



Using the Psychology Major to prepare for a Ph.D. in Psychology.

WHY PSYCH?

What is the benefit of the Psychology Major?

The psychology major at Tennessee State University provides students with a solid foundation in a range of skills important for professional success in a variety of settings.

These include: research and data analysis, critical thinking, oral communication, writing, and an introduction to the basic principles that underlie human behavior.

The psychology major also provides students with the opportunity to apply for graduate school in psychology, while still preparing them for a variety of rewarding careers with their bachelor's degree.



PSYCHOLOGY ELECTIVES

PSYC 4210 Sensation & Perception

PSYC 3300 Physiological Psychology

PSYC 3510 Principles of Learning

PSYC 4310 Human Learning & Cognitive Processes

PSYC 3510 Developmental Psychology

PSYC 3210 Abnormal Psychology

PSYC 3410 Social Psychology

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

PSYC 4515, 16, 17 Readings & Research in Psychology

Permission of instructor.

MARC Program Students interested in research careers should contact Dr. Whalen about this program: mwhalen@tnstate.edu.

FIELD EXPERIENCE

Volunteer work and field experiences are very important for Clinical/Counseling PhD programs.

PSYC 4360 Field Placement

Permission of instructor.

Internship in Psychology

Permission of instructor.

CLINICAL OR COUNSELING?

Practically speaking, there is little difference between what Counseling and Clinical Psychologists do. Both are eligible for the same license to practice as a psychologist. Both have the credentials to be hired by colleges and universities to work as professors. Both are required to complete original research in the form of a dissertation prior to earning their doctorate.

One major difference is that Clinical Psychology PhD programs tend to be significantly more competitive to get into and tend to be somewhat more research focused. Clinical Psychology also tends to be more squarely focused on psychological disorders, whereas Counseling Psychology also examines problems with everyday life and positive psychology.

SKILL BUILDING COURSES

ENGL 2000 Advanced Composition

No prerequisite listed.

ENGL 4160 Writing for Publication

No prerequisite listed.

ENGL 4950 Research Writing

No listed prerequisites.

ENGL 4130 Advanced English Grammar

No listed prerequisites.

COMP 1210 Introduction to Computing

No listed prerequisites.

COMP 1500 Introduction to Computer Science

No listed prerequisites.

COMP 3000 Computer Programming for non-CS majors

No listed prerequisites.

COMM 2300 Business and Professional Speech Communication

No listed prerequisites.

PHIL 2500 Logic and Critical Thinking

No listed prerequisites.

MATH 1110 College Algebra

No listed prerequisites.

SOCI 3000 Social Statistics

Prerequisite: MATH 1013 or 1110



EXPERIMENTAL GRADUATE PROGRAMS



Research is how we solve the world's problems. Research will identify the causes of Alzheimer's disease and how to treat it. Research explains how implicit biases influence when police officers fire their weapons or which applicant we hire for the job. Research taught McDonalds that red and yellow stimulate the appetite, and helps Facebook identify ways to maximize your social media usage. Some types of experimental psychology programs include:

- University of Arizona's Ph.D. in Cognitive & Neural Systems, and their joint Ph.D. in Social Psychology & J.D. in Law
- George Mason University's Ph.D. in Applied Developmental Psychology, Cognitive & Behavioral Neuroscience, Human Factors/Applied Cognition, or Industrial/Organizational Psychology
- East Tennessee State University's Ph.D. in Developmental, Cognitive, Social, Personality, Affective Behavior, or Behavioral Neuroscience

SUMMER RESEARCH EXPERIENCES

Research is one of the most important experiences Ph.D. programs look at when reviewing applications. Maximize your research opportunities by participating in summer research programs offered at universities throughout the country. For more

information, visit:

<http://www.apa.org/education/undergrad/research-opportunities.aspx>.

Opportunities are also posted on the TSU Psychology Facebook page and are sent out by email from your Program Coordinator, Dr. Amy Sibulkin.