

Why Choose Graduate Study in Psychology at the University of Dayton?

We are focused on enabling students to develop their research skills so they can successfully gain entry into doctoral programs. To accomplish this goal, our programs possess the following features:

- Rigorous research and statistical coursework
- The requirement of an empirical Master's thesis
- Strong faculty research programs spanning a wide breadth of topics
- Opportunities for publications and presentations under faculty mentorship

Recent graduates have been accepted to Ph.D. programs at Colorado State, Miami University, Penn State, Purdue University, Texas A&M, The Ohio State University, University of Kansas, University of South Carolina, University of Tennessee, and Vanderbilt University.

Competitive graduate assistantships are available for the strongest students, and strong efforts are made to provide some type of funding to all students.

Generous funding for Master's thesis projects and travel to present at national psychological conferences.

We provide students in our Clinical M.A. program with community placements where they receive experience in diagnostic interviewing, case management, psychological assessment, group psychotherapy, or individual psychotherapy.

Program Mission

We offer Master's programs in Experimental Psychology and Clinical Psychology. Both are small, selective programs with the aim of facilitating our students' admission into a Ph.D. program in psychology. As such, we provide extensive experience in statistics and research methods, and multiple opportunities for both collaborative and individual research projects.

A secondary goal specific to our Clinical Psychology M.A. program is to prepare students for jobs at the master's level that do not require clinical licensure. For instance, previous students have successfully obtained positions at community mental health agencies, research-based positions, psychological assessment positions, or in private practice under supervision.



**University
of Dayton**

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[udayton.edu/artssciences/academics/psychology/
index.php](http://udayton.edu/artssciences/academics/psychology/index.php)

Jumpstart your journey to a Ph.D. in Psychology





Research Themes

Because of our large number of faculty with productive research programs, we are able to offer research opportunities organized by five distinct themes:

1. Biopsychology, Neuropsychology, or Health Psychology
2. Child or Developmental
3. Cognition and Perception
4. Community Psychology
5. Social Behavior and Personality

The availability of these research concentrations not only allows for students to work with multiple faculty members in different research domains, but to develop expertise within a larger area of psychological research. These themes cut across the two programs, and therefore, working with faculty outside of one's chosen program is often possible.

Admissions Standards

Admission is competitive and based on the quality of the overall application. If you are not an undergraduate psychology major, a minimum of 15 semester hours of undergraduate psychology coursework is required, including introductory psychology, statistics and research methods in psychology (or a two-course sequence in research methods in psychology). An undergraduate grade point average of 3.2 on a 4.0 scale is desirable (both cumulative and in psychology), as is a minimum score GRE score of 300 for the combined verbal and quantitative sections. *Successful applicants typically exceed the minimum GPA and GRE requirements.*



Faculty

RESEARCH THEME: BIO = Biopsychology, Neuropsychology, or Health Psychology; CD = Child or Developmental; CP = Cognition and Perception; COM = Community Psychology; SOC = Social Behavior and Personality

Lucy J. Allbaugh, Ph.D., Miami University
Interests: Interpersonal violence (childhood maltreatment, intimate partner violence); resilience; safe, stable, and nurturing interpersonal relationships; mindfulness-based interventions for survivors of trauma CLINICAL-SOC, COM

Jack Bauer, Ph.D., Catholic University of America
Interests: Personality and identity development; narrative meaning-making, wisdom, and well-being; life stories; mixed methods (quantitative and qualitative); self-actualizing, authenticity, and self-authorship EXPERIMENTAL-CD, SOC

Melissa Berry, Ph.D., University of Cincinnati
Interests: Social psychology; forensic psychology; social cognition; causal attribution; counterfactual thinking; health-related behaviors EXPERIMENTAL-CP, SOC

Tracy Butler, Ph.D., University of Kentucky
Interests: Neuroscience and behavior; environmental and physiological factors that predict high levels of alcohol consumption in preclinical models; neurobiological consequences of alcohol and/or stress in male and female subjects EXPERIMENTAL-BIO

Robert Crutcher, Ph.D., University of Colorado
Interests: Cognitive psychology and cognitive neuroscience; human memory; language processes; improving human memory and thinking skills; verbal reports; computer applications and learning EXPERIMENTAL-CP, BIO

Lee Dixon, Ph.D., University of Tennessee
Interests: Interpersonal relationships; forgiveness; self-forgiveness; commitment; relationship satisfaction; religious orientation; attachment style; relationship-contingent self-esteem CLINICAL-SOC

Greg Elvers, Ph.D., Purdue University
Interests: Psychology of *Felis catus* (cats); human-animal interactions; perception. EXPERIMENTAL-CP

Mary Fuhs, Ph.D., University of Notre Dame
Interests: Developmental psychology, cognitive development and early intervention EXPERIMENTAL-CD

Jackson Goodnight, Ph.D., Indiana University
Interests: Youth conduct problems; temperament and personality; parent and peer influence; socio-contextual disadvantage CLINICAL-CD

Benjamin Kunz, Ph.D., University of Utah
Interests: Cognitive psychology and cognitive neuroscience; visual sensation and perception; embodied cognition; human factors; virtual reality and human-computer interaction EXPERIMENTAL-CP

Erin O'Mara Kunz, Ph.D., University of Tennessee
Interests: Social Psychology; self & identity; social cognition; self-enhancement; attraction and mate-choice; interpersonal relationships EXPERIMENTAL-SOC

Carolyn Roecker Phelps, Ph.D., University of Iowa
Currently on administrative leave
Interests: Children's aggression and strategies for coping with aggression by peers, sexual revictimization; family conflict; childhood psychopathology. CLINICAL-CD

Roger N. Reeb, Ph.D., Virginia Commonwealth University.
Interests: Psychopathology; homelessness; clinical-community psychology; participatory community action research; stress, coping, and health CLINICAL-COM, BIO

Dario Rodriguez, Ph.D., John Jay College of Criminal Justice & The Graduate Center, CUNY
Interests: Eyewitness identification evidence; juror decision-making; social cognition; false memories CP, SOC

Julie Walsh-Messinger, Ph.D., Long Island University
Interests: Schizophrenia; neural processing of emotion; olfaction; sex differences in psychopathology; neuropsychology; cognitive and personality assessment; psychometrics CLINICAL-BIO

Siman Zhao, Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania
Interests: Social-emotional development; parenting; peer influence; culture and social changes EXPERIMENTAL-CD

Catherine Lutz Zois, Ph.D., Wayne State University
Interests: Psychopathy and cluster B personality disorders; intimate partner violence; self-compassion CLINICAL-SOC, COM

