

# Dual Degrees: Counseling Psychology and International Peace and Conflict Resolution

at Arcadia University

*Global Perspectives...Personal Attention...Real-World Integrative Learning Experiences*

## Coordinators

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## Dual Degree Program

**Master of Arts in Counseling Psychology  
with the Trauma Concentration  
and Master of Arts in International Peace  
and Conflict Resolution**

## About Arcadia's Dual Degrees in Counseling Psychology and International Peace and Conflict Resolution

Trauma affects millions of people worldwide each year. Individuals affected by natural disasters, war, ethnic conflict, and gender-based violence can suffer long-lasting psychological symptoms that cause significant personal distress and interfere with optimal functioning. Despite this, trauma survivors' psychological needs frequently go untreated.

The combination of two master's programs at Arcadia—Counseling Psychology with the Trauma Concentration and International Peace and Conflict Resolution—gives students a unique multidisciplinary program not found elsewhere. Students with training in both trauma-specific counseling and international peace and conflict resolution will be well-positioned to plan and implement programs that facilitate psychological recovery from violence and natural disasters, both domestically and abroad.

This program is for students with specific interests in trauma recovery at an international scale as well as for students interested in

serving the increasing number of refugees and asylum seekers within the United States. In order to do relief work abroad, agencies increasingly require professional credentials, so this program fulfills the requirements to become a Licensed Professional Counselor.

**Full-time or part-time:** If completed on a full-time basis, the program will take three years, starting in the summer—or longer depending on the individual student's needs and preferences. Since both programs have part-time options, adapting the student's schedule is easier than fitting additional courses into a full-time program block schedule.

**Counseling Psychology Goals and Objectives:** The master's program in Counseling Psychology educates and socializes students to become practitioners skilled in the art of behavior assessment and change. Coursework integrates theory and practice—both within and outside of the classroom.

The Counseling Psychology program is structured to develop professional-level competence in:

- Communication and listening
- Critical and analytical thinking
- Interpersonal and cultural sensitivity
- Understanding self through introspection and realistic self-critique
- Adhering to professional, ethical and legal standards and behaviors
- Generating and testing hypotheses about human behavior
- Understanding the theories and techniques of counseling and behavior change
- Using counseling skills in individual and group settings

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- Integrating and applying assessment, diagnostic, consultation and educational strategies

### **International Peace and Conflict Resolution**

**Goals and Objectives:** The IPCR program's innovative curriculum allows students to develop an area of concentration within the discipline of international peace and conflict resolution, build an international network of contacts among the international conflict resolution community, and gain practical experience in the field. The IPCR program is structured to develop competencies in:

- Theories and dynamics of conflict and resolution
- Tools and techniques of conflict management, conflict resolution and conflict transformation
- Understanding of how states and other third parties impact conflict
- Knowledge of the methods used to diffuse conflict on a variety of levels—interpersonal, groups and institutions
- An appreciation for the contributions of other disciplines to the field of peace and conflict resolution
- The ability to recognize a number of qualitative and quantitative methods and understand data represented in research

Students can complete specialized courses in areas of a student's choosing, including international law, sustainable development, mediation, health, and human rights.

### **Benefits of the Dual Degree Program**

Arcadia students have opportunities to integrate counseling psychology and conflict resolution principles to service individuals affected by traumatic circumstances. These opportunities may include community projects and internships that will enhance their clinical and community-based skills, both within the United States and internationally, if desired.

Dual degree students gain a greater understanding of the scope of both counseling and international peace and conflict resolution

issues surrounding communities and individuals living in post-conflict societies.

The dual degree combines the advocacy agendas proposed by both international peace and conflict resolution and counseling/trauma psychology field to most effectively address communities' and individual problems in post-conflict societies.

**Internship Possibilities:** There are multiple opportunities for students to work in situations that allow them to combine their Counseling Psychology clinical training with their IPCR internship requirement. One example is the Liberty Center, serving refugees and survivors of torture. Such internships prepare students to serve populations who have experienced traumas both at home and abroad, as well as address both individual and systemic causes of distress. As the fields of counseling (and especially trauma counseling) and IPCR have both a strong advocacy component, it is invaluable for students to pursue internships that integrate both perspectives. These internships will be arranged on an individual basis with the Counseling Psychology internship coordinator and the IPCR internship coordinator. Students also have separate faculty advisers in both academic programs.

