

# Department of Psychiatry

Website: <http://www.psychiatry.wustl.edu>

## Courses

Visit online course listings to view offerings for M85 Psych (<https://courses.wustl.edu/CourseInfo.aspx?sch=M&dept=M85>).

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### M81 Gateway 630 Psychiatry Clerkship

Credit 308 units.

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### M85 Psych 676A Diseases of the Nervous System: Psychiatry

This course will emphasize the diagnosis of major psychiatric illnesses in adults and children. Psychiatric diseases will be described in terms of epidemiology, clinical presentations, natural history, genetics, differential diagnosis and clinical management. Biological and psychological influences on these diseases will be presented. Interviewing techniques and performance of the mental status exam will be demonstrated by patient interviews.

Credit 44 units.

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### M85 Psych 770 Psychiatry Clerkship

Students spend three weeks on the inpatient psychiatry service of Barnes-Jewish Hospital at the main campus unit. Students evaluate and treat patients with psychiatric illness under the supervision of house staff and an attending physician. Students are also assigned for one week at either an ambulatory treatment site or an inpatient consult-liaison service. There is also an opportunity for students to gain exposure to emergency psychiatric services in the Barnes-Jewish Hospital emergency department. The clerkships includes required attendance at teaching conferences, including small-group sessions with WUSM clinical faculty and upper-level psychiatry residents. Students are responsible for completing learning exercises and other assignments.

Credit 154 units.

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### M85 Psych 771 Ambulatory Clerkship: Psychiatry for Generalists

Up to 2 students may elect to pursue their ambulatory medicine selective through the psychiatry department. Students participate in clinical duties depending on assigned locations, which can include the BJH adult psychiatry clinic, a community mental health center, the Wash U child and adolescent psychiatry clinic, and both the adult and child psychiatry consultation services. Students will also submit a written review of a relevant clinical topic of their choice. There are no call obligations at any clinical site.

Credit 77 units.

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### M85 Psych 805 Psychiatry Consult Subinternship

Students spend four weeks on the psychiatry consult service at Barnes-Jewish Hospital. Under the supervision of house staff and attending physicians, students participate in the evaluation and collaborative management of inpatients on medical and surgical units for a broad range of psychiatric and behavioral concerns. They learn about the intersection between psychiatry and other medical specialties and important skills for collaborative patient care. Students attend departmental conferences and other educational sessions, and they also prepare and present a clinical topical review of their choice

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### M85 Psych 810 Outpatient Community Psychiatry

This elective will provide the student with a significant outpatient experience in Psychiatry. Students will be paired with a Resident physician and have exposure to two adult clinics and one child clinic over the course of the rotation. Students will observe and assist in the diagnosis and treatment of patients in the clinic setting. Students will also attend scheduled lectures and conferences over the course of the rotation relevant to outpatient Psychiatry. During the elective, the student will learn about the outpatient presentations of psychiatric disorders, a variety of treatment techniques (psychotherapy and psychopharmacology), and general principles of outpatient clinical management.

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### M85 Psych 836 Inpatient Psychiatry Subinternship

This is a senior rotation that provides the students with an opportunity to expand their knowledge of inpatient clinical psychiatry by functioning as interns. Students attend all staffing and teaching conferences given to first-year psychiatry residents and are responsible for the assessment and management of acute psychiatric patients. Immediate supervision is provided by the inpatient attending, and additional supervision can be arranged as desired. Teaching emphasis is directed toward psychiatric diagnosis, appropriate use of psychopharmacologic agents, psychotherapeutic intervention, use of community resources and pursuit of the psychiatric scientific literature. The student will write a self-selected clinical topic relevant to treatment and management of psychiatric inpatients.

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### M85 Psych 840 Child Psychiatry

This elective in child psychiatry utilizes the St. Louis Children's Hospital St. Louis Children's Hospital Pediatric Behavioral Health Unit and the Consult-Liaison service. It provides experience in age-appropriate diagnostic and treatment methods in children and adolescents. A portion of your time may be spent in the outpatient clinics if interested and if circumstances permit. A paper on a topic of the student's choosing is required.

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### M85 Psych 844 Forensic Psychiatry

The medical student will be actively involved in many aspects of forensic psychiatry including civil litigation, workman's compensation, malpractice, civil commitment, and guardianship. There may be opportunities to be involved in criminal forensic issues. The rotation is primarily self-directed but the student will work with several faculty within the Department of Psychiatry and will meet with the Course Director a minimum of two hours per week. They will also work with The City of St Louis Probate Court and shadow at the St. Louis Psychiatric Rehabilitation Center, a nearby forensic hospital. The student will also be assigned readings of landmark cases, textbooks, psychiatric expert opinions, legal filing with the probate court and attend civil hearings. The student will learn relevant criminal statutes regarding competency and civil commitment, causation in civil litigation, the concept of medical malpractice and risk

assessment of violence and suicide. There may be the opportunity to witness sexually violent predator evaluations and/or treatment. The student will be required to research and write an opinion on a specific approved topic in forensic psychiatry. The objectives will be measured by attendance and by formal evaluation of the student's participation and knowledge during the supervision discussion. It will also be determined by the originality, thoroughness, and quality of the research paper.

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**M85 Psych 880 Schizophrenia Precursors & Prodromal States**

This is an opportunity for trainees to gain experience in the evaluation of children and adolescents who may be at high risk for schizophrenia. The rotation would center around the "First Contact Assessment Service", which evaluates patients who show characteristics suggestive of prodromal schizophrenia (such as new-onset attenuated psychotic symptoms along with recent deterioration in functioning) and/or early life characteristics that may indicate risk for developing schizophrenia later in life (for example, nonspecific social/emotional/behavioral symptoms in a child/adolescent with a strong family history of schizophrenia). Since the full symptoms of schizophrenia are often preceded by a wide range of childhood behavioral and developmental abnormalities, this rotation would also help trainees integrate information regarding the continuity between childhood development and adult psychopathology. Trainee would observe all aspects of First Contact evaluations (including semi-structured diagnostic interviews and examination of subtle neurological signs), participate in case discussions, and observe follow-up consultations involving patients with psychotic and/or complex neurodevelopmental disorders. Trainee would also be required to write a literature review on a topic relevant to the rotation.

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**M85 Psych 900 Research Elective: Psychiatry**

Research opportunities may be available. If interested, please contact the Department of Psychiatry.

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