

## MS IN EXPERIMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY

The Master of Science (MS) program in Experimental Psychology is a broad and flexible program that provides students for a solid stepping-stone into careers or continuing education in psychology and human factors/ergonomics.

## PROGRAM TRACKS

The program has two tracks, **Experimental Psychology** and **Engineering Psychology**. Students opting for the Engineering Psychology track will receive an **Advanced Certificate in Engineering Psychology** in addition to their MS degree in Experimental Psychology, provided they meet the Advanced Certificate requirements.

**Experimental Psychology** emphasizes the application of experimental methods to the study of psychological phenomena on a broad range of topics, under the supervision of a faculty member with overlapping interests. Faculty expertise covers topics in bio-, clinical, cognitive-, developmental-, perceptual-, and social psychology. We offer courses in all these areas as well as graduate level research methods and statistics.

**Engineering Psychology** is a specialized sub-discipline of Human Factors/ Ergonomics, which is defined as "...the scientific discipline concerned with the understanding of interactions among humans and other elements of a system, and the profession that applies theory, principles, data, and other methods to design in order to optimize human well-being and overall system performance" (International Ergonomics Association, 2000). Engineering psychology is distinct from human factors by being concerned—in addition to the ultimate goal to improve system design—with basic research on the information processing aspects of human performance and understanding of human behavior.

The **City of Rochester** is home to 11 colleges and universities and more than 1 million people. The greater Rochester metropolitan area is one of America's top-rated places to live, work, and play. The city is a great backdrop for higher learning, career growth, high-tech start-ups, and arts and culture.



**Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT)**, founded in 1829, is a privately endowed, coeducational university with 9 colleges, a student body of 15,000 undergraduate and 2,900 graduate students, and 1,032 full-time faculty, 491 adjunct and part-time faculty, and 2,217 staff.



**The Department of Psychology at RIT** combines strong academic training with career preparation. In addition to the MS degree in Experimental Psychology the department offers a BS degree and undergraduate minors, immersions, and electives. The BS degree provides a general foundation in psychology with specialized training in one of five tracks: biopsychology, clinical psychology, cognitive psychology, social psychology, and visual perception.

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN EXPERIMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY

## ADVANCED CERTIFICATE IN ENGINEERING PSYCHOLOGY

Department of Psychology  
01-2353 Eastman Hall  
Rochester Institute of Technology  
18 Lomb Memorial Drive  
Rochester, NY 14623

<https://www.rit.edu/study/experimental-psychology-ms>

## ADVANCED CERTIFICATE

The **Advanced Certificate in Engineering Psychology** is a post-baccalaureate certificate that provides the students with core knowledge in the key areas of engineering psychology (3 required courses), as well as an opportunity to study particular relevant topics in greater depth through electives (2 open electives).

An advanced certificate provides students a formal acknowledgment of their knowledge in engineering psychology and credentials for seeking a career in the human factors/ergonomics field.

The Advanced Certificate comprises 15 credit hours of study. There are 3 required courses:

PSYC712–GRADUATE COGNITION; PSYC714–GRAD. ENGINEERING PSYCHOLOGY; PSYC715–GRADUATE PERCEPTION.

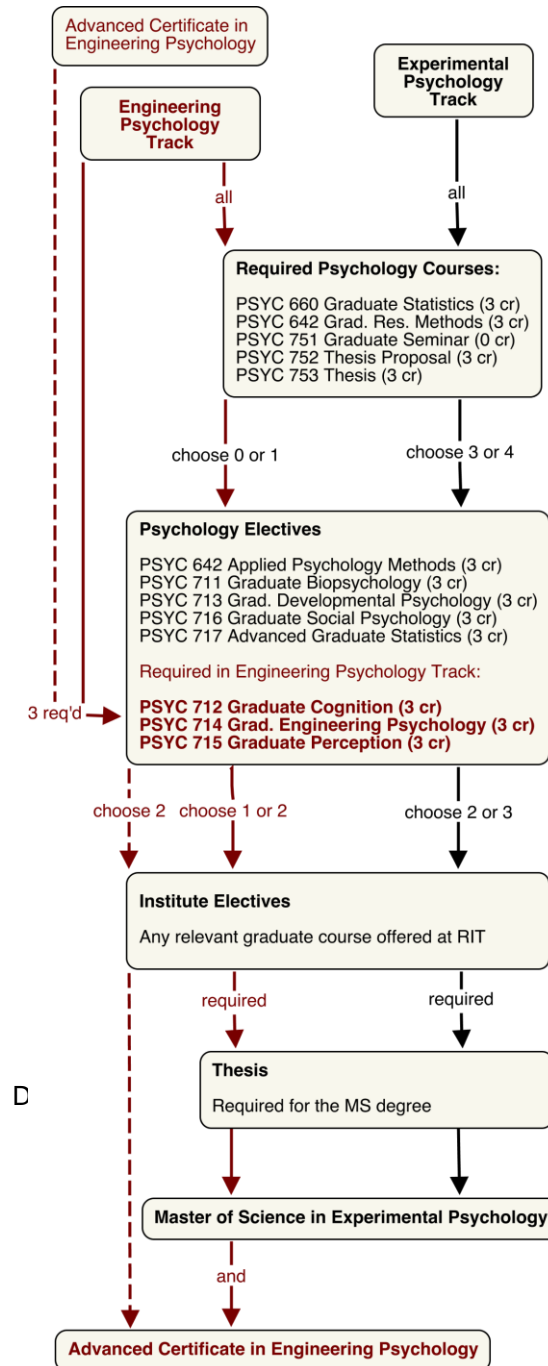
## ELECTIVES

Students choose 2 electives among relevant courses offered at RIT for an additional 6 semester credits from any unit at RIT offering courses relevant to the students' interests and career aspirations, including but **not limited** to the following:

INDUSTRIAL AND SYSTEMS ENGINEERING (ISEE)  
HUMAN-COMPUTER INTERACTION (HCIN)  
COMPUTATIONAL LINGUISTICS (ENGL)  
COMPUTER SCIENCE (CSCI)  
INDUSTRIAL DESIGN (IDDE).

## THESIS

A **thesis** is required in both Experimental and Engineering Psychology tracks of the program. The thesis research must represent original work and add to the existing body of knowledge on a given subject.



## NOMINAL MS PROGRAM SCHEDULE

### 1st Fall Semester:

PSYC 640–GRADUATE STATISTICS (3 CR)  
**PSYC 751–GRADUATE SEMINAR (0 CR)**  
1 PSYC ELECTIVE (3 CR)  
1 INSTITUTE ELECTIVE (3 CR)

### 1st Spring Semester

PSYC 642–GRAD. RESEARCH METHODS (3 CR)  
**PSYC 752–THESIS PROPOSAL (3 CR)**  
1 PSYC ELECTIVE (3 CR)  
1 INSTITUTE ELECTIVE (3 CR)

### 1st Summer

CO-OP, OR **THESIS RESEARCH**

### 2nd Fall Semester

1 PSYC ELECTIVE  
**PSYC 753–THESIS (3 CR)**  
1 INSTITUTE ELECTIVE (3 CR)

### 2nd Spring Semester (if necessary)

**PSYC 753–THESIS (3 CR)**

## CONTACT

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<https://www.rit.edu/study/experimental-psychology-ms>

<https://www.rit.edu/study/engineering-psychology-adv-cert>