GRADUATE

GRADUATE PROGRAMS

MA & PhD PSYCHOLOGY

Specializations in Clinical Psychology and Psychological Science provide students with theoretical, practical and analytical expertise, as well as experience applying scientific results to real-world problems.

LEARN MORE >

STUDENT RESOURCES

Access the services you need to help you achieve your personal, academic and career goals.

LEARN MORE >

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- Program Overview
- Research and Supervisors
- Students and Theses
- Admission Requirements
- Tuition & Funding
- How to Apply
- Welcome to UBC's Okanagan Campus

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INQUIRE

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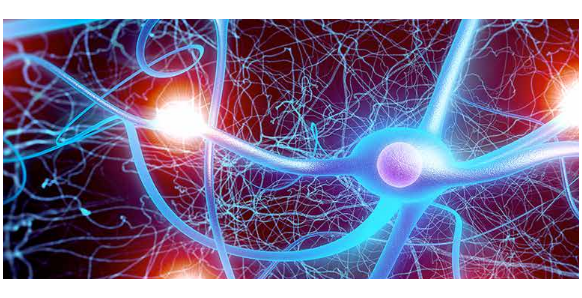
MA & PHD IN PSYCHOLOGY



Conceive and conduct original research. Develop skills and expertise leading to future professional research and/or clinical careers.

GRADUATE PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Program	Components	Expected Duration
MA/PhD Track*	Coursework and thesis	24 months
PhD (Clinical Psychology)	Coursework, dissertation and internship	60 months
PhD (Psychological Science)	Dissertation	48 months

** Admission to the MA Clinical Psychology graduate program and the MA Psychological Science graduate program is restricted to those who intend to continue on to the PhD.*

The Psychology graduate program at the University of British Columbia's Okanagan campus in Kelowna, BC offers tier-one research-based degrees to students in a collegial, close-knit setting. Our high-calibre graduate students dedicate their lives to bettering the lives of others through research and clinical work.

The Department of Psychology offers graduate education leading to PhD specializations in Clinical Psychology and Psychological Science. The MA (PhD Track) is a prerequisite for students with an undergraduate degree who do not have an MA Clinical Psychology or MA Psychological Science degree.

Our Psychology degrees provide students with theoretical, practical and analytical expertise, as well as experience in the application of scientific results to real-world problems. Our dynamic faculty and graduate students are engaged in a variety of research projects, many in collaboration with partners in government, non-profit agencies or industry.

Our developmental learning model promotes research and clinical competence through close mentoring relationships with faculty, who instill in students a passion for lifelong learning that applies to your chosen career paths.

Master of Arts (MA) - PhD Track

Students enrolled in the MA (PhD Track) program will learn to apply skills and methods in the science and practice of psychology, as well as undertake practical and/or clinical research in the field. Graduates of the MA program typically continue on to complete the PhD.

Formal milestones for the MA program include: preparing, presenting and defending a research proposal; collecting and analyzing data; writing and defending the thesis; and ideally publishing the research results. MA students also become paid Teaching Assistants during their studies in order to gain valuable teaching experience and to learn effective communication strategies.

Clinical Psychology: Our Clinical Psychology graduate program is based on the scientist-practitioner model of clinical psychology, with an emphasis on evidence-based assessment and therapeutic techniques. Our developmental learning model promotes clinical and research competence through close mentoring relationships with faculty.

The program is designed for students with a background in psychology or related behavioural/ health sciences. Upon completion of the program, students will have obtained broad training in the science of psychology, incorporating the biopsychosocial model, as well as knowledge and skills in Clinical Psychology and the ability to integrate science and practice. It prepares graduates for careers in research, teaching and clinical practice.

This MA specialization requires minimum completion of 45 credits, which includes 12 credits of thesis work and 33 credits of coursework, including clinical practica. Additional coursework may be required at the discretion of the supervisory committee. Find out more about Clinical Psychology's Practicum Placements.

For more information, please see our Clinical Psychology handbook.

Psychological Science: Our psychological science graduate program allows students to conduct research alongside world-renowned experts in areas such as abnormal, cognitive, health, social and personality psychology. Topics range from neurocognitive functioning and social relationships to happiness and well-being. Students will conduct scientific research through close mentoring relationships with faculty.

The program is designed for students with a background in psychology or a closely related field who wish to conduct original psychological research under the mentorship of one of our faculty. Upon completion of the program, students will have received training in advanced statistics and research methods and will be proficient in evaluating and carrying out psychological research. The psychological science program prepares students for careers in academia, teaching and research.

