

## **Doctor of Psychology (Psy.D.) in Clinical Psychology**

### **Admissions Requirements**

Applications for admission to the Doctor of Psychology (Psy.D.) in Clinical Psychology program are accepted until April 15<sup>th</sup> of each year. Current students in the IPS M.S. Clinical Psychology Program must have completed a minimum of 24 semester credit hours in order to apply (or have completed their fall semester of 13 credit hours and be enrolled for 12 credit hours in the spring when they make their application). For individuals not currently enrolled in the IPS master's program seeking admission to the Doctor of Psychology (Psy.D.) in Clinical Psychology program enrolled in the IPS M.S. Program must have an earned graduate degree from a regionally accredited degree program in a mental health discipline (e.g., psychology, counseling, clinical social work, marriage and family therapy).

The admission process is focused on the individual. Therefore, personal interviews will be arranged with all applicants meeting the published academic criteria. These interviews typically are scheduled in May, and acceptance will be communicated within one week of the application process being completed. The interviews of applicants to the Doctor of Psychology degree program must be conducted in person. The applicant is responsible for all personal transportation costs associated with these interviews.

In considering applicants to the Psy. D. degree program, the Admissions Committee considers the following factors: cumulative undergraduate GPA, graduate GPA, GPA of courses in the social and behavioral sciences (both undergraduate and graduate), scores on the GRE and TOEFL or IELTS (where applicable), three (3) letters of recommendation, the interview process, personal statements and essays from the applicant, and commitment to and potential to fulfill the mission of the Institute and the Psy.D. degree program objectives. For all applicants, a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.5 (on a 4.0 scale) is required in order to be competitive in the admissions process.

The General Test score on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE), taken within the past five (5) years is required of applicants to the Psy.D. degree program who are not currently enrolled in the IPS MS. program. Official reports of the GRE score must be submitted directly to the Institute from the Educational Testing Service. Exceptions to this requirement may be made for applicants who apply to the Psy.D. program after having completed 24 hours in the M.S. degree program in Clinical Psychology at the Institute; given the first-hand knowledge of these student's clinical and academic skills, the GRE requirement is waived.

Applicants whose native language is not English must have taken the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) within the past two years and obtained equivalent scores of 600 for the paper and pencil version, 250 for the computerized version, or 100 for the internet-based version. The Institute also accepts the International English Language

Test System (IELTS) with an overall band score of 7.0 on the academic IELTS, with no individual band scores below 6.0.

Applicants holding degrees from institutions outside of the United States must arrange to have these transcripts translated and evaluated course-by-course. In addition to the official copy of each International Transcript, the Office of Admissions must receive an official “Course-by-Course Evaluation” directly from an approved evaluation service (ex. [www.wes.org](http://www.wes.org) or [www.ece.org](http://www.ece.org)).

Those students who are applying to the Psy.D. program and who have not completed their previous clinical graduate training at the IPS should note that a central focus of the Institute’s mission, and of the program’s objectives, is to develop an integrated Catholic approach to the theory and practice of the psychological sciences. Accordingly, all students in the program are required to complete coursework in the areas of theology and philosophy which examine the Catholic tradition’s view of the person, marriage, and family life. These courses are not ancillary to the psychology curriculum but rather provide the primary subject matter for its integrative dimension. Therefore students entering the program should be prepared to undertake rigorous graduate level studies in philosophy and theology in areas relevant to psychology. For those with no formal education in theology or philosophy, we highly recommend as preparation for studies at the Institute that you familiarize yourself with the general content of the following ecclesiastical texts:

From Vatican II:

- Lumen gentium*, Dogmatic Constitution on the Church (1964)
- Dei verbum*, Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation (1965)
- Gaudium et spes*, Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World (1965)
- Dignitatis humanae*, Declaration on Religious Liberty (1965)
- Apostolicam actuositatem*, Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity (1965)

From the Papal Writings:

- Pius XI, *Casti Connubii*, On Christian Marriage (1930)
- Paul VI, *Humanae Vitae*, On the Regulation of Birth (1968)
- John Paul II:
  - *Redemptor hominis*, On the Redeemer of Man (1979)
  - *Veritatis splendor*, On Fundamental Questions on the Church’s Moral Teaching (1993)
  - *Evangelium vitae*, On the Value and Inviolability of Human Life (1995)
  - *Fides et ratio*, On the Relationship between Faith and Reason (1998)
  - *Ecclesia de eucharistia*, On the Eucharist in its Relationship to the Church (2003)
  - *Theology of the Body*, Part One: “Original Unity of Man and Woman” and “Blessed are the Pure of Heart.”