

PSYCHOLOGY

About Psychology

The aim of the Experimental program is to provide students with an environment in which they are free to develop skills and expertise that will serve during a professional career of teaching and research as a psychologist. Coursework and other requirements are at a minimum. Success in the program depends on the student's ability to organize unscheduled time for self-education. Continuous involvement in research planning and execution is considered a very important component of the student's activities.

The Clinical program adheres to the scientist practitioner model and as such is designed to train students for careers in university teaching or clinical research, and for service careers (working with children or adults in hospital, clinical, or educational settings). Most of our clinical graduates combine service and research roles. While there are necessarily many more course requirements than in the Experimental program, the emphasis is again on research training. There is no master's program in Clinical Psychology; the Department offers direct entry to a doctoral degree for holders of an undergraduate degree, and students are expected to complete the full program leading to a doctoral degree.

Research interests of members of the Psychology Department include:

- behavioural neuroscience;
- clinical psychology;
- cognition and cognitive neuroscience;
- developmental science;
- health psychology;
- quantitative psychology and modelling; and
- social and personality psychology.

Facilities for advanced research in a variety of fields are available within the Department itself. In addition, arrangements exist with the Departments of Psychology at the Montreal Neurological Institute and Hospital, Allan Memorial Institute, Douglas Mental Health University Institute, Jewish General Hospital, Montreal Children's Hospital, and Montreal General Hospital to permit graduate students to undertake research in a hospital setting.

Note: Many MUHC-affiliated hospitals and institutes are now located at the Glen site; further information is available on the MUHC website.

For inquiries about all programs and financial aid, and for application forms, email the graduate program administrator (psychology.grad@mcgill.ca).

Psychology Admission Requirements and Application Procedures

Admission Requirements

Admission to the graduate program depends on an evaluation of students' research interests and their aptitude for original contributions to knowledge and, if applicable, for professional contributions in the applied field.

The usual requirement for admission is an Honours or Major degree (B.A. or B.Sc.) in Psychology. This usually includes an introductory course plus twelve courses in psychology (each equivalent to three term hours). Courses in experimental psychology, the theoretical development of modern ideas in psychology, and statistical methods as applied to psychological problems (equivalent to an introductory course) are essential. Applicants' knowledge of relevant biological, physical, and social sciences is considered. Students applying to the clinical program are advised to complete 42 specific undergraduate credits in psychology as specified by the Order of Psychologists of Quebec (*Ordre des psychologues du Québec*).

Applicants who hold a bachelor's degree but who have not met these usual requirements should consult the Graduate Program Director to determine which (if any) courses must be completed before an application can be considered. Students with insufficient preparation for graduate work may register as Special Students (undergraduate level) in the Faculty of Arts or the Faculty of Science, and follow an appropriate course of study. Such registration requires the permission of the Department but carries no advantage with respect to a student's eventual admission to graduate studies.

Applicants should note that the deadline for many scholarships and fellowships is about four months earlier than the application deadlines and that applications for scholarships and fellowships should be submitted through their home university.

The GRE General Test as well as the Psychology Subject Test are not mandatory, but if you wish to take either or both, your scores can be submitted to us and will be added to your application.

Note: Official transcripts do not need to be included as part of an application; they will only be requested once applicants are formally accepted into the program.

English Language Proficiency

For graduate applicants whose mother tongue is not English, and who have not completed an undergraduate or graduate degree from a recognized Canadian or American (English or French) institution or from a recognized foreign institution where English is the language of instruction, documented proof of English proficiency is required prior to admission. For a list of acceptable test scores and minimum requirements, visit mcgill.ca/gradapplicants/international/proficiency.

Application Procedures

McGill's online application form for graduate program candidates is available at mcgill.ca/gradapplicants/apply.

See Application Procedures for detailed application procedures.

Additional Requirements

The items and clarifications below are additional requirements set by this department:

- Three letters of reference
- Personal Statement
- Curriculum Vitae
- Application Summary Sheet

For further details about these additional requirements, consult the Department of Psychology's website.

Application Dates and Deadlines

Application opening dates are set by Enrolment Services in consultation with Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (GPS), while application deadlines are set by the Department of Psychology and may be revised at any time. Applicants must verify all deadlines and documentation requirements well in advance on the appropriate McGill departmental website; please consult the list at mcgill.ca/gps/contact/graduate-program.

Information on application deadlines is available at mcgill.ca/gradapplicants/how-apply/application-steps/application-deadlines.

Admission to graduate studies is competitive; accordingly, late and/or incomplete applications are considered only as time and space permit.

Available Programs

- Psychology (Ph.D.)
- Psychology (Thesis) (M.Sc.) (45 credits)
- Psychology: Behavioural Neuroscience (Ph.D.)
- Psychology: Language Acquisition (Ph.D.)

Program Overview

The course requirements for the **M.Sc.** and the **M.A.** are identical. You can choose either M.Sc. or M.A. according to your preference.

The **Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Psychology: Behavioural Neuroscience** program emphasizes modern, advanced theory and methodology aimed at the neurological underpinnings of behaviour in human and non-human animals. This program is intended for graduate students in any area of Psychology who wish to obtain unique, intensive training at the intersection of psychology and neuroscience, thereby enhancing their expertise, the interdisciplinary potential of their dissertation research, and enabling them to compete successfully for academic or commercial positions in either field alone, or their intersection. It requires that students complete a dissertation that addresses Behavioural Neuroscience themes.

The **Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Psychology: Language Acquisition** is a unique interdisciplinary program that focuses on the scientific exploration of language acquisition by different kinds of learners in diverse contexts. Students in the Language Acquisition program are introduced to theoretical and methodological issues on language acquisition from the perspectives of cognitive neuroscience, theoretical linguistics, psycholinguistics, education, communication sciences and disorders, and neuropsychology.

Visit the Department of Psychology's site for additional information on graduate program tracks.

Location

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