Psychology

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The Department of Psychology offers a doctoral degree in Applied Psychology. The objective of the program is to train applied psychologists for employment in business, industry, engineering, college, university, clinical, and other applied settings. Concentrations are offered in the areas of Cognitive Science and Clinical. The Cognitive Science concentration focuses on the interplay and linkages between cognitive psychology, advances in computer science and engineering, the varying cognitive abilities of individuals, and demands for people to use technology more easily and efficiently. The Clinical concentration focuses on the study and application of psychological science involving both normal and pathological human behavior, drawing from the cognitive, social, and biological arenas as well as computer science and advanced technologies. The department does not offer a terminal master's degree. Students who do not already possess a master's degree earn one along the way.

A minor in cognitive science is designed for students outside of Psychology who wish to pursue an interdisciplinary study of mind and thought. Students completing the program will have a broad understanding of the field of cognitive science and will have demonstrated an approach that highlights the interdisciplinary nature of cognitive science.

Admission Criteria

Prerequisites for admission into the graduate program include all the general requirements of the Graduate School and the following courses at the undergraduate level:

- For all applicants--statistics and experimental psychology
- For the cognitive science doctoral concentration-- introductory cognitive psychology
- For the clinical doctoral concentration--abnormal psychology (students are also encouraged to complete coursework in Biological, Developmental, Social and Cognitive Psychology, and in History and Systems of Psychology)

The application deadline for the Cognitive Science doctoral program is January 15. The Clinical Psychology doctoral program deadline is December 1.

The applicant may be admitted into the graduate program without having completed all of the undergraduate course requirements contingent upon making up any deficiencies as soon as possible.

Requirements for admission into the graduate program are as follows: three letters of recommendation, an official score on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) general test, and transcripts of all college/university work. The applicant not meeting the GPA requirement of 3.00 for the Ph.D. program may receive provisional admission if other factors (e.g., publications, work experience, excellent grades at the end of an undergraduate career) suggest the potential for successful graduate-level work.

Provisional Admission

An applicant who has not fully met the GPA requirement stipulated by the University may be admitted on a provisional basis. The provisionally-admitted student is eligible for a change to regular status after receiving a 3.00 GPA on the first 9 hours of graduate courses at Mississippi State University (with no grade lower than a C). The first 9 hours of graduate courses must be within the student's program of study. Courses with an S grade, transfer credits, or credits earned while in Unclassified status cannot be used to satisfy this requirement. If a 3.00 is not attained, the provisional student **shall** be dismissed from the graduate program. Academic departments may set higher standards for students to fulfill provisional requirements; a student admitted with provisional status should contact the graduate coordinator for the program's specific requirements.

Academic Performance

Unsatisfactory performance in the graduate program in psychology is defined as any of the following:

- Earning a second grade of D or lower in graduate courses in a semester
- Earning grades of C or lower in more than two courses not exceeding 8 credit hours for all courses since admission into the program, including those outside the program of study
- A course grade of C or lower represents unsatisfactory mastery of a course's material and students will be required to retake a class in which they earn a letter grade of C. Students can retake only one course per degree and must submit a Request to Retake a Course form for approval to do so
- In the Cognitive Science doctoral concentration: failing the first or second year projects, the general or specialty examinations, or the preliminary examination

- In the Clinical doctoral concentration: failing the manuscript exam twice, failing the comprehensive exam twice, or not being certified as ready for internship by the clinical faculty by the end of one's fifth year of study
- Unsatisfactory evaluation of a thesis or dissertation
- Failing a required component of study
- Failing to adhere to the APA Ethical Principles (www.apa.org/ethics/code (http://www.apa.org/ethics/code/)), the Mississippi State University Honor Code (http://www.honorcode.msstate.edu/) and Graduate Academic Requirements (http://catalog.msstate.edu/archives/2021-22/graduate/academic-policies/academic-requirements/).

Any one of these or a combination will constitute the basis for review for possible dismissal. The graduate coordinator and the student's graduate committee will review the record and recommend a final course of action: immediate dismissal or the establishment of a probationary period during which corrective action must take place. Appeal of the dismissal can be made by submitting a written appeal statement to the department head. If the dismissal is upheld by the department head upon the student's appeal, the student can then submit a written appeal to the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Doctor of Philosophy in Applied Psychology with Cognitive Science Concentration

Research Methods and Quantitative Core		**10**
PSY 8214	Quantitative Methods in Psychology II	
PSY 8803	Advanced Quantitative Methods for Industrial Organizational and General Psychology	
PSY 8513	Psychological Research	
Research		**21**
PSY 9000	Dissertation Research /Dissertation in Psychology	
Cognitive Science Core		**6**
PSY 8703	Advanced Cognitive Science	
PSY 8713	Issues and Methods in Cognitive Psychology	
Cognitive Science Integration		**6**
PSY 8723	Cognitive Models of Skills	
PSY 8773	Computational Cognitive Neuroscience	
Cognitive Psychology Integration (Select two from the following)		**6**
PSY 8743	Perception and Attention	
PSY 8753	Advanced Human Memory	
PSY 8763	Expertise and Cognitive Skill Acquisition	
Advanced Graduate Seminars		**6**
PSY 8653	Applied Cognitive Reading Seminar	
Research & Professional Skills		**12**
PSY 8683	Cognitive Science Research Skills	
PSY 8693	Advanced Cognitive Science Research Skills	
PSY 8783	Cognitive Science Professional Skills	
PSY 8793	Advanced Cognitive Science Professional Skills	
Cognitive Science Seminar		**5**
PSY 8731	Applied Cognitive Science Research Seminar	
Total Hours		**72**

