

# M.S. in Clinical Behavioral Psychology

Advance your career with a Master of Science in Clinical Behavioral Psychology.

## Overview

The program provides students with training in evidence-based cognitive-behavior therapies and applied behavior analysis in preparation for the professional practice of psychology as a Master's License Psychologist (MLP) in Michigan and for Board Certification in Behavior Analysis (BCBA). As a unique asset of this program, all students are prepared to enter these two high-demand areas of applied clinical science. The Clinical Behavioral Master's program operates within a framework of contextual behavioral science. Students learn to understand the biopsychosocial circumstances of their clients, to develop individualized treatment plans that honor the diverse identities and experiences of their clients, and to utilize modern behavior therapies to help clients meet their goals. All students receive training in the philosophy and science underlying clinical behavioral therapies to become skilled flexible clinical practitioners. Graduates of the program are also well-prepared to pursue advanced training at the doctoral level.

## Objectives

1. Prepare students for diverse employment opportunities using cognitive-behavior therapies and applied behavior analysis with diverse populations.
2. Prepare students to meet state requirements for licensing master's level psychologists (MLP).
3. Prepare students to meet national requirements for taking the Board Certification in Behavior Analysis (BCBA) exam.
4. Provide students with research opportunities.
5. Provide preparation for doctoral work for interested students.

## Program Requirements

The M.S. in Psychology (Clinical Behavioral) requires the completion of 41 credits of coursework. The program's Foundational courses are part of an ABAI Verified Course Sequence (5<sup>th</sup> Edition Task List) recognized by the Behavior Analysis Certification Board as training required for the BCBA credential. The General Competencies courses in the program cover the coursework required for the MLP. Applicants will have to meet additional requirements to qualify for post-degree credentials including obtaining a practicum placement with relevant BACB and MLP approved supervision.



## Clinical Behavioral Psychology Foundations: 21 credits

- Theoretical Foundations of Behavioral Science 3 credits
- Behavioral Assessment 3 credits
- Clinical Behavior Analysis 3 credits
- Concepts and Principles of Behavior 3 credits
- Behavioral & Other Evidence-based Psychotherapies 3 credits
- Design & Analysis in Small-n Research 3 credits
- Supervision & Management in Service Settings 3 credits

## General Competencies: 13 credits

- Cognitive Assessment 4 credits
- Psychological Statistics 3 credits
- Psychopathology 3 credits
- Scientific and Professional Ethics 3 credits

## Elective Courses: 3 credits

Three hours selected from psychology courses within the department in consultation with the graduate advisor. The program suggests but does not require the following courses:

- Evidence-based Therapies for Children and Adolescents 3 credits
- Behavioral Medicine 3 credits
- Modern Behavior Therapies 3 credits
- Treatment of Anxiety Disorders 3 credits

## Practicum: 4 credits

Students are required to complete a 500 hour practicum experience.

- Field Practicum with Seminar (Fall) 2 credits
- Field Practicum with Seminar (Winter) 2 credits

## Program Total: 41 credits

### Assistantships

Graduate assistantships provide financial support (tuition scholarships and stipends) and experiential learning experiences. Consequently, these assistantships are highly competitive. They are typically available for up to two years (four enrollment periods), subject to the recommendation of an academic department and approval of the Graduate School.

Full-time assistantships provide the following benefits:

- A. Up to 18 credit hours of tuition per fiscal year (Tuition benefits are prorated for part-time assistantships and for G.A.s beginning their appointments after the start of the semester).
- B. A 10% discount on purchases at the University bookstore.
- C. Stipend (about \$9000 per year).
- D. Valuable teaching and research experience.

While there are a limited number of graduate assistantships in the psychology department, additional EMU graduate assistantship opportunities can be found at:

<https://careers.emich.edu/jobs/search>

### Admission Requirements

Priority consideration will be given to applicants who meet all of the requirements for graduate degree admission status listed below:

1. Complete the program application on PSYCAS;
2. Have an undergraduate GPA of approximately 3.0 or better on a 4.0 scale;
3. Have at least 20 hours of credit in psychology, including one course in statistics and one course in experimental psychology;
4. Three letters of recommendation from faculty, employers, or others who can testify to the applicant's suitability for the program of study;
5. Meet the Graduate School admission requirements.

Incomplete applications will not be considered. Credits earned under non-degree student status do not automatically apply to the requirements of the degree program.

The program does not require the GRE as part of its admissions process.

### How to Apply

All application materials are due by FEBRUARY 1. Admission is for entering the program in the Fall semester. There is no admission to the program in the winter and summer sessions. Visit [emich.edu/psychology/programs/ms\\_cb.php](http://emich.edu/psychology/programs/ms_cb.php) for links to the PSYCAS application.

### Non-Discrimination Notice

Eastern Michigan University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic or national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, age, ancestry, disability, military status, veteran status or other non-merit reasons, in admissions, educational programs or activities and employment and complies

with all applicable federal and state laws regarding nondiscrimination and affirmative action, including Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act.

### Program Faculty

Adam Briggs, Ph.D., BCBA	assessment and treatment of severe destructive behavior, group oriented contingencies in learning settings, EIBI skill programming, supervision and staff performance
Claudia Drossel, Ph.D., Ph.D., LP	Functional analysis as a key process in behavior therapies, including DBT, ACT, and FAP; assessment and intervention for persons with neurocognitive impairment and their care partners; behavioral economics
Ellen Koch, Ph.D., LP	evidence-based behavior therapies for anxiety disorders, secondary prevention of anxiety and PTSD
Tamara Loverich, Ph.D., LP	Emotion regulation and eating, assessment of avoidance, psychological inflexibility, self behaviors, and mindfulness, clinical intervention for excessive avoidance and inflexibility through the acceptance-based behavior therapies, and the intersection of cultural variables and all of the above
Elizabeth Neilson, Ph.D.	evidence-based behavior therapies for emotional and behavioral dysregulation, including Dialectical Behavior Therapy and mindfulness-based therapies
James Todd, Ph.D.	experimental analysis of human and nonhuman behavior, analysis of ineffective and pseudoscientific interventions for autism and other developmental disabilities
Thomas Waltz, Ph.D., Ph.D., LP	behavioral economics, functional analytic case formulation, evidence-based behavior therapies, implementation science

### Contact Us

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