Department of Psychology

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Admission
The Graduate School application process can be completed online (http://www.montana.edu/gradschool/apply.html). We encourage applicants to reach out to any faculty member they are interested in working with before beginning the application process. Applicants should also review the Psychology Department’s Application Page (http://www.montana.edu/psychology/gradprogram/application.html) which contains information about what materials applicants should prepare before applying online.

Overall, the Psychology department requires the following application materials during the online application process:

1. All previous college/university transcripts (official transcripts only); MSU graduates do not need to supply official transcripts
2. Three letters of recommendation (be prepared to supply your recommenders’ contact information)
3. A statement
4. Optional Writing samples

Deadline
The closing date for receipt of completed applications is January 1. For detailed admission requirements, review the Admission Policies and Application Requirements sections on The Graduate School website. Successful applicants must have their applications accepted by The Graduate School (with departmental endorsement) before an individual is considered a graduate student at MSU.

Financial Assistance
Teaching Assistantships or Research Assistantships, which are awarded on a competitive basis, are usually available to formally admitted graduate students during their four years of study. See the Financial Support (http://www.montana.edu/psychology/gradprogram/financial.html) for Graduate Students section on the departmental home page for more information (assistantships are requested by the student’s home department).

Graduate Program
• Ph.D. in Psychological Science (http://catalog.montana.edu/graduate/letters-science/psychology/phd-psychology/)

The Department of Psychology at Montana State University offers a research-oriented Ph.D. degree in Psychological Science. Psychological Science is a broad term for scientific research in the core academic areas of psychology. These areas include cognitive, developmental, health, learning, physiological, and social psychology. Psychologists conducting psychological research work in a wide range of settings such as colleges and universities, health care facilities, federal & state government, small & large businesses, and many other places.

The goal of our graduate program is to train students to think critically about theory and evidence, to understand and use statistical procedures, and to design, conduct, and publish psychological research. The psychology department at MSU does not have graduate faculty who specialize in clinical, counseling, community, or school psychology. Moreover, we are not a practitioner-oriented program. We are a program for students who want to conduct research and pursue research-oriented careers, academic or otherwise.