

Behavioral Health 4+1 Proposal  
Department of Psychology

The 4+1 terminal Master's Program in Behavioral Health provides qualified students earning a baccalaureate degree in Psychology or related fields from Tulane University with graduate training in a specialty area of psychology. Behavioral health is a broad term generally understood to subsume mental health, substance use disorders, and health related behaviors. The 4+1 M.S. program in Behavioral Health was developed with two goals in mind: 1) To provide students with training in basic areas in Behavioral Health, and 2) To provide students who are new to psychology or who wish to improve on their knowledge of psychology with a more in-depth understanding of the major areas of concentration at the graduate level.

The Behavioral Health 4+1 has two tracks, *Applied* and *General*. The *Applied* track provides students with training in three areas in Behavioral Health: 1) Students will gain a basic understanding of the scientific knowledge behind the interplay between psychology and health and illness including a) learning about and examining psychological factors related to prevention and management of chronic disease, and b) learning about psychological factors affecting treatment of health problems; 2) Students will learn about factors related to effective health care delivery and health care system including a) the role that psychologists may play in integrated health care and b) learning effective screening and brief intervention tools that can serve well in a primary care environment; and 3) Students will gain a basic scientific understanding of the major forms of psychopathology and assessment and treatment of the major mental disorders affecting youth and adolescents.

The Behavioral Health *General* track is for students who wish to increase their knowledge of psychology in a greater number of domains beyond the Behavioral Health area described above, and students in this track will have the opportunity to tailor their curriculum to take course work to meet these needs. In addition to learning about the application of psychological theory and concepts to physical health and disease, students will have the opportunity to gain basic familiarity with the major concepts and theories in abnormal, developmental, social, research design and methods, and physiological psychology.

Students in the 4+1 M.S. in Behavioral Health may pursue the M.S. with an empirical thesis concentrating in depth on a particular area of Behavioral Health OR students may pursue the M.S. with a broad training in Behavioral Health without a thesis. For thesis track, student must come in with 6 credits

Majors: Psychology, CMB, Neuroscience, Bio-Engineering, Public Health; other majors will be considered on a case by case basis.

For general track students would be able to take 3 credits of Independent study

Admissions: GRE or SAT minimum of 1100; recommended major GPA of 3.5; recommended GPA of 3.3 overall