



Admission Requirements

Admission into the Western Illinois University Clinical/Community Mental Health program requires a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution with at least 15 semester hours in Psychology. Each incoming student is expected to have completed coursework in each of the following areas: general psychology, statistics/experimental, learning/cognitive, abnormal psychology and personality, though students may satisfy any undergraduate deficiencies during the program.

To apply for graduate study in Psychology at Western Illinois University, all prospective

of experience. These clinical faculty members provide treatment in the Psychology Clinic and supervision to our graduate students as they manage their own caseloads.

Graduate Assistantships

C/CMH graduate students are eligible to apply for a graduate assistantship, which are awarded through a competitive process. Full-time graduate assistants receive a stipend and a tuition waiver. C/CMH first-year students can secure assistantships within the department, while second-year students can find suitable assistantships at other campus locations.

Western Illinois University is an Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity institution with a strong commitment to diversity. In that spirit, we are particularly interested in applications from a broad spectrum of people, including, but not limited to, women and individuals with disabilities. WIU has a non-discrimination policy that prohibits discrimination based on an individual's membership in the following classes: race, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, religion, age, marital status, national origin, disability, genetic information, veteran status and any other classes protected by state or federal law.

Distinctive Features

- The department houses a Psychology Clinic that services area residents. Established in 1968, the clinic was founded as a community agency to provide low-cost mental health services to west central Illinois and southeast Iowa. Throughout the subsequent decades, the clinic has become established as a reliable provider to community residents while maintaining its parallel focus as an active training site for students in the C/CMH program. Currently, the clinic provides no-fee therapeutic services—including individual, child, couple and family therapy—and psychological assessment services. From the beginning of their program, C/CMH students have the opportunity to become actively involved in the operation of the clinic, first through attending weekly staff meetings and sitting in on sessions conducted by faculty psychologists, and then through managing their own individual caseloads, performing psychological assessments, and providing case management through an electronic record-keeping system, all under faculty supervision.
- Our current curriculum provides students with a solid foundation in clinical psychology. In addition, the C/CMH program is approved by the State of Illinois, meaning our graduates are eligible to sit for the Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) and the Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor (LCPC) examinations.
- The C/CMH curriculum is designed to meet the standards for education and training developed by the Council of Applied Master's Programs in Psychology (CAMPP).
- The C/CMH program is accredited by the Masters in Psychology and Counseling Accreditation Council (MPCAC) through August 2027.



Facilities

- The WIU Department of Psychology is housed in Waggoner Hall. The building offers facilities for teaching and research, including well-equipped laboratories, a well-supported animal research facility including animal colonies, audio-equipped observation rooms for the supervision of clinical activities and an audio and video recording system used in clinical training. The department also maintains an extensive library of psychological assessment materials. Waggoner Hall offers a computer lab and access to other computers for students.
- University Libraries is an integral and valuable part of graduate research at Western. They hold more than one million cataloged volumes of monographs and periodicals and offer online access to full texts of hundreds of academic journals and other publications. Items may be borrowed swiftly from more than 70 other Illinois academic libraries through the I-Share network or obtained through interlibrary loan from libraries across the nation. Research assistance in library use, and public access to computers, printers, wireless Internet and photocopiers are also accessible through University Libraries.

“The rigorous schedule challenges each student to begin using techniques and theories immediately and to be a head and shoulders above my colleagues in preparedness and understanding of such important topics and ethics.”

– Lindsay Harms, MS, LPC