Cultivating Culturally Competent Practitioner-Scholars Equipped to Serve a Wide Range of Clients

The Doctor of Psychology (Psy.D.) in Clinical Psychology is the recognized degree for practitioners in clinical psychology. Accredited by the American Psychological Association, the Psy.D. at Azusa Pacific is a practitioner-scholar program emphasizing systems thinking, diversity, and integration of faith/spirituality into clinical practice, training professionals capable of synthesizing the science and practice of psychology in various settings. The Psy.D. curriculum provides the courses and training necessary to meet the educational requirements for becoming a licensed psychologist in California.

Financing Your Education

Grants, scholarships, loans, and company reimbursement are among the financial aid opportunities that may be available to help you complete your degree. We are committed to helping you understand and find resources for the costs of pursuing your education.

For the most current financial aid information, contact the Office of Graduate and Professional Student Financial Services at (626) 815-4570 or gpc@apu.edu, or visit apu.edu/gpc/aid/.

Take the Next Step

Every day, you can make a difference as a psychologist. Learn more about our program, including admissions requirements, curriculum, and program faculty, at apu.edu/psyd/.

Application deadline
January 15

Submit all application materials to:
Graduate and Professional Center, Office of Graduate and Professional Admissions
Azusa Pacific University, PO Box 7000, Azusa, California 91702-7000
Fax: (626) 815-4571 • gpadmissions@apu.edu

I had an amazing experience in the program. My professors taught me to have confidence in my God-given abilities, and the respect and support I received from them was outstanding. Each student is treated as an individual, and professors tailor lectures, group discussion, practicum, and internship plans toward the individual student. If that type of specified training is what you are interested in, this program may be the best match for you.

Capt. Brandon Watties, Psy.D. ’15
United States Army
The Discipline of Family Psychology

Based on systems theory, family psychology recognizes the dynamic interaction between persons and environments without detracting from an awareness of individual, intrapsychic issues. Our program incorporates numerous elements from several disciplines within psychology, all of them related by the theoretical understanding of the dynamic, reciprocal relationship between these factors and their impact on human behavior. By the end of the program, students think systemically and apply systemic analysis to clinical situations.

Interdisciplinary Integration

In keeping with Azusa Pacific’s mission, our program emphasizes the integration of psychology with ethics, theology, and spiritual formation, giving students the opportunity to consider and critically examine psychological theory using ethical and theological frameworks. Individuals from any religious or nonreligious tradition may be admitted to the program, but it is important for students to recognize that coursework and training are structured using Christian values and principles. The program also facilitates and enhances the development of competency with respect to addressing religious and spiritual diversity in clinical practice.

Diversity

The program has a strong commitment to cultural and individual diversity and is committed to creating an inclusive and positive environment for diverse students and faculty, as well as focusing on serving diverse populations. Diversity competence is interwoven throughout every course, along with specific courses that focus solely on this competency. Additionally, the Psy.D. program sponsors a student-run diversity committee that addresses diversity issues through forums, guest speakers, etc.

Psy.D. Clinical Training

Through a variety of clinical experiences with diverse clients, students acquire the essential knowledge, attitudes, and therapeutic skills of clinical psychology. Clinical training involves three years of practicum and a full-time, year-long internship (a limited number of two-year, half-time internships are available in some settings). Students with prior clinical training or licensure must still complete this program's clinical training; students complete a minimum of 1,500 hours of clinical training, which are in addition to any master’s-level training hours. Concurrent with the supervised practicum, students participate in an on-campus course that provides a forum for reviewing the practicum experience.

Career Opportunities

Graduates of the Psy.D. program engage in many different leadership and clinical roles, including psychotherapy, psychological assessment, clinical research, teaching, consultation, and administration. Our graduates go on to work in mental health clinics, medical settings, VAs, university counseling centers, correctional facilities, and private practice.