



Conditions for registration in the Registry of Psychologists for students who studied overseas

The Psychologists' Law 1977 (Section 15) stipulates that an Israeli citizen or permanent resident of Israel, who is one of the following, is entitled to register in the registry of psychologists:

- 1) Holds a "master's" degree or higher in psychology, granted by an institution recognized as an institution of higher education according to the Council for Higher Education Law, 1958;
- 2) Holds a degree in psychology granted by an institution abroad that the Psychology Registration Committee has recognized as equivalent to a degree as stated in Paragraph 1;

Section 15 (2) authorizes the Registration Committee to examine whether degrees granted by an institution abroad meet the requirements set by the Israeli legislature for registration in the Registry of Psychologists.

The Registration Committee has determined that a degree granted by an institution abroad will be recognized as equivalent to a degree as stated in Section 15 (1) of the Law, provided that the degree's course of study is offered by a recognized institution and that the scope, duration, and contents of the studies correspond to those of a master's degree in psychology in Israel and to its prerequisites.

Accordingly, the Registration Committee established 4 criteria for comparing degrees awarded by an institution abroad with degrees awarded in Israel:

1. Recognition of the institution and the degree
2. Scope of studies
3. Duration of studies
4. Content of studies

1. Recognition of the institution and the degree

A. The degrees (BA, MA, & higher) meet the conditions of recognition of the Department for the Evaluation of Degrees in the Ministry of Education in Israel, or have received accreditation by the APA or CPA, according to their official publications in the years the degrees were studied. In exceptional cases, degrees studied in institutions recognized as institutions of higher education by the authorized body that grants recognition in the country where the institution operates, will be examined. All decisions are made at the discretion of the registration committee.

B. There is a master's degree or higher in psychology, in a recognized track for a degree in psychology as a continuation of studies for a bachelor's degree (undergraduate) in psychology



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C. Psychology studies (courses), in all degrees, are in the format of **frontal lectures** in class (face to face), with compulsory attendance of at least 80% of the classes; Studies conducted via correspondence, or those which do not include presence in a classroom are not recognized (such as: lab or field hours, practice hours, tutorials, library hours, workshops, group work, distance learning, etc.).

2. Scope of studies (number of study hours)

A. Psychology studies (in all degrees) will not include less than 42 annual hours*, of which at least 22 annual hours are at the level of studies for a master's degree or higher.

*The term "annual hours" refers to the number of frontal lecture hours . One annual hour is equivalent to 1 hour a week of class lectures over the course of one full academic year, or 2 hours a week of class lectures over the course of one full academic semester. An "annual hour" is equivalent to 28 actual hours.

B. For those who began their master's degree or higher before September 2021, studies total 36 annual hours in psychology will be recognized, of which at least 16 annual hours of psychology studies were studied in the second degree or higher, according to the old format (that is, as was customary until publication of this procedure).

C. As part of the examination of study hours , only hours studied as part of a course lasting at least 7 weeks will be recognized.

D. Supplementary completion of studies will only be possible when the number of existing annual course hours is up to 30% less than required in total, out of the total number of annual lecture hours required in each of the two degrees separately.

E. Only courses that the Registration Committee has recognized and approved as distinct courses in psychology will be taken into account.

F. Those who began their studies before October 2008 and whose studies did not include a thesis or a dissertation (equivalent to a thesis) will have to meet the requirement of a total of 40 annual hours in psychology (in all degrees), of which 20 annual hours are at the level of a master's degree in psychology or higher, under the condition that these studies include 4 annual hours of courses in statistics and/or research methods, at the level of a master's degree or higher.

3. Duration of studies

A. The total number of years of study in programs towards degrees in psychology (undergraduate and graduate studies combined) will not be less than 4 years and will include at least 8 full semesters, in accordance with the program's recommended number of courses per semester.

B. Studies at the master's degree level (or higher) will be studied in a program that lasts no less than two years and will include at least 4 full semesters of studies (courses).

Psychologist's Registration Committee

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C. In countries where there is no division between a bachelor's degree (undergraduate) and a master's degree (graduate), the psychology studies leading to the graduate (MA) degree must be studied in a program that lasts no less than 4 years of full study (courses), provided that they are in accordance with the practice of certified degree studies in that country.

* **Clarification:** Bachelor's degree studies (undergraduate), regardless of duration, do not qualify for registration in the register.

4. Content of the studies and their composition

4.1 The undergraduate (BA) program in psychology will include the following basic studies:

A. 8 annual hours in 4 basic subjects, including 2 courses from each category according to the following details:

Category A	Category B
A total of 4 annual hours in at least 2 of the following subjects:	A total of 4 annual hours in at least 2 of the following subjects:
Introduction to Psychology	Psychopathology or Abnormality
Evaluation Methods and Psychometrics	Personality Theories
Psychology of Cognition, Psychological Cognitive Perception	Social Psychology
Physiological Psychology/Neuropsychology	Developmental Psychology

B. 2 annual hours in Statistics, Research Methods, or Experimental Psychology.

4.2 The master's (or higher) degree program in psychology will include:

A. Core studies of courses in the following subjects: psychopathology, psychological diagnostics (psychodiagnostics), psychological treatment (psychotherapy), research thinking, ethics. Each of the core courses will be studied at least to the minimum extent number of hours listed below:

1. Psychopathology - 2 annual hours
2. Diagnostics (psychodiagnostics) - 2 annual hours
3. Psychotherapy - 4 annual hours
4. Research Thinking / Research Methods - 2 annual hours
5. Ethics - 1 annual hour.



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B. The total scope of the core studies described in Section A above in the master's degree or higher will not be less than 17 annual hours. In order to meet this scope, some of the courses must exceed the required minimum.

C. It should be noted that in order to meet the total amount of 22 annual hours of psychology studies as part of a master's degree (in Section 2.a above), the curriculum must include additional courses amounting to at least 5 annual hours in the field of psychology.

D. Sections a-c above will apply to those who began their master's degree or higher in September 2021 or later.

Those who began their graduate or postgraduate studies before this date will have to meet the condition of 16 annual hours of distinct psychology studies, of which 2 hours are in the subject of Research Thinking / Research Methods in Psychology. For those who began their studies before this date there is no specific core studies requirement for a master's degree or postgraduate studies.

It should be noted that the committee examines the courses and evaluates which courses will be considered courses in the field of psychology. Non-psychology courses will not be counted.

E. Comprehensive research paper (thesis) or dissertation equivalent to a thesis.

When calculating the number of applicable study hours, in regards to the content and scope of studies, course or seminar hours will only be taken into account if they were delivered as frontal lectures in class (face to face), and were offered as part of the psychology degree program. As previously mentioned, for the purpose of calculating applicable study hours, practicum hours, research hours, guided self-study, library hours, tutorials, field work, laboratory hours or exercises will not be recognized.

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