

APPLIED SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY (MA)

The Master of Arts in Applied Social Psychology is a terminal degree program designed primarily to prepare people for careers as research specialist. Such individuals usually work under the direction of a PhD-level supervisor in government agencies, market research firms, research centers, personnel departments and so forth.

Related Programs

Doctoral

- Applied Social Psychology (PhD) (<https://catalog.luc.edu/graduate-professional/graduate-school/arts-sciences/psychology/applied-social-psychology-phd/>)
- Clinical Psychology (PhD) (<https://catalog.luc.edu/graduate-professional/graduate-school/arts-sciences/psychology/clinical-psychology-phd/>)
- Developmental Psychology (PhD) (<https://catalog.luc.edu/graduate-professional/graduate-school/arts-sciences/psychology/developmental-psychology-phd/>)

Curriculum

The Master of Arts in Applied Social Psychology requires 30 credit hours of coursework and the completion of a master's thesis.

Required Coursework

Code	Title	Hours
<i>Core Course Requirements</i>		12
PSYC 420	Research Methods in Psychology ¹	
PSYC 460	Social Psychological Theory	
PSYC 482	Advanced Statistics	
PSYC 491	Multivariate Analysis ¹	
<i>Advanced Methods</i> ²		6
PSYC 486	Methods of Program Evaluation (required)	
PSYC 493	Structural Equation Modeling	
<i>Applied Topics (Pick One)</i>		3
PSYC 472	Organizational Psychology	
PSYC 484	Prejudice and Intergroup Relations	
PSYC 485	Psychology and Law	
PSYC 489	Political Cognition	
<i>Basic Social Psychology (Pick One)</i>		3
PSYC 461	Attitude and Attitude Change	
PSYC 462	Cognitive Social Psychology	
PSYC 479	Cognition and Emotion	
PSYC 474	Research in Group Dynamics	
PSYC 477	The Self and Self-Esteem	
<i>Two Graduate-Level PSYC Electives</i> ³		6
Total Hours		30

¹ Course must be completed with a grade of "B" or better.

² Advanced Methods courses can be any graduate level statistics or methods course. Please contact Graduate Program Director for assistance.

³ Graduate level (400+) Psychology courses can be found here (<https://catalog.luc.edu/graduate-professional/graduate-school/arts-sciences/psychology/#coursestext>).

Thesis

The master's thesis should reflect an applied problem or theoretical issue relevant to social psychology. In addition, the thesis should be empirical, i.e., involve the collection and analysis of data. The student must present the results of the study to the faculty and students of the Social Psychology Program as part of the Program colloquium series. All master's theses must be submitted for publication in accordance with Graduate School policy.

Students are encouraged to begin work on their Master's thesis early in their graduate careers. Optimally, data collection should begin in the fall semester of the student's second year, and the thesis should be completed by the beginning of the fall semester of his/her third year. This allows students to begin teaching for the department during their third year of graduate school.

Responsible Conduct of Research

All PhD students and students in thesis-based Master's degree programs must successfully complete UNIV 370 Responsible Conduct in Research and Scholarship or other approved coursework in responsible conduct of research as part of the degree requirements. It is strongly recommended that students complete this two-day training before beginning the dissertation/thesis stage of the program.

Graduate & Professional Standards and Regulations

Students in graduate and professional programs can find their Academic Policies in Graduate and Professional Academic Standards and Regulations (<https://catalog.luc.edu/academic-standards-regulations/graduate-professional/>) under their school. Any additional University Policies supersede school policies.

Learning Outcomes

- Explain how classic and contemporary social psychological theory and research applies to human behavior in social settings
- Learn to conduct a literature review
- Evaluate the scientific rigor of research presented in social psychological journals and books
- Synthesize principles of basic and advanced research methods to produce independent, scholarly work
- Understand how to derive novel, previously untested hypotheses.
- Design and conduct basic and applied social psychology research
- Understand how to statistically analyze and interpret data collected in social psychology research
- Understand how to write up an academic research article
- Understand how to give a high quality professional presentation
- Apply ethical standards to evaluate psychological science and practice
- Apply knowledge of social psychology to scholarly and/or professional activities to promote positive social change
- Apply psychological content and skills to career goals

- Acquisition of research and publication skills that will allow students to pursue an applied job after completing the program