typical and atypical developmental trajectories within varying societal and cultural contexts will be considered.

PSY 579 Cross-Cultural Psychology (3): The overall goal for this course is for students to acquire a working knowledge of the major theories, research methods, and empirical findings within the rapidly growing field of cross-cultural psychology. Particular emphasis is placed on exploring the special utility and limitations of using social psychological science to understand mental health and real-world social behaviors across cultural contexts.

PSY 585 Advanced Positive Psychology (3): Examines the evolution of the field, from concepts of hope and resilience to concepts of positive pessimism and post-traumatic growth. Includes experiential learning through brief interventions.

Electives (9 credit hours):

PSY 508 Choice and Decision Making (3): Investigates theories and research related to both the intuitive and rational choice and decision-making systems, and the influences of context, experience, attention, memory, information, and uncertainty.

PSY 565 Psychology of Mindfulness (3): Examines the origins of mindfulness and its increasing presence in psychological research, with special attention on critiquing studies that investigate the effects of mindfulness on health.

PSY 573 Psychopathology (3): Theory and research relating to the contribution of psychological, social, physiological, and genetic factors to the development and persistence of abnormal behavior.

PSY 586 Emotion (3): Explores sociocultural and biological perspectives on emotion, as well as emotion regulation and processes. Designed to encourage students to think critically about emotion research.

PSY 598 Advanced Physiological Psychology (3): Seek to understand the physiology of behavior. The focus is on how physiology (genetics and biology) affect aspects of behavior such as emotional responses, memory, mental illness, states of consciousness, and sensory perception.

PSY 598 Psychology of Addictions and Treatment (3): Research and theories related to the psychological, behavioral, and physiological basis of addiction and recovery. Both substance and behavioral disorders will be discussed along with traditional and non-traditional treatment modalities.

PSY 598 Resilient Relationships and Communities (3): Explores the resilience construct, focusing on its manifestations at the individual, relational, and community levels of analysis. Communication practices and social environments that foster resilience are highlighted.
PSY 598 School Psychology (3): This course is designed to provide an introduction to the profession and practice of school psychology. Students will acquire an understanding of the following: (1) historical and theoretical influences on the development of the profession; (2) ethical, legal, and professional standards that guide school psychology practice; (3) licensure and certification; (4) collaborative systems in which school psychologists operate; (5) data-based problem-solving and other best practices; (6) current challenges for school psychology, and (7) future directions for the profession.

Culminating Experience (3 credit hours):

PSY 553 Capstone in General Psychology (3): Culminating experience for online students only in the Master of Science in Psychology program. Students review and synthesize current literature in the field and design a feasible and methodologically sound research study proposal to address a gap in the research.

Culminating Experience

Summary of Culminating Experience

The MS Psychology (Online) requires PSY 553 - Capstone in General Psychology (3 credit hours) to satisfy the culminating experience requirement. At this point, you should be in your final term of the program, and you should be prepared to demonstrate the knowledge and skills you have gained. This course will be somewhat different from your previous work. You will be given a set of 10 readings addressing current research and methods in psychology to assist in designing your own capstone paper topic. You will meet with the instructor to discuss possible topics during the second week of the course and get approval on a topic. Then, you will be asked to produce a list of 10-15 contemporary readings related to your approved topic, followed by a 15-page paper that synthesizes the research in your chosen area and demonstrates your understanding of and ability to apply that research. In your paper, you must also propose a research study to address an unanswered question or gap in the literature of the chosen topic.

This course is designed as an independent-study course and project preparation - there are no lectures/presentation slides/videos or group discussions. Students are expected to work by themselves and receive feedback from the instructor on their outlines.
Capstone Course Eligibility and Registration

The Capstone Course will be the final experience in the MS Psychology (Online) program. Students are advised to take this course during the last semester and last session in the program. When this is not possible a student is permitted to complete no more than one non-required PSY or PSY Foundation course parallel to PSY 553. This experience will be completed 100% online and in an asynchronous format like the other courses in the program. In addition, students must meet the following criteria to enroll in PSY 553:

- Have an approved iPOS with no course errors
- Resolve all items listed under Priority Tasks affecting registration in the My ASU Portal
- Meet the minimum 3.00 GPA in each Plan of Study GPA, Overall Graduate GPA, Cumulative GPA.
  - If one or more of the GPAs is below the required minimum and can increase to a 3.00 with successful completion of the capstone.
- If a student becomes ineligible before the start of the culminating experience they will be removed from the course by New College Graduate Student Services.

