Master of Arts
Psychology Online

WHEREEVER YOU ARE, YOU’RE ON CAMPUS

New opportunities will COME to LIGHT
AT A GLANCE

UNION COLLEGE

Union College and its home city, Barbourville, Ky., have a longstanding partnership that extends back to October 21, 1879, when Union College was founded. Stockholders, comprised of 35 local residents, established the college with a clear purpose: to create opportunities for their families and the wider community, while helping the region thrive and prosper. Today, the Union College online programs have expanded educational opportunities for citizens of the region and beyond.

The graduate program, established over 50 years ago, offers advanced degrees and certificate programs in education and psychology, providing students with the skills necessary to compete in a diverse job market.

The independent, liberal arts college is affiliated with the United Methodist Church and is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) as to award degrees at baccalaureate and master’s levels.

MASTER OF ARTS
PSYCHOLOGY ONLINE OVERVIEW

The Master of Arts in Psychology is designed for students who may wish to pursue further doctoral studies in psychology, or who are seeking career advancement. The degree is also an excellent choice for those who are seeking personal enrichment and advancement in related fields, or wish to pursue higher learning in psychology as a means to expand their learning ability in general.

The degree involves advanced coursework in the field of psychology, as well as a capstone, integrative research-based thesis aimed to prepare students for understanding research, becoming consumers of research literature and thinking critically and scientifically.

The course curriculum is dynamic, challenging and professionally relevant. Whether you’re transitioning to another career or expanding your qualifications for your current career, Union’s online program offers flexibility, convenience and academic rigor to help you focus on success and meet your goals.

The online format is user-friendly and offers technical support all day, every day. While you are always welcome to visit campus and meet with your professors face-to-face, you will never be required to make the trip to College Street in Barbourville. But we certainly hope you do!
COURSE DESCRIPTIONS*

*descriptions and requirements subject to change

FOUNDATIONAL COURSES (22 HOURS)

Introduction to Psychology Graduate Studies
GRST 501. 1 credit hour.
A course designed to introduce students to Psychology Graduate Study at Union College. Students will complete entrance writing exercise and receive training in MyUnion and webmail.

Advanced Developmental Psychology
PSYH/COUN 511. 3 credits hours.
An intensive exploration of the current state of research and theory as applied to human development across the lifespan. Although this course outlines the latest findings on developmental changes that occur from birth to eighteen, strongest emphasis will be placed upon adult development and changes that are a product of the aging processes. Developmental issues germane to counseling and the helping professions will be emphasized, along with in-depth discussions of developmental research from primary source material.

Statistics for Mental Health Professionals
PSYH 512. 3 credit hours.
This course examines descriptive and inferential statistics with the emphasis on understanding fundamental concepts and applying data-analytic techniques to psychological studies and mental health literature. Students will gain the knowledge necessary for conducting psychological research activities, reviewing the literature, and understanding statistical tests and data analysis.

Quantitative & Qualitative Research Methods
PSYH 515. 3 credit hours.
The intention of this course is to expand knowledge of the principles of research design across the range of major psychological research strategies, including both qualitative and quantitative methods. It aims to develop understanding of the intrinsic strengths and weaknesses of diverse investigative strategies in psychological inquiry, facilitate educated and analytical appraisal of empirical social science literature, and afford basic knowledge of applying various methodological strategies in research projects.
Advanced Psychopathology
PSYH/COUN 520. 3 credit hours.
This course involves an examination of current issues related to the classification and diagnosis of abnormal behavior and psychological states. Dimensional, descriptive, and categorical approaches to classification are reviewed, with emphasis on the current forms of adult psychopathology found in the DSM. Topics include the symptomatology, etiology, developmental patterns, and treatment approaches to various diagnostic categories. Empirical findings, methodological concerns, and conceptual issues are discussed.

OR

Theories of Personality
PSYH 560. 3 credit hours.
This course is a systematic survey of the major theories of personality. Personality theories from the psychoanalytic, behavioral, phenomenological-existential, trait-factor and social learning traditions are presented and contrasted. The fundamental assumptions, nature of development, and individual variability of personality are presented for each outlook. The application of personality research is discussed in a variety of areas such as the study of aggression, anxiety, altruism, and locus of control.

Advanced Behavioral Neuroscience
PSYH 575. 3 credit hours.
This course provides an in-depth examination of the biochemical, neuro-anatomical, and physiological bases of human and animal behaviors such as sensory-perception, motor function, language, learning, memory and emotion. Prerequisite: An undergraduate course in Physiological or Biological Psychology, Neuroscience, Neuroanatomy or Neurophysiology; or permission of the professor.

Social & Community Psychology
PSYH 592. 3 credit hours.
This course provides an understanding of human behavior as a function of social and cultural factors. Social psychology topics covered include social influence theory, attitude formation and change, social cognition, interpersonal perception, obedience and conformity, altruism, aggression, and stereotyping. The influence of factors such as cultural, racial, gender, and age differences on clinical practice is discussed. Includes community psychology’s contribution to prevention and interventions in the field.
PSYCHOLOGICAL ELECTIVES (9 HOURS)

Health Psychology
PSYH 605. 3 credit hours.
This course overviews key theoretical concepts in health psychology, the multidisciplinary field that integrates biomedical and psychological knowledge to address a range of factors influencing physical and mental health. Common conditions in which biopsychosocial factors contribute to the underlying pathophysiology, disease course, or the individual's capacity for coping will be discussed. Psychological theories and practices relating to health and illness are also explored.

