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r/IOPsychology



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[Log In](#)**r/IOPsychology** • 3 yr. ago
Strawberryxo25

Why does everyone hate The Chicago School of Professional Psychology?

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I am looking at universities for masters in IO and quite a lot of people have shown their distaste for this school. I really liked their course structure and it has an internship option for 600 hours which is my main priority in any university where I can take internships instead of thesis.

So if the program or the faculty is really bad I'd like to know or if the internship placements are not given for any reason.

I'm looking at other schools in Chicago too like Elmhurst, Roosevelt, Illinois Institute of Tech so if anyone has any idea about their reputation as well it would be great!



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73

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It's known as being sort of a degree mill. Anecdotally, the people I've worked with from there have had a questionable grasp of concepts that I'd expect anyone with an I/O degree to be comfortable with and poor technical skills. I can comfortably say the opposite about the IIT alumni I've worked with.



42

[Reply](#)**galileosmiddlefinger** • 3y ago

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I've only worked with a few IIT folks, but this has been my observation as well. Whatever they're doing there, they seem to have the "applied focus" philosophy implemented better than most. Unfortunately, I know that their funding for PhD students used to be pretty bad...hopefully that's gotten better.

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aeradication • 3y ago

I'm sorry, what's IIT? Very interested in schools reputable for actual learning.

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All_in_your_mind • 3y ago

The Chicago School's curriculum is much more qualitative than quantitative, which veers pretty far from the accepted norm. Their focus is on churning out consultants rather than researchers or data scientists.

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LazySamurai • 3y ago

Program quality does not justify the cost of attending (specifically for PsyD/PhD track).

↑ 13 ↓ ○ Reply ...

(+) 6 more replies



creich1 • 3y ago

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It's a very expensive, for profit university with a weaker emphasis on quant. I think there are better M.A. programs in the chicago-area such as the ones you have listed, and many will help you find an internship.

↑ 12 ↓ ○ Reply ...

(+) 3 more replies



oledog • 3y ago

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I personally would say of the schools in Chicago, Illinois Tech easily is the best quality *but* they have no funding for PhDs and so will never have as strong a reputation as other I/O programs that offer fully funded PhDs. For masters, this isn't really relevant, so I would say Illinois Tech is probably the best option.

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[Learn More](#)[goarmy.com](#)**GGGinNYC** • 3y ago

I've worked with one person who had a master's degree from there and they were top notch. They worked in selection and had a grasp of job analysis and both criterion and content validation.

[+ 9 more replies](#)**bojangleskitty** • 3y ago

I went to Elmhurst. What you put into it is what you'll get out of it. It's a terminal masters so good for practitioners. Stats isn't that strong so if you want something very quant, it's not for you.

It is designed for working professionals so I found that to be a plus.

So consider, what's your end goal? Learn some stuff, get a foot in the door in the field? Then Elmhurst is a good bet. I find the success of students and graduates is mostly based on what they do with their internships (required) and how they network.

I graduated with my masters in 2014, got a F500 job at a CPG making 80k which was the best offer from my cohort. I'm now at 145k at F100 pharma. One of my peers worked there way into consulting after adding the one year mba option. They are now Sr manager at a big 4 bringing in 190k. Other folks I graduated with weren't as prosperous, they either went nonprofit (personal choice) or never made it out of their unrelated 9-5. My observation is that it isn't due to the education but personal ambition, poor networking.

So what job title are you looking for? Anything OD related- org effectiveness, culture, L&D...Elmhurst is good. Anything "I" related like data scientist...keep looking.

Happy to take Qs on Elmhurst.

[Skip to main content](#)[Log In](#)**Brinzy** • 3y ago

I worked with a project manager who went there. He was 9 years on the job before voluntarily resigning in April. He just got a job as a talent development manager at a financial consulting firm.

Like another commenter said, the school sets you up well for consulting. If that aligns with your career goals, go for it.

Speaking as someone else who attended an online program and who got both consulting and non-consulting offers, I have to be honest and say that these schools probably do not deserve the criticism they draw, especially since the pandemic. The internship requirement is far more important to your ability to find work than what concerns most people about these programs, such as not being as research-oriented.

All my opinion. But I have a due diligence to be truthful about my experiences.

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