This MA specialization requires minimum completion of 30 credits, which includes 12 credits of thesis work and 18 credits of coursework. Additional coursework may be required at the discretion of the supervisory committee. Exceptional MA students may be able to transfer to the PhD program after one year if they meet program requirements and are approved by the Psychology Graduate Studies Committee.

For more information, please see our Psychological Science handbook.

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

Related Programs

- Interdisciplinary Graduate Studies (MA, MSc, PhD)

CPA Accreditation

We are not currently accredited by Canadian Psychological Association (CPA). Our self-study for consideration of initial accreditation was submitted in June 2017, and we have been advised by CPA's accreditation office that we have been authorized for a site visit in Fall 2017. We hope to complete our site visit and be accredited by 2018. For more information about accreditation, please contact the CPA Office of Accreditation.

Office of Accreditation
Canadian Psychological Association
141 Laurier Avenue West, Suite 702
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5J3

RESEARCH & SUPERVISORS

Research Areas

Supervisors

Labs and Centres

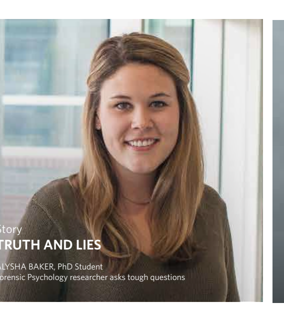
STUDENTS & THESES

Meet Our Students

See what our students are up to—check out the Psychology Graduate Students page for their research interests, supervisors, alma maters, and contact info.

Theses and Dissertations

Search all UBC Okanagan Psychology student publications at cIRcle, the University's digital repository for research and teaching materials.



ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Domestic Student Admissions

International Student Admissions

TUITION & FUNDING

Program	Schedule	Domestic (per year)	International (per year)
MA	Full-time	$4,800	$8,435.94
PhD	Full-time	$4,800	$8,435.94

Tuition is paid three times a year at the beginning of each term, and on the first day of the term, as per the Academic Calendar: Winter Term 1, Winter Term 2, and Summer Term.

Visit the UBC Okanagan Academic Calendar* for detailed tuition and fees information; the calendar is a comprehensive guide to all programs, courses, services and academic policies at the University of British Columbia.

** In case of a discrepancy between this webpage and the UBC Calendar, the UBC Calendar entry will be held to be correct.*

Funding Opportunities

Graduate students are typically funded through a combination of internal and external funding awards, Teaching Assistantships (TA) and Research Assistantships (RA).

The Department of Psychology has a number of TAs and RAs available for qualified students.

MA students are eligible for paid TA positions for up to two years, and PhD students are eligible for paid TA positions for up to four years. TA positions usually occur September to April. TA hours and wages are governed by the British Columbia Government Employees Union (BCGEU).

Research Assistantships are wholly dependent upon individual research supervisor's funding. RA positions may take place at any time during the school year and wages and hours will vary. RA positions are not guaranteed. Talk to your potential supervisor about RA opportunities.

Students are expected whenever possible to apply for relevant scholarships and fellowships. These include principally, but are not limited to, Canadian Tri-Council scholarships, University Graduate Fellowships, and Graduate Dean's Entrance Scholarships.

If students wish to hold off-campus (external) employment, they should discuss with their supervisor, particularly if the student is a grant-holder, as restrictions on hours of work may apply.

Assistantships | **Scholarships & Awards**

Teaching Assistantships (TA): Paid TA positions are provided through the Department of Psychology and allow graduate students to develop skills in teaching, supervision, facilitation, and student assessment. TAs may lead seminars, help teach undergraduate courses, or assist in student evaluations and marking. TAs are mentored both from their supervisor and via the Centre for Teaching and Learning.

Research Assistantships (RA): As a paid research assistant, RA students assist their supervisor or other researchers in conducting high-level research. RAs are typically funded by a supervisor's external grants, contracts or other sources of funding, and therefore are not guaranteed.

HOW TO APPLY

Find a Supervisor

Please contact our faculty before starting your application. Admission to the program requires the confirmed availability and mentor-match with a faculty supervisor as well as meeting program-specific criteria and requirements.

Required Documents

Deadlines

Applying takes time. We recommend you start your application two months in advance.

