The ideal image of the East-West Psychology graduate is that of a scholar-practitioner who integrates both scholarly and inner work. Refusing to acknowledge the exclusive privilege of the mind as a human instrument of learning, the department explores alternative epistemologies, including physical, emotional, and spiritual consciousness.

Areas of special interest include depth psychology, ecopsychology, indigenous wisdom traditions, spiritual counseling, and yoga studies. The transformative skills we offer prepare students for teaching, counseling, workshop facilitation, publishing, and community activism from an ensouled perspective.

Program Highlights

Admissions
415.575.6154
admissions@ciis.edu
For information on application requirements and procedures, or to complete an online application, please visit www.ciis.edu/admissions.

Financial Aid
415.575.6132
FinancialAid@ciis.edu
For information about our financial aid programs, including federal student loans, private loans, grants, and student employment, please visit www.ciis.edu/financialaid.

About CIIS
California Institute of Integral Studies (CIIS) is an internationally recognized leader in integral education. CIIS has an enrollment of more than 1,300 students pursuing degrees in a variety of academic programs in its schools of Consciousness and Transformation, Professional Psychology and Health, Undergraduate Studies, and Traditional Chinese Medicine (ACTCM). In addition, CIIS hosts a diverse array of workshops, including trainings, Justice, and certificate programs. The University provides affordable mental health and acupuncture services to the San Francisco Bay Area through its eight award-winning clinics. CIIS is accredited by the Western Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) and Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (ACAOM).

Program Description

East-West Psychology (EWP) is a multidisciplinary hub and learning community where psychological and spiritual traditions of the East, West, and indigenous cultures from around the world meet to converse with and transform one another. Through its unique combination of collaborative, experiential offerings, the department grounds academic excellence and the acquisition of professional skills in both the personal transformation of students and the cultivation of a spiritually informed scholarship. Our graduates deliver their skills to a world yearning for new sources of meaning and enchantment rooted in deep psychologies and ancient traditions.

Mission

East-West Psychology brings world spiritual and esoteric traditions into engagement with modern psychology to explore human potential and different ways of being, learning, healing, and transforming ourselves.

Format

Collaborative learning is central to the pedagogical experience in both EWP programs. Collaborative learning turns students in the shared construction of human knowledge, forges emotional and interpersonal competencies and teaches how to enter into fruitful exchange with people who hold different views.

East-West Psychology

MA and PhD in East-West Psychology

School of Consciousness and Transformation

For more information, please visit www.ciis.edu/ewp.
The dialog of East and West, the dialog of civilizations, formed one of the founding inspirations of CIIS and has never been more relevant than in our present era of rapid globalization. By putting the world’s wisdom traditions into engagement with transformative psychological approaches, our program provides new understandings of human possibilities, new tools for transformation, and new perspectives on contemporary issues.

Through integral contemplative education and a path of heart, I strive to engage our students in the transformative learning process, whereby finding their life’s work not only is a healing journey, but also deeply impacts their families and communities. Our EWP graduates are walking a liberatory path as engaged activists co-creating the unfolding of the human experience.

After graduation, alumni work in a wide variety of professional positions. Recent graduates are working as:

1. professors of psychology and the wisdom traditions
2. published authors and journalists
3. spiritual counseling consultants
4. non-profit founders and community leaders
5. psychospiritual workshop leaders
6. educators and ecopsychologists
7. nonprofit founders and community leaders
8. psychospiritual workshop leaders

In both the MA and PhD programs, students complete at least 36 units. The focus in the MA program is the exploration of world traditions of psychospiritual theory and practice. Students may opt for a general understanding or specialize in one of several areas. A number of certificates are also available. For PhD students, the program of study includes a strong grounding in research, advanced seminars, an optional student-designed area of specialization, and a dissertation.

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A full-time MA student’s typical course of study might be:

1st Semester
- Intro to East-West Psychology 2
- Community Retreat 1
- Eastern Theories of Self, Mind, and Nature 3
- Spiritual Counseling 3

2nd Semester
- Conscious Diversity 2
- Knowledge Work and the Modern Academy 1
- Jung and East-West Spirituality 3

3rd Semester
- Introduction to Yoga Psychology 3
- Ecopsychology and Ecosynergy 3
- Ancestrial Consciousness and Healing 3

4th Semester
- Wilderness Rites of Passage 3
- Psychology of Death and Dying 3
- How to Cultivate Qi 1
- Animal Dreams: Visitations from the Wild Psyche 1
- MA Integrative Seminar 1

Course of Study/Curriculum

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