

# MASTER OF SCIENCE IN PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCE

**Web Site:** <https://twu.edu/psychology-philosophy/prospective-graduate-students/psychological-science/>

The Psychological Science program offers a M.S. degree. The Psychological Science Program is designed to prepare students in a variety of areas of psychological science with exceptional, student-focused research training. Through one-on-one mentoring, students will develop a deep understanding of the scientific basis of human psychology and highly marketable research skills. The program prepares students for direct entry into the workforce as a behavioral scientist or analyst with technology companies, marketing firms, defense contractors, pharmaceutical and cosmetic industries, federal and local governments, academic and private research labs, and other private industry employers. Graduates of the Psychological Science program are well-positioned for entry into a doctoral program in psychology or entry into teaching positions at junior colleges. The 36-semester credit hour program is designed to be completed in as few as 12 months and includes the completion of a thesis project or a professional paper with a faculty mentor.

## Marketable Skills

Defined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board's 60x30 Strategic Plan (<https://reportcenter.highered.texas.gov/agency-publication/miscellaneous/the60x30-strategic-plan/>) as, "Those skills valued by employers that can be applied in a variety of work settings, including interpersonal, cognitive, and applied skills areas. These skills can be either primary or complementary to a major and are acquired by students through education, including curricular, co-curricular, and extracurricular activities."

1. Using research methodologies and data analytic techniques appropriate to professional standards and conventions, graduates will be able to formulate research hypotheses, establish techniques for collecting valid data, utilize data analytic techniques, and draw conclusions that provide answers to research questions.
2. Graduates will be able to understand, compare, and contrast key theories, findings, concepts, and principles across the different content domains of psychological science. They will be able to articulate how psychological principles can be used to explain thoughts, feelings, and behaviors. They will also be prepared to explain social issues from a psychological perspective and generate informed public policy recommendations.

## Admissions

All students must meet the University requirements as outlined in the Admission to the TWU Graduate School (<https://catalog.twu.edu/graduate/graduate-school/admission-graduate-school/>) section of the catalog.

The academic program may have additional admission criteria that must also be completed as outlined on the program's website.

## Degree Requirements

### Total Semester Credit Hours Required

**Thesis Option:** 36 semester credit hours (SCH), including 6 SCH for thesis.

**Professional Paper Option:** 36 SCH, including 3 SCH of Professional Paper and 3 SCH of additional electives.

Code	Title	SCHs
<b>Required Courses</b>		
PSY 5304	Advanced Psychological Statistics I	4
PSY 5353	Research Design	3
PSY 6104	Cognition and Emotion	4
PSY 6133	Advanced Behavioral Neuroscience	3
PSY 6204	Advanced Psychological Statistics II	4
PSY 6613	Advanced Developmental Psychology	3
PSY 6743	Seminar in Social Psychology	3
<b>Elective Courses</b>		
Choose 6 SCH from the following.		6
PSY 5513	Advanced Psychopathology	
PSY 6113	Measurement and Psychometric Theory	
PSY 6633	Philosophical and Historical Foundations of Psychology	
PSY 6863	Qualitative Research Methods and Program Evaluation	
Other advanced elective courses with permission of the Program Directors		
<b>Thesis or Professional Paper Option</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>Thesis Option</b>		
PSY 5983	Thesis	
PSY 5993	Thesis	
<b>Professional Paper Option</b>		
PSY 5973	Professional Paper (For non-thesis track)	
3 SCH of additional elective courses from the list above.		
<b>Total SCHs</b>		<b>36</b>

## Special Requirements

Students are required to maintain a grade point average of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale in all courses applied to the degree. If a grade of C or less is earned in a course, the student will be required to complete a formal remediation process. If a second grade of C or less is earned, the student will be dismissed from the program.