Master of Arts in Psychology

Department of Psychology Master's Overview

Our department does not admit terminal master's students.

We offer a single doctoral degree in Psychology which may be earned in one of the following programs: Clinical, Cognitive and Brain Sciences, Developmental, Quantitative, or Social Psychology. Students admitted to one of our 5 programs enter with the expectation of continuing graduate study through the Ph.D.

Admission decisions are made separately within each program. Please visit our program websites for more information on these programs:

Clinical Program (http://clinical.ku.edu)
Cognitive and Brain Sciences Program (http://www.cbs.ku.edu)
Developmental Program (http://developmental.ku.edu)
Quantitative Program (http://quantitative.ku.edu)
Social Program (http://social.ku.edu)

A clinical child psychology (http://ccpp.ku.edu) training program has been developed for doctoral students in an interdepartmental program with the Department of Applied Behavioral Science.

Admission to Graduate Studies

An applicant seeking to pursue graduate study in the College may be admitted as either a degree-seeking or non-degree seeking student. Policies and procedures of Graduate Studies govern the process of Graduate admission. These may be found in the Graduate Studies (http://catalog.ku.edu/graduate-studies) section of the online catalog.

Please consult the Departments & Programs (http://catalog.ku.edu/liberal-arts-sciences) section of the online catalog for information regarding program-specific admissions criteria and requirements. Special admissions requirements pertain to Interdisciplinary Studies degrees, which may be found in the Graduate Studies section of the online catalog.

Graduate Admission

Students enter the department with the expectation of earning the Ph.D. The department does not admit students seeking the terminal master’s degree.

Applicants must have earned either the bachelor’s degree or the master’s degree. Although most applicants have majored in psychology as undergraduates, this is not required. It is necessary, however, to have earned 15 credit hours in psychology, including a first course in statistics and a course in experimental psychology or psychological research methods. Admission is competitive. The Graduate Record Examination is required. The GRE subject test is preferred but not required. Prior research and relevant work experience, honors, awards, and other achievements are taken into account. The deadline for completed applications is December 1 for the following fall semester.

Submit your graduate application online (https://graduate.ku.edu/application-process). Have official transcripts sent to the Graduate Application Processing Center.

Graduate Admissions
The University of Kansas
1450 Jayhawk Blvd.
Strong Hall, Room 313
Lawrence, KS 66045-7540

Please direct any questions regarding our graduate psychology programs and the application process to our Graduate Officer at psycgrad@ku.edu.

M.A. Degree Requirements

Within 2 years of first enrollment in the Ph.D. program, the student must earn at least 30 graduate credit hours, no more than 6 of which may be in courses offered by other departments. The student must complete an acceptable thesis based on an empirical study and pass an oral examination. The oral examination may cover the thesis as well as more general material. Courses required for the M.A. degree are determined in consultation with faculty of the program in which the student is enrolled as part of the process of development of an individualized program. No more than 6 thesis hours may be applied to the 30 hours required for the M.A.