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Master of science (MSc) in psychology

GENERAL OUTLINE

Objectives

This Master's programme is designed as a cycle of specialisation providing access to the profession of psychologist. It is based on the knowledge acquired during the Bachelor of Science in Psychology. On completion of the Master's degree you will be able to:

- explain, evaluate, compare and discuss specific aspects of knowledge in psychology, in the orientation chosen for the Master's degree, and put them into perspective in relation to their epistemological status;
- implement, acting independently, a scientific research process;
- master the use of intervention tools related to the application scope of the chosen orientation in psychology;
- present, in a structured and reasoned manner, an in-depth reflection, in both written and oral form;
- use the relevant knowledge, analytic skills and intervention tools in different contexts, showing respect and consideration for diversity;
- develop ethical and socially responsible positions in the practice of psychology.

Career prospects

In addition to these specific skills and knowledge in distinct fields of psychology, university studies develop a great many transverse skills

such as: communication, critical, analytical and summarising faculties, abilities in research, and so on.

This range of skills prepares students for professional posts in a wide variety of sectors:

- Medico-psychological consultation services
- Psychogeriatrics and Geriatrics
- Psychology of professional, university or careers guidance counselling
- Psychology, Psychomotor Therapy and Speech Therapy in the educational field
- Parapublic Institutions (e.g. care homes for the elderly, adolescent homes)
- Prevention and public health (e.g. industrial health and safety)
- Research and Teaching (e.g. UNIL, CHUV – Psychiatry)
- Other: associative structures, intervention services (e.g. police), private service companies or consultancies in the organisation of firms, public administration, etc.)
- Private practice (consultation, check-up, psychological evaluation, etc.).

In several fields, particularly those where a federal specialisation degree exists (e.g. psychotherapy), postgraduate training is necessary after completing the Master's degree.

More information and alumni testimonials: unil.ch/perspectives/unil-et-apres

knowing,
understanding,
communicating,
counselling?

GENERAL INFORMATION

Organisers

Faculty of Social and Political Sciences:
www.unil.ch/ssp

Degree awarded

Master of Science (MSc) in Psychology

ECTS credits

120

Duration

4 semesters

Teaching language

French. Recommended level: C1.

Study advisor

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More information

www.unil.ch/ssp/master-psychologie

EDUCATIONAL CONTENT

Description

The Master's programme includes a main orientation which is composed of:

- courses directly related to the orientation as well as methodological courses;
- optional modules providing links to other sectors of psychology or allowing consolidation of the main area of specialisation;
- an optional research or practical internship. Students who do not find an internship or do not want to do one may replace it with courses;
- a dissertation.

The main specialisation is to be chosen from among the following 5 fields:

- Clinical Psychology and Psychopathology;
- Child and Adolescent Psychology*;
- Counselling and Vocational Psychology*;
- Health Psychology
- Social and Intercultural Psychology

* These two specialisations allow access to consultations under supervision (provided that your application is accepted) (see opposite).

A new Master's study programme should come into effect at the start of the 2019 academic year, subject to the approval of the relevant authorities, however the overall course structure will remain unchanged.

Internship

The five fields of study in the Master's programme offer the option of a placement during the second year. The placement must be relevant to the student's chosen field and is accompanied by a placement preparation seminar. It is worth 15 to 18 credits, depending on the field of study. Students who do not do a placement take courses worth the same number of credits instead. Further information about placements can be found at:

www.unil.ch/ssp/stages-master-psycho

Mobility

You have the possibility of following part of your studies in a partner institution recognised by UNIL. If the mobility study programme is approved by the Faculty's Mobility Commission and is validated by a pass in the examinations, the credits obtained in mobility will be recognised and validated as part of your degree course.

Admission to programmes involving consultation

The number of places available in the two programmes involving consultation is limited. For admission to these programmes it is therefore necessary to submit an application to the ad hoc committees at the Institute of Psychology, in addition to the usual application for admission to the Master's degree course (which must be sent instead to the Admissions Service). For more information on deadlines for sending the application, its contents or the selection criteria, see «Admission» on page:

www.unil.ch/ssp/master-psychologie

SYLLABUS

Courses in the chosen orientation

90 ECTS credits

- Compulsory subjects
- Optional subjects
- Internship (or courses)

Dissertation

30 ECTS credits

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Admission requirements

Candidates must hold a Bachelor of Science in Psychology degree awarded by a Swiss university. For specialisations including consultations, see the "Admission to specialisations including consultations" paragraph.

The holders of Bachelor of Science in Psychology degrees awarded by other universities may be admitted on the basis of their personal case file, subject to the candidate's formal admissibility to the master's degree course.

Holders of a Bachelor of Science in Psychology degree awarded abroad may be admitted on the basis of their personal case file and must submit a statement confirming that they have been offered a place to study for a Master's in psychology at a university in the country that awarded the Bachelor's degree. For more information, see: www.unil.ch/immat

Enrolment and final dates

The Master of Science in Psychology can be started in the autumn semester only. Applications must be submitted to the Admissions Department (www.unil.ch/immat) before 30 April.

Candidates needing a visa to study in Switzerland must apply for enrolment before 28 February.

Start of courses

Mid-September
Academic calendar: www.unil.ch/central/calendrier

Part-time Master's degree

Under certain conditions, a Master programme can be followed part-time. See www.unil.ch/formations/master-temps-partiel..

General information on studies, guidance

www.unil.ch/soc

Accommodation and financial assistance

www.unil.ch/sasme

International

www.unil.ch/international

Version: March 2024
Subject to changes
Only the official texts should be considered binding.

www.unil.ch/masters



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