PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCE, MS

for the Master of Science in Psychological Science

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department website: http://www.psychology.illinois.edu
department faculty: Psychology Faculty (https://psychology.illinois.edu/directory/faculty/)
overview of grad college admissions & requirements: https://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply
(college website: https://las.illinois.edu/department office: 309 Psychology Building, 603 East Daniel Street, Champaign, IL 61820
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A two-year, research-based program designed for students who want research experience augmented by advanced courses in experimental techniques and professional development within a top-rated department at a world-class university. Each student admitted to the program is paired with a faculty advisor/mentor based on research interests. A Master's thesis is not required.

Graduate Degree Programs in Psychology

Psychology, MS (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las/psychology-ms/)
Psychological Science, MS (p. 1)
Psychology, PhD (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las/psychology-phd/)
optional concentrations:
Developmental Psychopathology (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las/psychology-phd/developmental-psychopathology/)
Second Language Acquisition & Teacher Education (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las/concentration/second-language-acquisition-teacher-education/)

The Department of Psychology offers graduate programs leading to the degrees of Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy. Doctor of Philosophy programs are offered in the following areas of psychology:

- Attention & Perception
- Behavioral Neuroscience
- Cognitive Neuroscience
- Clinical/Community
- Cognitive
- Developmental
- Quantitative
- Social-Personality
- Industrial-Organizational

A Master of Science degree is awarded to students in the doctoral program as an intermediate degree.

Admission

The Graduate College admission requirements apply for all programs. All candidates for admission must have a minimum grade point average of 3.0 (or B) on a 4.0 scale in courses representing the last 60 hours of work completed for the bachelor's degree. The candidate for admission to the graduate program should ordinarily have the following preparation:

- A minimum of 15 semester hours in psychology, a laboratory research methods course in psychology, and a course in statistics.
- Essential skills and knowledge in the methods of behavioral science research.
- A minimum of 15 hours in courses representing the last 60 hours or college work completed for the bachelor's degree. The candidate for admission should ordinarily have the following preparation:
  - Mathematics beyond college algebra and to those who have some exposure to calculus.
  - A minimum of 12 undergraduate hours in psychology.

In addition to the aforementioned criteria, applicants are evaluated on their supporting documents, career goals, career promise, and research interests. Substantial additional weight is given to the quality and extent of prior research and other relevant experience.

All applicants whose native language is not English or who are from any country other than the US, the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, or New Zealand (even if they are native English speakers) are required by the University to submit the results of an English language proficiency test. The university will accept the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) to determine admission eligibility.

- The minimum total TOEFL iBT score for admission (including all four sections): 79
- Minimum total TOEFL iBT score for exemption from the English as a Second Language Placement Test (EPT) for admission (including all four sections): 103
- Minimum TOEFL iBT score for admission: 6.5, including a minimum subscore of 6 on all four modules.

In addition to the general requirement for English proficiency testing described above, the University of Illinois is also required by state law and University policy to give teaching appointments only to international graduate students who have more specifically passed an English language SPEAKING proficiency test. Applicants have the following options to satisfy this requirement:

- Minimum score of 24 on the speaking section of the TOEFL iBT
- Minimum score of 8 on the speaking section of the IELTS
- Minimum score of 50 on the TSE
- Minimum score of 5 on the EPI (English Proficiency Interview) test.

International applicants to the Ph.D. program must present documentation for one of the above-listed tests of spoken English at the time of application to the Psychology Department. The teaching English proficiency requirements do not apply to the M.S. in Psychological Science applicants.

Refer to www.psychology.illinois.edu (http://www.psychology.illinois.edu/) (Graduate Program) for additional

Information listed in this catalog is current as of 07/2021
information about the Department of Psychology’s admission requirements.

**Graduate Teaching Experience**
The department requires Ph.D. candidates to gain teaching experience as part of their academic work. Such experience is considered a vital part of the graduate program and usually takes the form of a teaching assistantship. Students have the option of teaching two class sections (50% TA) for one semester or one class section (25% TA) for two semesters in order to meet the requirement.

**Faculty Research Interests**
The program is designed to prepare students for academic and research-oriented careers. Students become actively involved in research during their first semester, devoting an increasing percent of time toward independent research throughout their graduate careers.

For the most part, we view graduate education as an apprenticeship. Our task is to provide an environment where mature young scholars can gain experience in research as they collaborate with faculty and with other graduate students. The program encourages interdisciplinary study both within psychology and between psychology and other fields. Faculty research interests can be reviewed here (http://www.psychology.illinois.edu/people/faculty/).

**Facilities and Resources**
Students have everything they need, including personal office space and full access to research, library, and computing services, as well as to a large pool of research participants. The excellent cooperation between program areas in the department and with other units in the University provides access to expertise and methodology in a variety of areas including but not limited to:

- the Psychological Services Center
- the Counseling Center
- the Beckman Institute for Advanced Science and Technology
- the Center for the Study of Reading
- the Institute of Communications Research
- the School of Labor and Employee Relations
- the Family Resiliency Program
- the Neuroscience Program
- the Institute for Genomic Biology
- the Departments of Computer Science
- Educational Psychology
- Linguistics
- Molecular and Cellular Biology and Statistics
- the Colleges of Law and Medicine

**Financial Aid**
Students generally complete the doctoral degree in 4-6 years, and the Psychology Department makes financial support available to all Ph.D. students in good standing for up to 6 years. The University application form and supplemental application materials provide all the information that is required by the committees administering various funding sources, which include teaching assistantships, research assistantships, and fellowships.

The M.S. in Psychological Science is self-supporting. The program does not accept non-statutory tuition waivers, and students enrolled in this program are ineligible to hold waiver-generating appointments.

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 500</td>
<td>Professional Develop for Psych</td>
<td>1 to 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 501</td>
<td>Best Psych Research Practices</td>
<td>2 to 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 506</td>
<td>Statistical Methods I</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>PSYC 507</td>
<td>Statistical Methods II</td>
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<td>PSYC 590</td>
<td>Individual Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Hours</td>
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**Other requirements**

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<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum 500-level Hours Required</td>
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<td>Overall</td>
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<td>Minimum GPA</td>
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Other requirements may overlap.

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