**Accreditation:** The Counseling Psychology graduate programs are accredited by the Masters in Psychology Accreditation Council (MPAC).

## **Admission to the Dual Degree Program**

Dual degree candidates must be admitted to each of the programs in order to enroll in the dual degree program. Students are accepted on a rolling admission and thus may begin the program starting in any semester.

## **Admission to the Counseling Psychology Master's Program**

### **Program-Specific Admission**

**Requirements:** The following requirements must be met:

1. A graduate application, including personal statements, to be completed online at [www.arcadia.edu/gradapp](http://www.arcadia.edu/gradapp).

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2. A bachelor's degree from an accredited institution with a recommended GPA of 3.0 or better.
3. One official transcript from each college, university or professional school attended. Transfer credits included on a transcript must include grades earned; if not, an official transcript from the original school must be submitted. Transcripts must be sent from the issuing school in a sealed envelope and contain the appropriate signatures and seals to be considered official.
4. Completion of at least three Psychology courses, to include Introductory Psychology, with grades of "B" or better in each.
5. Three letters of recommendation. The letters must be of a professional not personal nature. If the student has been out of school five years or less, at least one letter must come from a professor.
6. Test scores from the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or the Miller Analogies Test (MAT), taken within the past five years. Test scores are not required of applicants with an earned master's degree.
7. A personal interview with the program Director.
8. Applicants for the School Counseling program must have undergraduate courses with a grade of "C" or better in two college-level mathematics courses, one English composition course, and one English/American Literature course. These courses are not required for admission but are requirements of the Pennsylvania Department of Education in order to earn School Counseling certification.
9. International applicants should visit [www.arcadia.edu/international](http://www.arcadia.edu/international) for detailed information on admission requirements and application procedures. Official results from the TOEFL or IELTS are required for all students for whom English is a second language except for non-native speakers of English who hold degrees or diplomas from post-secondary institutions in English-speaking countries (e.g. the United States, Canada, England, Ireland, Australia and New Zealand). A course-by-course evaluation of all

transcripts by an independent evaluation service based in the United States also is required.

### Admission to the International Peace and Conflict Resolution Master's Degree Program

This is a two-year full-time degree program. Part-time programs may be available depending on enrollment. Please contact the IPCR program for more information.

#### Program-Specific Admission

**Requirements:** In addition to the general admission requirements, the following program-specific requirements must be met. Arcadia University welcomes applications for this program from college graduates of all majors, especially those who have demonstrated scholastic excellence and a commitment to international peace and conflict resolution. Related experience and achievements, either domestic or international, also are desirable. The program requests the following from applicants:

- An International Peace and Conflict Resolution application, including personal statements, to be completed online at [www.arcadia.edu/gradapp](http://www.arcadia.edu/gradapp).
- A bachelor's degree from an accredited institution with a recommended GPA of 3.0 or better and a major in Peace Studies, Political Science, History, Modern Languages, Economics, Anthropology, Sociology, Psychology, Philosophy, Religion or another liberal arts discipline. Students with undergraduate majors in Biology and Environmental Education also are encouraged to apply.
- One official transcript from each college, university or professional school attended. Transfer credits included on a transcript must include grades earned; if not, an official transcript from the original school must be submitted. Transcripts must be sent from the issuing school in a sealed envelope and contain the appropriate signatures and seals to be considered official.
- Three letters of recommendation from persons who are able to judge the applicant's qualifications to undertake graduate work abroad. At least one

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recommendation must be from a professor.

- A personal interview usually is required, but a phone interview may be substituted at the discretion of the program Director.
- International applicants should visit [www.arcadia.edu/international](http://www.arcadia.edu/international) for detailed information on admission requirements and application procedures. Official results from the TOEFL or IELTS are required for all students for whom English is a second language except for non-native speakers of English who hold degrees or diplomas from post-secondary institutions in English-speaking countries (e.g. the United States, Canada, England, Ireland, Australia and New Zealand). A course-by-course evaluation of all transcripts by an independent evaluation service based in the United States also is required.
- Dual degree programs require a separate online application.