The capstone course has specific prerequisite requirements: PSY 500; PSY 502; PSY 513; minimum 3.00 graduate GPA; minimum 24 hours in the Psychology, MS program. Enrollment is a first-come first-serve process for eligible students starting the first day of class registration. If a student enrolls and does NOT meet the pre-reqs one week before session begins, the student will be automatically removed from the class. To remain in the class, students will work with the online graduate advising team to verify the iPOS is approved and up to date (no course errors) with the correct anticipated graduation semester. If at any time between enrollment in the capstone and the session the capstone begins, students change their schedules and/or no longer meet the prerequisite requirements, they must immediately notify NCGradOnline@asu.edu to update the iPOS and adjust class registration.

Capstone Course Completion

All MS Psychology students must earn a “B” or better in PSY 553 Capstone in General Psychology.

The MS Psychology program allows students a maximum of two graded attempts (letter grade A-E). Students who do not achieve a "B" or better in the second attempt will be recommended for dismissal from the program.

Grades of Incomplete “I” or Withdrawal “W” in PSY 553 do not indicate satisfactory academic progress. A student with three or more earned “I” or “W” grades (or a combination of “I” and “W” grades) may be recommended for dismissal.
Graduation Requirements

Congratulations on nearing the completion of your master’s degree. There are a few administrative items that need your attention:

1) Ensure you have an approved and up-to-date iPOS on file.
2) [Apply for graduation](#) via My ASU

Applying for graduation and registering to attend in-person graduation ceremonies are separate but related issues. Applying and paying your graduation fee ensures that your degree will be processed after coursework is complete and certification of your degree is issued. Registering for attendance at ceremonies ensures that seating will be made available for you and your guests for the event(s) you will attend. It also ensures tickets will be reserved for those events that require tickets.

Ceremonies

There are a variety of opportunities to celebrate this milestone. Two of the most popular ceremonies are Commencement (ASU ceremony) and Convocation (New College ceremony).

**Commencement:** Commencement ceremonies are the official graduation events for the university. During the university’s graduate Commencement, President Crow confers degrees on all ASU graduate students (master’s and doctoral candidates).

- **Master’s degree candidates** will be hooded at Graduate Commencement, but will **not** be called individually to cross the stage.
- **Doctoral candidates** will be hooded at Graduate Commencement, have their names called and cross the stage individually to receive congratulations.

**Convocation:** Convocation ceremonies celebrate graduating New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences students and their achievements. During Convocation, New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences **graduates are individually recognized** for their academic achievement, including crossing the stage while their name is read.

Register to Attend an Event

All ASU graduation ceremonies require reservations (RSVPs) from graduating students who wish to participate. Attendance is not mandatory or you may elect to attend one or more ceremonies.

[Register to Attend Commencement](#)

[Register to Attend New College Convocation](#)

Summer graduates completing coursework in August may opt to participate in ceremonies the May prior to course completion or the December following course completion.
Program Leadership & Faculty

Program Faculty

The Arizona State University faculty is at the forefront nationally in advancing research and discovery. Our more than 4,700 faculty members inspire new ways of thinking, innovating and solving problems socially, culturally and economically in our region and in the international community.

We aspire to create an accessible academic experience and attract faculty not bound by traditional disciplinary distinctions, but who embrace an inclusive, collaborative and entrepreneurial environment defined by excellence and impact.

Learn more about Social & Behavioral Sciences Faculty.
Degree Progress

Registration and Course Selection
Students will register for classes each semester via My ASU and use their course sequence or approved iPOS as a guide for registration. View the schedule of classes.

The recommended course sequence varies slightly for each admit term and can be viewed online at the MS Psychology (Online) advising website. It is important to consider your personal and professional commitments when you select a completion timeline. Summer registration may be required for students based on the required course sequence.

Continuous Enrollment Policy
To remain active at ASU graduate students must be continuously registered for a minimum of 1 graduate credit hour in every fall and spring semester.

Students who fail to enroll in any semester (not including summer) will be dropped automatically by the ASU Graduate College and have to re-apply and be re-admitted to continue working towards the degree.

Please review the Registration and Course Selection above. Depending on course availability, some programs may require summer registration.

Drop/Add Withdrawal
The ASU Academic Calendar lists specific dates and deadlines for each semester. Exceptions to published dates are rare and made on a case-by-case basis.

Request Leave of Absence
Students can apply for a formal waiver of the continuous enrollment requirement or a leave of absence (up to 2 semesters). These must be submitted via the iPOS in My ASU and approved by the student success team, program director, and the Graduate College prior to the semester for which the waiver or leave is requested.

Medical or Compassionate Withdrawal
A medical or compassionate withdrawal request may be made in extraordinary cases in which serious illness or injury (medical) or another extraordinary personal situation such as a death in the family (compassionate) prevents a student from continuing their classes and incompletes or other arrangements with the instructors are not possible.

