INFORMATION TO APPLICANTS
APPLYING FOR ADMISSION TO GRADUATE STUDIES IN PSYCHOLOGY

The School of Psychology offers the following programs:

M.A.-Ph.D. program in Clinical Psychology (English stream or French stream):

The Clinical Psychology program offers training in the scientist-practitioner model. It received full accreditation from the Canadian Psychological Association (CPA) in 1986 and has been subsequently reaccredited, most recently in 2019. Information about CPA can be found at http://www.cpa.ca/ and http://www.cpa.ca/accreditation

The program requires a minimum of 12 consecutive sessions in full-time residence. Although the program may be completed in a minimum of five years, including the internship, completion of all requirements of the program of studies typically requires further sessions. The profile of students who graduated between September 2011 and June 2018 indicates a mean of 7.0 years to complete the program.

Students in each language stream in the Clinical program complete the majority of their courses and their clinical training (including psychological service delivery and report writing) in the language of the stream. Accordingly, applicants should be fluent in the language associated with the stream to which they apply.

For further information about the Clinical program, its administrative policies and procedures, research and clinical practicum opportunities and training outcomes, please visit our website: http://www.socialsciences.uottawa.ca/psy/clinical-psychology-program

M.A.-Ph.D. program in Experimental Psychology:

The Experimental Psychology program requires a minimum of nine consecutive sessions in full-time residence. The profile of students who graduated between September 2011 and June 2018 indicates a median of 6.3 years to complete the program. There are four fields representing the expertise that the program offers – behavioural neuroscience, cognitive psychology, developmental psychology, and social/community psychology.

For further information about the Experimental program, its administrative policies and procedures, please visit our website: http://www.socialsciences.uottawa.ca/psy/experimental-psychology-program

Admissions requirements for both programs

The normal minimum requirement for admission into either of the two programs (MA - PhD in Clinical Psychology or MA - PhD in Experimental Psychology) is the Honours Baccalaureate in Psychology, or its equivalent, with a minimal GPA of 8.0, including an Honour’s thesis or an equivalent individual research project. In addition, course requirements are a course in History and Systems of Psychology (or its equivalent), and two courses in statistical analysis (or their equivalents). If these course requirements are not met at the time of admission, the candidates will be required to complete them within the first two years of graduate studies. (For the program in Clinical Psychology, in order to meet a component of
the academic requirements for registration with the College of Psychologists of Ontario, a minimum of twenty undergraduate psychology courses is required for admission.

Students who have completed a master’s degree in Psychology may be given advanced standing. Admission to the Experimental Psychology program is possible on the basis of a four-year honours degree in another discipline relevant to Psychology, with a letter of support from the prospective supervisor. The degree must include a thesis or an equivalent independent research project and at least 36 credits (12 one-session courses) in Psychology, including two single-semester courses in statistics. Students with a strong background in mathematics, physical sciences, biological science, or computer science are especially encouraged to apply to the Experimental Program.

Doctoral degrees from both programs can be obtained with a mention of professional bilingual competence


In order to be considered for admission for September 2019, your application, including all supporting documents, must be received by December 15, 2018. Note that the Admissions Committee will consider strong applications after this deadline to the Experimental Program ONLY, if thesis supervisors are still available. The Admissions Committee will not consider applications to the Clinical Program after the application deadline. Equity is a University of Ottawa policy: Indigenous peoples, members of visible minorities, and persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply to our programs.

The decisions of our Admissions Committee for an initial round of admission offers will be communicated to each applicant offered admission before April 1, 2019. Applicants who are made an offer in this initial round must indicate their acceptance by April 15, 2019. Applicants who are made an offer of admission in a subsequent round of offers must indicate their acceptance within one month of the date of the offer. For each applicant offered admission, we would appreciate being informed, as soon as possible, if you have been awarded an external scholarship.