

## **HDFS Related Graduate Programs**

[Graduate programs in FAMILY LAW](#)

[Graduate programs and careers in FAMILY POLICY](#)

[Graduate programs in HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY STUDIES](#)

[Graduate Programs in SOCIAL WORK](#)

[Graduate programs in MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY](#)

[Graduate programs in PSYCHOLOGY OF ADULT DEVELOPMENT AND AGING](#)

[Graduate programs in PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, PUBLIC AFFAIRS, AND PUBLIC POLICY PROGRAMS](#)

[Graduate programs in COMMUNITY PSYCHOLOGY](#)

[Accredited Programs in CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY](#)

[Master's Program in Clinical Psychology](#)

There are a variety of master's levels programs in fields related to clinical psychology. Usually these programs train people in basic counseling skills. Some programs may have specialized areas of training such as marriage and family counseling, drug addiction counseling, group counseling, vocational counseling, family therapy, child therapy, divorce mediation, prison counseling, etc. When it comes time to apply for jobs, it's very advantageous to have an area of specialization.

People with masters degrees usually work in group counseling practices, clinics, program for specific populations (drug abusers, battered wives, chronic psychiatric patients, etc.), and employee assistance programs. In many states people with master's degrees CANNOT have their own private practice.

**Ph.D. Clinical Psychology** (5 years minimum; full time; difficult to get into)

These programs educate students about issues related to mental health and mental health treatment. Many programs emphasize research and will require you to take courses in statistics and experimental design. You will be expected to conduct research, which will culminate in your dissertation. A dissertation is a yearlong research project that you design and conduct on your own (with help from a committee of faculty members).

### **PSY.D. Clinical Psychology** (4-5 years; full or part time).

These programs lead to the degree "Doctor of Psychology" rather than the traditional Ph.D. ("Doctor of Philosophy"). They were created as an alternative to Ph.D. clinical psychology programs. They are designed for people who specifically want to practice psychology and are not as interested in research. There is some research training, but much more time is spent on learning the various aspects of clinical work (individual and group psychotherapy, testing, marriage and family counseling, etc.). Usually more internship type experiences in a wider variety of settings is required than in Ph.D. programs.

### [Graduate programs in COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY](#)

There are a variety of master's levels programs in fields related to counseling psychology. Usually these programs train people in basic counseling skills. Some programs may have specialized areas of training such as marriage and family counseling, drug addiction counseling, group counseling, vocational counseling, family therapy, child therapy, divorce mediation, prison counseling, etc. When it comes time to apply for jobs, it's very advantageous to have an area of specialization.

People with masters degrees usually work in group counseling practices, clinics, program for specific populations (drug abusers, battered wives, chronic psychiatric patients, etc.), and employee assistance programs. In many states people with master's degrees CANNOT have their own private practice.

### **Ed.D. or Ph.D. Counseling Psychology** (Ed.D. or Ph.D., usually 4 -5 years full time, longer if part time)

Counseling psychology programs usually emphasize training in counseling/psychotherapy methods. These programs also include some training in research methods (stat and experimental courses). Similar to clinical psychology programs, counseling programs require internship experiences and a dissertation. A

counseling program often is completely separate from the psychology department at the university, and may be housed in a School of Education, for instance.

For more about graduate programs in **Psychology**:

<http://www.psych.udel.edu/advisement/index.php/graduate-school/options/>

### [Graduate Programs in SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY](#)

**SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY** (approx. 4-5 years for Ph.D. or Ed.D, 2-3 years for master's degree)

School psychologists are training to do counseling and psychological testing in a school setting. Their strength, therefore, is their understanding of school systems and education. They may work with the children in the school or the staff. Some school psychologists may also have a private practice. Some school psychology programs offer the Ed.D. Others, which may place more emphasis on research training, will offer the Ph.D.