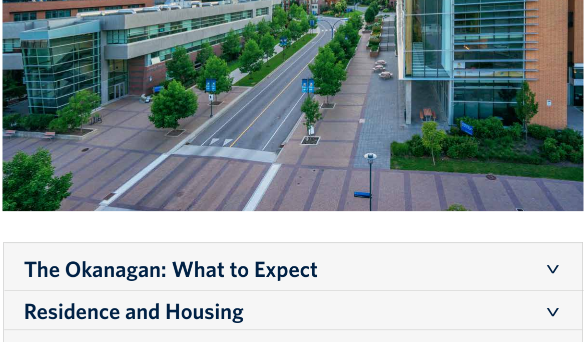
For full consideration students should submit all application materials by the following deadlines:

Intake	Application Deadline
Domestic applicants: September	December 1
International applicants September	December 1

APPLY TO UBC TODAY!

WELCOME TO UBC'S OKANAGAN CAMPUS

The University of British Columbia is a global centre for research and teaching, consistently ranked among the 40 best universities in the world. In the Psychology program at UBC's Okanagan campus, you gain all the benefits of attending a globally respected university while studying in a close-knit learning community.



The Okanagan: What to Expect

Residence and Housing

Clubs and Activities

Support and Resources

Career Development

With a Psychology MA or PhD degree from the University of British Columbia, graduates are well-positioned to thrive in a variety of occupations, such as:

- Activity coordinator
- Addictions support worker
- Animal trainer
- Athletic coach/instructor
- Behavioural analyst
- Child and youth care worker
- Community relations director
- Correctional officer
- Crisis intervention support worker
- Cultural diversity consultant
- Customs or immigration agent
- Daycare worker or supervisor
- Educational counsellor
- Entrepreneur
- Ergonomist
- Fundraiser or development officer
- Gerontologist
- Group home coordinator
- Hospice coordinator
- Human rights advisor
- Immigration officer
- Labour relations specialist
- Leisure service worker
- Life skills coach
- Marketing and public relations professional
- Mental health worker
- Motivational research assistant
- Population studies researcher
- Program coordinator
- Psychiatric aide
- Public health statistician
- Occupational hygienist technologist
- Parole/probation officer
- Research assistant
- Residential support worker
- Technical writer
- Travel agent
- Training consultant
- Treatment facilities support staff
- Volunteer coordinator
- Youth and family support worker

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CAREER SERVICES

Map out your future and prepare to hit the ground running with resources and services provided by the Advising & Involvement Centre.

Tell your story with resumé and cover-letter strategies, and search Work Study jobs for experience relevant to your degree and career goals. You can also book an appointment to meet one-on-one with our career advisor.

ALUMNI UBC

alumni UBC is a member-driven association that offers a variety of lifetime programming and communications to enrich the lives of UBC graduates.

The 'Your Next Step' program offers webinars, speaker series and professional development sessions. It is designed to provide advice, tips and resources in areas of career development to graduates for life after university.

Realize the promise of a global community with shared ambition for a better world and an exceptional UBC.

STUDENT RESOURCES

Your academic career and success are our main priorities. Here, you will find everything you need to help you succeed, including the Psychology Graduate Student handbooks, academic resources and administrative support. And remember, our faculty and staff are always there to help; just ask.

COLLEGE OF GRADUATE STUDIES

Your hub for administrative support and such things as graduate workshops for professional development. COGS can help you with everything from the admissions process through to your graduation.

GO TO COGS >

PSYCHOLOGY STUDENT HANDBOOKS

The Psychological Science Student Handbook and the Clinical Psychology Student Handbook provide useful information concerning the steps to successfully completing the MA and PhD degrees at UBCO. These requirements supplement the requirements set by the College of Graduate Studies.

UBC LIBRARY – CENTRE FOR SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION (CSC)

The CSC supports graduate students, post-doctoral fellows, staff and faculty in disseminating their research. The CSC provides one-on-one consultations and workshops, including writing support for theses, dissertations, journal articles and grant proposals.

GO TO LIBRARY >

CENTRE FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING

The Centre for Teaching and Learning provides support related to teaching, TA training, and the use of technology in educational programming. It is also a place to connect with other TAs and subscribe to the TA blog.

GO TO CTL >

CAREERS AND WORK EXPERIENCE

The Psychology department offers opportunities for Graduate Teaching Assistants in the September and January terms. These opportunities help our graduates develop their teaching and mentoring skills while undertaking their studies.

Career Services at UBC Okanagan also assists students in planning their future, providing access to labour market stats, resume building and interview skills support, as well as information about career fairs and other work opportunities.

GO TO CAREERS >

EVERYTHING ELSE – STUDENT SERVICES

Didn't find what you were looking for above? Visit the Student Services website, where all of the information about the services offered to students is housed.

GO TO STUDENT SERVICES >

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