Nature of the Program

The department offers training in the following primary specialty areas: Biological Psychology, Clinical Psychology, Cognitive and Brain Sciences, Industrial and Organizational Psychology, and School Psychology. The program is a doctoral program – it is not appropriate for students seeking to complete their education with a master's degree. We do not offer degrees in Counseling Psychology or Social Work. Appropriate departments for these programs at LSU are through the College of Human Sciences and Education. If you need help determining the appropriate field of study to pursue, the American Psychological Association (APA)* provides useful information at http://www.apa.org/students/brochure/brochurenew.pdf and http://www.apa.org/topics/psychologycareer.html.

The graduate program in psychology follows the mentor model. For this reason, it is recommended that prospective students review our Faculty web pages along with this document. Each faculty member has additional information regarding his/her interests and publications listed there. This is an effective way to determine if your goals and interests match those of our faculty and our program, as well as to find examples of the research conducted here at LSU.

Applicant Qualifications

Ninety-five percent of the students we accept have an undergraduate degree in Psychology and some also have master's level courses and degrees. The following minimum prerequisites must be completed prior to applying to the program: Courses equivalent to LSU's PSYC 2000 (Introduction to Psychology), EXST 2201 (General Statistics) & PSYC 2017 (Research Methods in Psychology).

The Fall 2015 incoming class has an average undergraduate GPA of 3.47 and GRE of 312.3 (verbal 156.8 & quantitative 155.5). The departmental minimums for admission are a 3.0 GPA and 297 GRE.

The department takes education very seriously and expects the same from our students. We do not allow students to attend part-time and students are not allowed to hold a full-time job while enrolled in our program. Students are expected to devote full-time to their studies. All course work must be completed here in Baton Rouge, with our faculty members; no online or correspondence courses are available.

The Department of Psychology is dedicated to giving each student the education needed to be a highly functioning professional in the field of their choice. We are very proud of our program. It attracts students from around the world. Our graduates go on to rewarding careers in academia, industry and private or public practice.

The clinical and school disciplines are accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of the American Psychological Association.*

*Questions related to the program's accredited status should be directed to the Commission on Accreditation:

Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation
American Psychological Association
750 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002
Phone: 202.336.5979 / Email: apaaccred@apa.org
Web: www.apa.org/ed/accreditation

Graduate Training Philosophy

The Department of Psychology at LSU is committed to the view that psychology is both a science and a profession. Both faculty and students in psychology endorse the model of the psychologist as a scientist-practitioner. The program's major emphasis is on research training and experience, and the teaching of psychology. All graduate students, regardless of intended area of specialization, receive broad training to develop research capability for scholarly contributions to the discipline of psychology throughout their careers**. If you are interested only in the professional application of psychology, without regard for research, you will not be comfortable in the graduate training program in this department.**

Graduate students in this department are expected to develop a lifelong commitment to science and to the highest social-ethical ideals of the profession of psychology.

For more information regarding the Psychology Graduate Program, visit our website at: HTTP://WWW.LSU.EDU/PSYCHOLOGY/GRADUATE/INDEX.HTML