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PSY 8803	Advanced Quantitative Methods for Industrial Organizational and General Psychology	
PSY 8513	Psychological Research	
Research		**21**
PSY 9000	Dissertation Research /Dissertation in Psychology	
Clinical Concentration [1]		**21**
PSY 8713	Issues and Methods in Cognitive Psychology	
PSY 8313	Developmental Psychology	
PSY 8613	Advanced Social Psychology	

EPY 8113	History and Systems of Psychology	
PSY 8823	Diversity in Applied Psychology	
PSY 8233	Ethical and Professional Issues in Clinical Psychology	
PSY 9730	Doctoral Internship in Clinical Psychology	
Total Hours		**52**

[1] Clinical concentration courses are APA Breadth and/or licensure requirements.

Master of Science in Psychology for Clinical Doctoral Students

PSY 6403	Biological Psychology	3
PSY 8214	Quantitative Methods in Psychology II	4
PSY 8513	Psychological Research	3
PSY 8000	Thesis Research/ Thesis in Psychology	6
PSY 8323	Psychopathology	3
PSY 8333	Systems of Psychotherapy	3
PSY 8354	Intelligence Testing	4
PSY 8364	Personality Appraisal	4
PSY 8383	Behavior Therapy	3
PSY 8450	Applied Clinical Practicum	4
PSY 8460	Applied External Clinical Practicum	4
PSY 8533	Introduction to Clinical Practicum in Psychology	3
Elective		3
Total Hours		**47**

Clinical doctoral students will be concurrently enrolled in the Master of Science in Psychology degree program automatically after acceptance into the doctoral program. There is no terminal MS degree in Clinical psychology.

Students admitted into the Clinical doctoral program who have completed a master's degree in psychology with an empirical thesis at another institution may petition the Clinical Training Committee to waive the thesis requirement and up to 6 credit hours of coursework. Such students will need to complete the remaining course of study listed in the M.S. program above.

Master of Science in Psychology for Cognitive Science Doctoral Students

PSY 8214	Quantitative Methods in Psychology II	4
PSY 8513	Psychological Research	3
PSY 8000	Thesis Research/ Thesis in Psychology	1-13
Elective Hours		27
Total Hours		40

Cognitive Science doctoral students will be concurrently enrolled in the Master of Science in Psychology degree program automatically after acceptance into the doctoral program. There is no terminal MS degree in Cognitive Science or Psychology.

Students admitted into the Cognitive Science doctoral program who have completed a mater's degree in psychology wit an empirical thesis at another institution may petition the Cognitive Science training program to waive the thesis requirement and up to 6 credit hours of coursework. Such students will need to complete the remaining course of study listed in the M.S. program above.

Graduate Minor in Cognitive Science

PSY /CSE 6653	Cognitive Science	3
PSY XXXX	Select course from Psychology Courses list	3
IE XXXX or CSE XXXX	Select course from the Industrial and Systems Engineering Courses list or the Computer Science and Engineering Courses list	3
Select one course each from two of the following lists:		6
Psychology Courses		
Industrial and Systems Engineering Courses		
Computer Science and Engineering Courses		
English/Anthropology/Sociology Courses		

Electrical and Computer Engineering Courses		
Philosophy Course		
Total Hours		**15**

Psychology Courses

PSY 6423	Sensation and Perception	3
PSY 6643	Social Cognition	3
PSY 6713	Language and Thought	3
PSY 6733	Memory	3
PSY 6753	Applied Cognitive Psychology	3
PSY 8713	Issues and Methods in Cognitive Psychology	3
PSY 8723	Cognitive Models of Skills	3
or CSE 8613	Cognitive Models of Skill	
PSY 8990	Special Topics in Psychology (with approval)	1-9
Total Hours		**22-30**

Industrial and Systems Engineering Courses

IE 6113	Human Factors Engineering	3
IE 8153	Cognitive Engineering	3

Computer Science and Engineering Courses

CSE 6633	Artificial Intelligence	3
CSE 6663	Human-Computer Interaction	3
CSE 8673	Machine Learning	3
CSE 8990	Special Topics in Computer Science and Engineering (with approval)	1-9

English/Anthropology/Sociology Courses

EN /AN 6403	Introduction to Linguistics	3
EN 6463	Studies in Second Language Acquisition	3
EN 6633	Language and Society	3
or AN /SO 6633	Language and Society	
AN /SO 6623	Language and Culture	3

Electrical and Computer Engineering Courses

ECE 6713	Computer Architecture	3
ECE 6813	Communications Theory	3
ECE 8443	Pattern Recognition	3

Philosophy Course

PHI 6143	Philosophy of Science	3