Clinical Psychology

Graduate Program

FACULTY OF ARTS
Department of Psychology
Mission

Clinical Psychology is an evidence-based science. We advance knowledge related to the etiology, prevention, assessment and treatment of psychological problems and the promotion of health and wellness.
Values and Guiding Principles

Promotion of Human Welfare
We are committed to the dignity of persons, responsible caring, integrity of relationships and responsibility to society.

Excellence
We pursue excellence, innovation and leadership in science, policy, practice, education and training.

Accountability and Transparency
Policies and practices are characterized by accountability, transparency and are based on the best available evidence.

Collegiality
We foster collegial and collaborative relationships within the Program, University and the broader Community.
Goals for Training

The goal of the Clinical Psychology Program at the University of Calgary is to prepare students for careers as doctoral level professionals in applied, academic and research settings. The training we offer is based on the scientist-practitioner model and provides students with an integration of academic knowledge, research skills, and clinical training and experience. The theoretical basis of the program is primarily cognitive-behavioural. This integration is achieved through formal course work, ongoing activity in faculty and self-directed research, and supervised clinical work in a variety of practica and internship settings.

Our program was awarded accreditation for six years by the Canadian Psychological Association in 2016.
Academic practice functions for which students are prepared

The majority of our graduates are employed in direct health and mental health service provision in hospital or community-based settings. Many of them also teach part-time and/or are actively involved in research. Other graduates are in academic positions while a minority are in private practice. While most graduates remain in Canada, others are employed internationally, for example, in New Zealand, Australia, and the United States.
Our faculty
Research Interests

**Brandy Callahan**
brandy.callahan@ucalgary.ca
Dr. Callahan’s research aims to improve the diagnosis of psychiatric and neurodegenerative disorders in older adults using neuropsychological and neuroimaging measures.
neurocogdisorderslab.com

**Tavis Campbell**
t.s.campbell@ucalgary.ca
Dr. Campbell is a behavioral medicine specialist with a program of research focused on bio-behavioral mechanisms underlying risk and recurrence in chronic illness.
behaviouralmedicinelab.ca

**Susan Graham**
grahams@ucalgary.ca
Dr. Graham’s research focuses on language and cognitive development during the infancy and preschool years.
ucalgary.ca/labs/language-cognitive-development

**David Hodgins**
dhodgins@ucalgary.ca
Dr. Hodgins’ interests lie in the area of addictive behaviours, specifically alcohol, cannabis and behavioural addictions, and comorbid psychiatric disorders, including the process of recovery from problems including brief motivational interventions and understanding the process of relapse to addictive behaviors.
ucalgary.ca/labs/addictive-behaviours

**Sheri Madigan**
sheri.madigan@ucalgary.ca
Using a multi-method approach, Dr. Madigan’s research examines early determinants of children’s socio-cognitive development.
madiganlab.com

**Brae Anne McArthur**
braeanne.mcarthur@ucalgary.ca
Dr. McArthur’s research focuses on risk and resiliency factors related to well-being and mental health outcomes for children and adolescents. Dr. McArthur also examines therapeutic outcomes for historically minoritized groups.

**Melanie Noel**
melanie.noel@ucalgary.ca
Dr. Noel’s research expertise is in the psychological aspects (cognition, mental health, parents) of children’s acute (e.g., needles, medical procedures, injuries, surgeries) and chronic pain.
abcpainresearch.com
Kristin von Ranson
kvonrans@ucalgary.ca
Dr. von Ranson’s research focuses on eating disorders and related issues, including research on eating disorders as behavioural addictions and the science-practice gap in the treatment of eating disorders.
ucalgary.ca/labs/eating-behaviours

Keith Yeates
kyeates@ucalgary.ca
Dr. Yeates is an neuropsychologist. His research aims to better understand the outcomes of childhood brain injury and influences on recovery, and thereby foster more effective treatment and management.
arts.ucalgary.ca/labs/birch
Requirements and expectations of students

Students are exposed to a core curriculum including research design and statistics, history and systems of psychology, ethics and professional standards, and breadth courses in the general domain of psychology. In addition to a breadth of knowledge within the general field of psychology, students will acquire:

- the proficiency to conceptualize, execute, and evaluate research;
- training in the content areas and theoretical approaches specific to clinical psychology;
- training in the techniques, procedures and ethics of assessment, intervention, and prevention;

Research training in our program focuses on both a master’s thesis and a doctoral dissertation, as well as other research activities with which the student may become involved. Research training is based upon an “apprenticeship” model in which students initially work closely with a faculty member in an area of mutual interest, gaining the knowledge and experience necessary to undertake self-directed independent research. Students are encouraged to present their research at national and international conferences. The program provides annual travel grants in support of students’ participation in
conferences. Students are required to take graduate-level statistics and research methods courses during their first two years of the program. During this time students will also complete a master’s thesis. Based upon adequate performance and timely completion, students will then normally proceed to doctoral level course work, candidacy examinations, doctoral level research, and a year-long predoctoral clinical psychology internship.
Courses and requirements by year

**Year 1 - MSc I**
- Ethics/Professional Issues
- Adult Assessment
- Child Assessment
- Analysis of Variance
- Multivariate Data Analysis
- Practicum I
- Thesis Research

