



## UO Online Master's in Psychology FAQ

### Is this a fully online or hybrid program?

The UO Online Master's in Psychology Program is fully online with asynchronous delivery of courses, meaning you aren't expected to participate in live sessions at scheduled times. You can interact with the materials when it works best for you. Within that framework, we'll provide multiple opportunities for students to interact with faculty and each other. Relationships are central to any meaningful learning experience and we plan to incorporate creative ways to build a sense of connection and community within the program.

### Is this program a good fit for people who are working full time and have family responsibilities?

The UO Online Master's in Psychology program is designed with working professionals in mind. We know that going to school while working and taking care of responsibilities at home is a significant commitment of your time and resources. Working around your busy schedule is very important to us. To make the program flexible for students, we chose an online asynchronous and part-time schedule (9 credits per term). The program runs for 6 consecutive terms, including summer courses. The capstone research component is designed to allow students to register for a variable number of credits (or pause and not register each term) as needed after the first couple of terms. We will also seek regular feedback from our students to find out how we can adjust the program to best meet their needs.

### What types of courses are expected or recommended prior to enrolling in this program?

Some foundational knowledge in psychology or other social sciences is recommended (e.g., familiarity with psychological theories and behavioral research methods), but there is no requirement that students have completed specific courses before coming to the UO Online Master's in Psychology program. Our curriculum will be accessible and engaging for students with a range of prior educational and career experiences.

### Will this program help me get into a PhD program?

Our program is meant to be accessible to working professionals on the frontlines of mental health and social services. It is designed as a terminal master's degree rather than preparation for a PhD track. However, students will gain a strong foundation in program development, evaluation methods, brain science, intervention science, and translational science. The coursework and hands-on research experience could increase our graduates' competitiveness for admission to PhD programs.

## Will I have access to research facilities and mentoring?

In addition to the support provided by the program's primary instructors, the Center for Translational Neuroscience (CTN) research faculty will serve as capstone research mentors. Our faculty are cutting edge-researchers with expertise in child and adult stress neurobiology, trauma and resilience, and evidence-based interventions for a range of psychological disorders. One strength of the program is the emphasis on making the courses and research as relevant and applicable to the work you are doing (or hope to do) as possible.

The capstone project can be flexible based on student interests and will match students with faculty mentor(s) who are the best fit. For example, projects could include implementing and/or assessing a program at your existing employer or analyzing data from one of the archival intervention evaluation studies already conducted by CTN faculty.

## Will this program prepare me to become a licensed mental health counselor?

This program does not provide clinical training (practica or skills development) or provide a path to licensure.

## What are the requirements for admission?

We are looking for students with a bachelor's degree who can use the UO Online Master's in Psychology program to advance their education and career opportunities. Applicants who are currently working or volunteering in organizations that provide social or mental health services will be in the best position to benefit from the program. Relevant settings include but are not limited to community-based organizations, social and mental health services, public agencies, healthcare, or education.

We particularly welcome applications from students who are from populations historically underrepresented in higher education and/or who have experience working with diverse populations.

## Do I need to take the GRE?

The program does not require the GRE. We value your professional lived experience and will evaluate applications case-by-case.

## Application Requirements:

Applications for Fall 2022 will open on March 15, 2022.

- Complete the application form through [GradWeb](#).
- International applicants only: Take the TOEFL or IELTS. A minimum of 88 on iBT or minimum of 7.0 total band score on IELTS required.

- Provide contact information for two to three references who will submit letters of recommendation. We suggest you ask for letters from current or former instructors, work supervisors, or mentors who can speak to your potential to succeed in our master's program (e.g., motivation, capacity for critical thinking, interpersonal skills, etc.) and how you would use the knowledge and skills you will acquire in this program in applied settings to improve health and well-being. Please note that GradWeb automatically sends an email request to your references when you enter their information in the application; we recommend you contact them in advance.
- Upload a personal statement of purpose (2-4 page PDF document) in which you discuss the main reasons you're interested in the Online Master's in Psychology program. Your personal statement should include address the following items:
  - Your familiarity and experiences with psychological research
  - Your connection to a community-based organization (CBO) or how you plan to create a connection to a CBO
  - Your research interests and goals that you plan to pursue in the OMP program
  - Your experiences and/or commitment to social justice, diversity, and equity.
- Upload as a PDF your curriculum vitae/resume.
- Upload as a PDF a writing sample (recent class paper, thesis, or article).
- Upload as a PDF your unofficial transcripts from all colleges/universities attended and send official transcripts to the UO Registrar's Office.
- Pay the \$70 non-refundable fee (\$90 non-refundable fee for international applicants) when you submit your online application.
- Monitor the receipt of your letters of recommendation.

**Note:** Applications for the in-person Individualized Master's Program and this new online track are separate. It is not possible to switch between the two programs.

You can find a video tutorial on how to apply on the [program website](#) or by clicking this link: [Tutorial: How to Apply to UO's Online Master's in Psychology](#).

## I have been out of school for a while and my job does not involve academic writing. What should I submit as a writing sample?

The writing sample is meant to showcase your ability to synthesize, analyze, or evaluate ideas or evidence and communicate your thoughts clearly and effectively to a target audience. If you do not have a recent sample of academic writing already, we suggest identifying a topic you are passionate about or find intriguing. For example, this could be a research, policy or practice-related question. The writing sample could be a short literature review, blog post, or white paper executive summary on your topic that leads to a research question, executive decision, or recommendation to leadership for how to improve existing policy or practice. This is just one possibility; if you have a question about whether your idea for a writing sample is appropriate, please reach out to us.

## How many students will be accepted into the program?

For the Fall 2022 cohort we will accept 20-25 students. Over time we hope to grow the program while ensuring each student receives one-on-one support.

## What is the cost of the program?

The tuition rate per credit is \$554. This rate applies whether you are an Oregon resident or an out-of-state student. Based on current rates and with required fees included, the total cost estimate for the program is \$31,821 (54 credits). Up to date [tuition and fee information](#) is provided on the Office of the Registrar website. In the Student Classification drop-down menu, select “Graduate (Arts & Sciences, Psychology ONLINE).”

## What financing options or scholarship opportunities are available?

We are working to help students find resources to make the program more affordable, in addition to financial aid and graduate scholarships.

The UO Office of Student Financial Aid & Scholarships and the Graduate School have compiled helpful resources related to financial aid and scholarship opportunities. We recommend checking out the following websites for more information:

[https://financialaid.uoregon.edu/graduate\\_law](https://financialaid.uoregon.edu/graduate_law)

<https://gradschool.uoregon.edu/funding/awards>

<https://financialaid.uoregon.edu/loans>

Some employers also offer tuition reimbursement programs.

## Want to know more?

We're eager to talk with you more about the program! Email us at [psychonlinemasters@uoregon.edu](mailto:psychonlinemasters@uoregon.edu) with any questions.