You can find information on the New College Medical/Compassionate Withdrawal policy and procedures.
Interactive Plan of Study (iPOS)

What is the Interactive Plan of Study (iPOS)?

The Interactive Plan of Study (iPOS) functions as an agreement between the student, the academic unit, and the ASU Graduate College. It will support you as you make progress toward your degree requirements. (Learn More)

The iPOS allows you to plan for your course load, can guide registration each term, and provides anticipated completion timeline.

How do I select courses for my iPOS?

At the time of admission students in the MS Psychology (Online) program are provided with a recommended sequence of courses that are planned out for 12 month, 18 month, and 24 month completion. It is expected that students take coursework in Fall, Spring, and Summer.

The recommended course sequence varies slightly for each admit term and can be viewed online at the MS Psychology (Online) advising website. It is important to consider your personal and professional commitments when you select a completion timeline.

Failure to follow the provided course sequence may delay time to degree completion. It is the responsibility of the student to communicate with the academic success team at ncgradonline@asu.edu if there are any challenges with the assigned course sequence.

How to create an iPOS

To access the iPOS: Login to My ASU. From the My Programs box, under the Programs tab, select iPOS. Select Graduate Interactive Plan of Study (iPOS). Note: Pop up blockers may need to be turned off.

You will find instructions for submitting the iPOS in the downloadable how-to guide.

All of the information you need to submit your iPOS including course requirements by semester, faculty advisor, and anticipated graduation term are available on the course sequence on advising website.

When do I file my iPOS?

We encourage students to file their iPOS as soon as possible (the iPOS is available to students 30 days prior to the start of their first semester). It helps our team to monitor progress and provides you with the information you need for registration each term.

An advising hold will be placed on your account if you do not have your iPOS filed by the end of your first semester.

Can I update my iPOS?

Yes! Once approved, the iPOS can be updated to accommodate changings in your course selection.
Academic Progress

Satisfactory Academic Progress

This policy applies to all graduate students in the New College of Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences. All graduate students are expected to make systematic progress toward the completion of their degree. In order to remain in good standing in the New College of Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences (NCIAS), students must maintain satisfactory academic progress. This document sets forth the standards for “satisfactory academic progress” and “good standing” and explains the consequences of not meeting these standards.

Review the complete policy and performance requirements here.

Academic (grade) Grievance Policy

The New College of Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences requires that any student seeking to appeal a grade must follow the Academic (grade) Grievance Policy.

Review the complete policy and steps located in the “Graduate policies” section of the New College Academic Catalog policies.

Student Code of Conduct and Academic Integrity

Student Code of Conduct

All students are expected to adhere to the Arizona Board of Regents Student Code of Conduct.

Academic Integrity

The highest standards of academic integrity and compliance with the university’s Student Code of Conduct and Academic Integrity Student Policy are expected of all graduate students in academic coursework and research activities. The failure of any graduate student to uphold these standards may result in serious consequences including suspension or expulsion from the university and/or other sanctions as specified in the academic integrity policies of individual colleges as well as the university. For more information please visit: the Graduate College’s Policies, Forms, and Deadlines and Maintaining Academic and Research Integrity.

Students should consult syllabi for each class on the expectations that each instructor has for a specific course.
Resources

There are a number of resources available in the program and through the university.

Academic and Professional Services

- **ASU Library** now has an online tutorial version of "Library 501: What Grad Students Need to Know about the Library" workshop available for online students and anyone else for whom it might be useful. The Library 501 tutorial can be found on the tutorials page under “Other Tutorials”.
- **Career & Professional Development Services** – resource for finding jobs and internships, career advising, and more; online services available.
- Resources for ASU Online students through the ASU Library are available here.
- Psi Chi Membership - Online Psi Chi Faculty Advisor (Dr. Erin Kube)

Student Support Services

- **Counseling**
  - Graduate Student Wellness Resources
  - Graduate Student Wellbeing
  - 360 Life Services: This resource gives students access to experts who can answer financial questions, provide legal advice, offer clinical or personal care, and provide career advice 24/7
- **Educational Outreach & Student Services (Dean of Students Office)**
- **Graduate Student Diversity Resources**
- **Graduate Academic Support Services** – in-person (all campuses) and online, no-cost writing and statistics tutoring (most services are free except for special sessions, refer to the website for more details).
- **Health**
- **ID Cards**
- **International Student Services Center (ISSC)**
- **Sexual Violence Awareness, Prevention and Response (Title IX)**
- **Statistics and Methods (SAM) Lab**
- **Student Accessibility and Inclusive Learning Services (SAILS)**
- **Student Rights and Responsibilities**
- **Veterans**

University Contact Information

- **Emergency Services**
- **Graduate College**
- **GPSA Outreach**
- **Provost’s Office**
- **Student Business Services**
- **University Technology Office/IT Help**