Theories of Career Counseling & Development
COUN 625. 3 credit hours.
This course is designed to provide students with an understanding of career development as it impacts on individuals throughout the life span. Emphasis is placed on career and vocational choice theories, current approaches to career development planning and placement, and social and psychological factors in career decision-making. Formal and informal occupational classification systems are covered. A great deal of emphasis is placed on practical applications of career theory to school counseling, individual counseling, group guidance, job search and placement, and career adjustment.

Family Systems Theory
COUN 630. 3 credit hours.
This course examines theoretical approaches including major systems theories, strategies, and techniques of family and relationship therapy. A survey of the development of family and techniques of family and relationship therapy. A survey of the development of family and relationship counseling and proponents of the field are studied. Issues of conflict and ethical considerations are examined. The impact of cultural and social forces upon the family system is explored.

Group Dynamics
PSYH 640. 3 credit hours.
This course presents a rationale for moving to group procedure. It provides a basis for the understanding of group structure, group topology and group dynamics. It explores group processes.

Multicultural & Diversity Issues
COUN 655. 3 credit hours.
This course provides the opportunity for counselors and clinicians to strengthen their multicultural awareness, knowledge, and skills in the competencies necessary to effectively evaluate and treat culturally and ethnically diverse clients. Students will be able to develop an awareness of the prevalent beliefs and attitudes of different cultures, and to develop skills useful for appropriate interactions with diverse individuals. In the course of these studies, it is hoped that students will also become more aware of their own cultural values and biases as they study prevalent beliefs and attitudes of different cultures and diverse groups.

Ethics & Professional Practice
PSYH 660. 3 credit hours.
This course is intended for students enrolled in the graduate psychology program. The content of the course includes ethical standards and values for guiding the professional practice of persons working in the field of mental health. The emphasis will be on ethical principles, code of conduct, and Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act.

Emotion, Motivation & Cognition
PSYH 651. 3 credit hours.
The course is meant to contribute to the graduate student’s knowledge required for obtaining a license as a clinical psychologist. It is focused on understanding the interplay between emotion, motivation, and cognition, and using it to help people improve their emotional self-regulation, motivation, cognitive restructuring, and behavioral adjustment.
THESIS COURSES (6 HOURS)

**Integrative Project I**  
*PSYH 696. 3 credit hours.*  
The Integrated Project is the capstone for the online M.A. Psychology program. The project will analyze and synthesize theoretical and applied concepts from a specialized area selected by the student.

**Integrative Project II**  
*PSYH 697. 3 credit hours.*  
This course completes the capstone Integrated Project for the online M.A. Psychology program.

CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY CERTIFICATE ELECTIVES

**Foundations of Chemical Dependency Treatment I**  
*PSYH 505. 4 credit hours.*  
Introduction to the foundations of the alcohol and drug abuse rehabilitation field. Emphasis on the roles and responsibilities of the addictions counselor. Focus is on the first six of the twelve core functions: screening, intake, orientation, assessment, treatment planning, and basic counseling skills. Interactive work stressed.

**Foundations of Chemical Dependency Treatment II**  
*PSYH 506. 4 credit hours.*  
Introduction to the foundations of the alcohol and drug abuse rehabilitation field. Emphasis on the roles and responsibilities of the addictions counselor. Focus is on the last six of the twelve core functions: case management, crisis intervention, client education, referral, reports and recordkeeping, and consultation with other professionals in regard to client treatment & services. Interactive work stressed.

**Psychology of Addiction**  
*PSYH/COUN 510. 3 credit hours.*  
Major emphasis on factors determining the development of addictions, including physiological, emotional, cognitive, and behavioral dimensions of the addictive process. Also emphasizes intervention and treatment strategies for the various types of chemical dependency and substance abuse.

**Recovery & Relapse**  
*PSYH 513. 3 credit hours.*  
This course is designed to address the diverse issues that are related to the recovery from addiction as an ongoing process involving physical, psychological, social, intellectual, spiritual and cultural aspects of the individual. Major themes of the course include the passages of recovery, relapse prevention principles, relapse warning signs, and the twelve-step approach to recovery. Using a holistic perspective, students will gain insight into basic recovery principles as they are related to the process and prevention of relapse.

**Biological Systems of Chemical Dependency**  
*PSYH 524. 3 credit hours.*  
Exploration of the physiological effects of chemical use on human biological systems and human development. Emphasizes identification and management of chemically induced crisis situations, including issues in co-morbidity and prevention.
FAQs

**How do I apply?**
Your enrollment counselor will guide you through the entire process:
gradpsych@unionky.edu or 606.546.1277

If you’re ready to apply, the document can be accessed at www.unionky.edu/gradpsych

**How much does it cost?**
Number of credit hours: 36 (plus GRST 501)
Tuition: $400 per credit hour
Additional fees may apply

**Is financial aid available?**
Yes, and you have options. Financial aid and tuition assistance may be available for those who qualify.
For more information, contact your enrollment counselor: gradpsych@unionky.edu or 606.546.1277

**What are the computer requirements?**
For this online program to run efficiently, any modern computing device (PC, tablet, phone, etc.) capable of sufficiently running a web browser and office productivity suite is acceptable.

**What if I have technical problems?**
Our 24-hour help desk is available, along with other trouble-shooting procedures you’ll be able to access any time, anywhere.

**What browsers work best with your system?**
Any standards-supporting browser released in recent years is supported; however, Union College recommends (in order):
- Firefox 3 or later
- Google Chrome 4 or later
- MS Internet Explorer 7 or later (9 preferred)
- Safari 3 or later
- Opera 9 or later
New opportunities will come to light

unionky.edu/graduate