

MASTER'S OPTION FOR PSY.D. STUDENTS

NORFOLK STATE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY/CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

Master of Arts (M.A.)

The department of psychology at Norfolk State University offers a Master of Arts degree program in community/clinical psychology. Students who are matriculating in the Virginia Consortium Program in Clinical Psychology are eligible for admission to this program. This arrangement gives students an opportunity to earn a master's degree while pursuing their doctorate. Because courses taken in the first two years of the Psy.D. Program parallel those in the Community/Clinical Psychology Program, this coursework will be counted toward the master's degree. An additional requirement for the Master of Arts degree is successful completion of the community psychology comprehensive examination that is administered at the end of the student's second year. This is a two-hour examination that is typically given around mid-May. Students who have enrolled in the Program will be informed by the Community/Clinical Psychology Program coordinator of the exact date. Students are encouraged to contact the NSU instructor(s) of the community psychology courses for information about the content of the examination to aid in preparation for the comprehensive examination. Application to the Community/Clinical Psychology Program must be made by October 1 during the student's first semester in the Psy.D. Program. Contact the coordinator of the Community/Clinical Psychology Program for more information.

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OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY Requirements for a Master's Degree

Master of Science (M.S.)

Students who are considering obtaining a master's degree are urged to discuss this option with their faculty advisor prior to making a decision. Because students must enroll in a first-year project course in the first semester, it is recommended that students consider this option and discuss it with their advisors as early as possible, even before classes start. The following information is provided to assist in that decision-making process.

Old Dominion University offers a M.S. degree in psychology. The focus is on general experimental psychology. Consortium students can earn this degree with some extra work consistent with the experimental focus of the program.

1. Consistent with the M.S. program requirement, students would need to do a first year research project. This is accomplished by enrolling in a two semester sequence (PSYC 795 and PSYC 796) at Old Dominion University.
2. M.S. degree requirements include either a thesis or non-thesis option: the Psy.D. student interested in a master's degree would typically choose the non-thesis option. For the non-thesis option, coursework and practicum experiences come together to give the student an "identifiable area of expertise." Students choosing this option must pass a comprehensive examination for the M.S. degree that includes a written and oral component. The Comprehensive Exam committee for the master's degree consists of a chair and at least two other department faculty certified for graduate instruction. The student consults with the committee to develop a reading list in the area of interest. Within a year following approval of the reading list, the written comps are taken followed by the oral comps within a month. Typically these exams are taken in the summer of the 2nd year. *It should be emphasized that the master's degree comprehensive exam is completely separate from the Virginia Consortium's comprehensive exam.*
3. To receive the M.S. degree from Old Dominion University, Consortium students must enroll in the first year project course (PSYC 795 and 796). They must also enroll in PSYC 698 (Research in Psychology).