**Year 2 - MSc II**
- History of Psychology
- Clinical Research
- Lifespan Psychotherapy
- Functional Neuroanatomy
- Breadth Course (if required)
- Thesis Research

**Year 3 - PhD I**
- Advanced Clinical Seminar
- Breadth Course (if required)
- Clinical Neuropsychology and/or Neuropsychological Testing (as an elective)
- Advanced Practicum I
- Candidacy Exams
- Dissertation Research

**Year 4 - PhD II**
- Advanced Clinical Seminar
- Breadth Course (if required)
- Advanced Practicum II
- Dissertation Research

**Year 5 - PhD III**
- Advanced Practicum III (as an elective)
- Dissertation Research
- Pre-Doctoral Clinical Internship (1,600 hrs)
- Completion of PhD degree

Note that students may elect to complete their dissertations in PhD III and defer their internships until Ph.D. IV.

To ensure that our students’ applications for internship are competitive, we exceed the Canadian Psychological Association requirements for doctoral level training.

There are course-based practica and a summer practicum at the M.Sc. level and advanced clinical practica at the doctoral level leading to approximately 1,200 practicum hours. This requirement exceeds the 600 hours required by the Canadian Psychological Association for doctoral level training, but is intended to ensure that students’ applications for internship are competitive.

**Clinical Internship**

In accordance with CPA accreditation criteria, students are required to complete a competitive, full-time, year-long (1,600 hours) clinical psychology internship in years three or four of their Ph.D. To be eligible for internship, students must have completed their Candidacy exams, completed all course work, and at a minimum, successfully defended their dissertation proposals. Students will preferably be placed in a CPA accredited internship (or its equivalent). These internships normally take place in clinical settings across Canada and students should be prepared to relocate to complete their internships.
Training resources

The program currently has 13 core faculty, 30 adjunct faculty, and many clinical supervisors. Adjunct faculty members provide important ongoing feedback and suggestions for the development of the program. They provide clinical supervision and also serve on research supervisory committees, candidacy examination committees, and administrative committees. Clinical supervisors are primarily involved in clinical supervision. Training sites are numerous and diverse, and include the University of Calgary Psychology Clinic, hospital and community settings serving all age groups, from infants to seniors, and a variety of client populations. These settings provide clinical training in inpatient and outpatient mental health, behavioural medicine, rehabilitation psychology, forensic psychology, and severe mental illness. Students should consult with the Clinic Director, Dr. Joshua Madsen, for more information on practicum placements.

We have a Clinical Test Library. The Clinical Test Library’s primary purpose is to facilitate the training of graduate students enrolled in the Department of Psychology’s Clinical Psychology Program, and its secondary purpose is to facilitate research in the Department of Psychology. Students, core clinical faculty, and adjunct faculty in the Department of Psychology may borrow Clinical Test Library materials for student training and research purposes.
Our students
at a glance

37 students currently in the program, statistically the vast majority will complete their doctoral degrees.

Most students complete their undergraduate degrees from Canadian universities and represent a wide variety of geographic backgrounds.

Applications, acceptances, and withdrawals

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Applied to our program</th>
<th>We offered admission to</th>
<th>Accepted offer of admission</th>
<th>Withdrew from program</th>
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</table>
Our program receives on average 90 applications per year.

Typically 6 to 8 students are admitted.

32 female, 5 male

24 to 36 Age distribution.

98% graduates of become registered/licensed psychologists.
Funding for graduate students

- The minimum stipend for students enrolled full-time in the clinical program is $20,500 annually for two years at the Master’s level and $21,000 for three years at the Doctoral level. Note that students receive funding from their pre-doctoral internship site during their internship year.
- The funding amounts of our current students range from a minimum of $20,500 to about $50,000 with an average funding level of approximately $30,000 per year, depending whether or not they have secured external or internal scholarships.
- This funding may be provided through Faculty of Graduate Studies Scholarship funds, graduate teaching assistantships, internal scholarships, and external scholarships.
- Students are eligible to receive conference funding each year.
- You can find general information on graduate fees and funding on the Faculty of Graduate Studies website.

Support for students

Students have access to the University of Calgary Student Wellness Services for health and mental health support and the Student Success Centre for academic support. In addition, the Graduate Students’ Association offers professional development workshops, social events, a health and dental plan, and awards, grants, and bursaries. The Faculty of Graduate Studies provides ongoing support for academic success through the My GradSkills program. The Taylor Institute for Teaching and Learning provides a wide range of conferences, workshops, certificates, and awards to enhance and reward excellence in teaching and learning.
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Dr. Brae Anne McArthur
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Graduate Program Advisor
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+1 403.220.5484
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Our program was awarded accreditation for six years by the Canadian Psychological Association (CPA) in 2016. As a fully accredited Graduate Program in Clinical Psychology, we adhere to all standards, guidelines and policies of CPA. The offices of accreditation can be contacted as follows:

Canadian Psychological Association
141 Laurier Avenue West, Suite 702
Ottawa, Ontario
K1P 5J3
1.888.472.0657 ext. 328
accreditation@cpa.ca