GREs are not required for admission. In exceptional cases, after reviewing an applicant's academic record and non-academic experience, the Director may waive one or more prerequisites.

**Application Deadline:** Completed applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis starting February 1. Those reviewed after February 1 will be reviewed based on availability of space in the attending class. Classes typically fill in early spring, so applicants are encouraged to apply by the February 1 deadline.

### Expenses

2010-11 tuition and fees for the dual degree program are as follows: students pay the IPCR per credit tuition rate of \$1,065 for the IPCR credits they are taking in a given semester and \$645 per credit for the Counseling Psychology credits they take.

Financial aid is available to assist qualified students in covering tuition and related expenses, as well as living costs. Upon review for admission, students automatically will be reviewed by the academic department for a limited number of merit scholarships. Additionally, students can apply to receive up

to \$20,500 annually through the Federal Direct Stafford Loan at a fixed interest. In addition to the Stafford Loan, students can choose to borrow either a Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loan or a private alternative student loan to cover remaining expenses. Graduate assistantships also may be available to those who qualify. For more information on available financial aid and how to apply, visit [www.arcadia.edu/finaid](http://www.arcadia.edu/finaid) and click on Graduate.

### Requirements for the Dual Degrees in Counseling Psychology and International Peace and Conflict Resolution

(86 credits; 54credits for the Counseling Psychology program and 44 credits for the IPCR program)

**Structure of the program:** What follows is a sample course sequence for a full-time student. This course sequence can be modified to accommodate students who want to take less than four courses a semester.

The foundation coursework for both IPCR, including the thesis requirement, and Counseling Psychology, including licensure requirements, remain intact. The Study Abroad Requirement within IPCR will be fulfilled by courses within the Counseling Psychology Trauma Concentration (for a total of 9 credits). The internship requirement for IPCR will be satisfied by the Internship placement within the Counseling Psychology program, which will take place in a setting that allows for the development of skills related to the treatment of trauma.

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#### SUMMER YEAR 1 (6 credits)

PY	572	Concepts of Mental Health and Mental Illness (3 credits)
IP	501	Introduction to Peace and Conflict Resolution (3 credits)

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### FALL YEAR 1 (12 credits)

PY 516	Human Development: Life Span (3 credits)
PY 570	Professional Issues in Counseling (3 credits)
PY 587	Practicum (0 credits)
IP 542	Health and Human Rights (3 credits)
IP 511	Introduction to International Law (3 credits)

### SPRING YEAR 1 (12 credits)

PY 586	Theories and Techniques of Counseling (3 credits)
IP 502	Research Methods and Conflict Analysis (3 credits) (This counts as the research methods course for both programs.)
IP 534	Post-Conflict Development or other elective (3 credits)
PY 522	Conflict Resolution in Deeply Divided Societies or other elective (3 credits)

### SUMMER YEAR 2 (6 credits)

PY 610	Group Counseling (3 credits)
PY 574	Clinical Psychopharmacology (3 credits)

### FALL YEAR 2 (12 credits)

PY 618	Evidence-Based Treatments of Trauma (3 credits)
PY 620	Advanced Counseling Techniques (3 credits)
IP 533	Conflict Transformation or other elective (3 credits)
IP 521	International Organizations or other elective (3 credits)

### SPRING YEAR 2 (12 credits)

PY 500	Education and Career Counseling: Community (3 credits)
PY 625	Psychological Testing (3 credits)
PY 622	Trauma, Advocacy and Social Justice (3 credits)
PY 688	Cultural Bases of Counseling (3 credits)

### SUMMER YEAR 3 (12 credits)

PY 623	Strategies for Treating Grief and Bereavement (3 credits)
ID 583(a)	IPCR Internship (3 credits)

### FALL YEAR 3 (12 credits)

PY 630	Counseling Internship (6 credits)
ID 583(b)	IPCR Internship (6 credits)

### SPRING YEAR 3 (8 credits)

PY 631	Counseling Internship (6 credits)
IP 598	Capstone (2 credits)