

Information Regarding Graduate Programs and Admissions

Note: The information in all of the tables is taken from:

Norcoss, J.C., Kohout, J. L., & Wicherski, M. (2005). *Graduate study in psychology: 1971 to 2004*.

Table 2.

Course prerequisites for graduate programs (N = 1554) requiring specific psychology courses

Course	Required	Preferred	Required or Preferred
Abnormal/Psychopathology	15.6%	16.9%	32.5%
Childhood/Developmental	11.2%	24.2%	35.9%
Cognitive	3.6%	9.0%	12.6%
History & Systems	4.9%	12.3%	17.2%
Lab Course	7.8%	3.8%	11.6%
Learning	8.7%	19.6%	28.3%
Physiological/Biopsychology	5.5%	18.9%	24.4%
Personality	12.0%	15.7%	27.7%
Research Methods/ Experimental Design	40.0%	26.0%	66.0%
Sensation & Perception	3.1%	7.8%	10.9%
Statistics	56.5%	28.7%	85.2%
Testing/Measurement	9.5%	8.0%	17.5%
Social	4.7%	18.7%	23.4%

Table 3.

Importance of criteria in admissions decisions

Criteria	Master's Only		Doctoral	
	M	SD	M	SD
Letters of recommendation	2.74	0.49	2.82	0.42
Personal statement/goals	2.63	0.55	2.81	0.41
GPA	2.75	0.43	2.74	0.45
Interview	2.30	0.76	2.62	0.60
Research Experience	2.04	0.74	2.54	0.65
GRE scores	2.36	0.66	2.50	0.55
Clinically related public service	1.94	0.70	1.91	0.69
Work experience	1.91	0.65	1.87	0.68
Extracurricular activity	1.46	0.54	1.41	0.55

Note: Means are calculated on a coding scheme where 1 = low importance, 2 = medium importance, and 3 = high importance

Table 5.

Minimum required and actual scores of first-year graduate students in psychology

Measure	Master's Departments		Doctoral Departments	
	Minimum Required	Actual Scores	Minimum Required	Actual Scores
Graduate Record Exam				
Verbal	449	504	529	0.41
Quantitative	453	549	538	0.45
Verbal & Quantitative	952	1055	1066	0.60
GRE Psychology Subject Test	495	577	552	0.65
Grade point average				
Overall	2.92	3.37	3.11	3.54
Psychology	3.05	3.48	3.17	3.66
Last two years	3.03	3.44	3.16	3.67