

# PSYCHOLOGY (PSYC)

Graduate Degree Program  
College: Behavioral and Social Sciences

## Abstract

Psychology is a remarkably broad field that studies mind and behavior at all levels of analysis ranging from the micro to the macro; from single cells to complex systems; from individuals to groups and cultures; and from invertebrates to humans. Some of these endeavors connect with the biological sciences and others with the social sciences. As analytical, methodological, and theoretical advances in one domain increasingly influence developments in another, psychologists collaborate in ever greater numbers with scientists in neighboring disciplines, resulting in new subfields that blend the biological and social sciences.

Our department reflects well this combined diversity of and collaborations among approaches. In recognition of this fact, we organized our training structure into 5 Ph.D. Specialty Areas:

- Clinical (CLIN)
- Cognitive and Neural Systems (CNS)
- Counseling (COUN)
- Developmental (DEV)
- Social, Decision, and Organizational Science (SDOS)

Research collaborations across areas are common and we encourage students to consider training across areas as well. The Department's doctoral programs in both Clinical and Counseling Psychology have been approved by the American Psychological Association. School Psychology, also an APA approved program, is offered in the College of Education.

## Financial Assistance

The Department attempts to provide financial aid for all incoming students, although aid is not guaranteed. The different possible types of financial support include fellowships (nominated by the department), teaching assistantships, research assistantships, work on campus, and funded externships.

## Contact

**Office of Graduate Studies**  
**Department of Psychology**  
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4094 Campus Drive  
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College Park, MD 20742  
**Telephone:** 301.405.1454  
**Email:** [psycgradstudies@umd.edu](mailto:psycgradstudies@umd.edu)

**Website:** <http://www.psyc.umd.edu/landing/Graduate> (<http://www.psyc.umd.edu/landing/Graduate/>)

**Courses:** PSYC (<https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/courses/psyc/>)

**Relationships:** Clinical Psychological Science (MPPS) (<https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/clinical-psychological-science-mpps/>) Industrial/Organizational Psychology (MPIO) (<https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/industrial-organizational-psychology-mpio/>) Neurosciences and Cognitive Science (NACS)

(<https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/neurosciences-cognitive-science-nacs/>)

## Admissions

### General Requirements

- Statement of Purpose
- Transcript(s)
- TOEFL/IELTS/PTE (international graduate students (<https://gradschool.umd.edu/admissions/english-language-proficiency-requirements/>))

### Program-Specific Requirements

- Letters of Recommendation (3)
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE)
- GRE Subject (Psychology) (Highly recommended for Clinical Psychology only): *The GRE Psychology Subject Test must be taken by the end of the first year in the Clinical Psychology Graduate Program. Therefore, we highly recommend taking the GRE Psychology Subject Test before applying or before the start of students' first year in the program.*
- CV/Resume
- Supplemental Application (<https://gradschool.umd.edu/sites/gradschool.umd.edu/files/uploads/admissionsforms/umdsupplementaryapplicationpsycounseling.pdf>) (Counseling Psychology only)
- Supplemental Application (<https://gradschool.umd.edu/sites/gradschool.umd.edu/files/uploads/admissionsforms/umdsupplementaryapplicationpsycsdos.pdf>) (Social/Decision/Organizational Sciences only)

The Department accepts only those applicants who have demonstrated competence for completing the requirements of the doctoral degree. The typical student admitted to the graduate program has an overall undergraduate grade point average of 3.5 or above, a psychology grade point average over 3.5, GRE scores of 155 and above for Verbal and 147 and above for Quantitative, appropriate background experiences, outstanding letters of recommendation, research experience and/or previous relevant work experience, and goals congruent with the program. The Department of Psychology encourages applications from members of racial/ethnic minority groups.

Students admitted to the graduate program often earn the M.S. en route to the Ph.D., however, this varies across specialty areas and the specific requirements within a given specialty area should be consulted. All students must be full-time until completion of all requirements of the doctoral program other than the dissertation have been met.

For more admissions information or to apply to the program, please visit our Graduate School website (<https://gradschool.umd.edu/admissions/application-process/step-step-guide-applying/>).

## Application Deadlines

Type of Applicant	Fall Deadline
<b>Domestic Applicants</b>	
US Citizens and Permanent Residents	1 Dec
<b>International Applicants</b>	

F (student) or J (exchange visitor) 1 Dec  
visas; A,E,G,H,I and L visas and  
immigrants

**Other Deadlines:** Please visit the program website at <http://www.psyc.umd.edu/landing/Graduate> (<http://www.psyc.umd.edu/landing/Graduate/>)

## Requirements

- Psychology, Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) (<https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/psychology-psyc/psychology-phd/>)
- Psychology, Master of Science (M.S.) (<https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/psychology-psyc/psychology-ms/>)

## Facilities and Special Resources

The Department shares a building with the Biology Department and is centrally situated on campus near three libraries and the student union. The Department has state-of-the-art laboratories, computer facilities, and video equipment. The geographic location in a suburb of Washington, D.C. provides access to a wide variety of laboratory and training facilities in governmental and other agencies. In addition, we are near the national headquarters for The American Psychological Association and Association for Psychological Science.

The Department follows all regulations involved in the use of human subjects and animals.