Department Mission

It is the mission of the M.A. program in psychological research at Texas State University to foster competence in the methodological foundations and conduct of psychological research across a wide variety of settings. Students will gain expertise regarding the impact of biological, social, emotional, cognitive and behavioral factors on psychological phenomena and use this knowledge to conduct original research in their area of interest. Focus is placed on learning interpersonal/research skills and statistical competencies relevant to the responsible and ethical conduct of both basic and applied psychological research.

The MAPR program provided a great foundation for what I needed to pursue a Ph.D. degree. You’re surrounded by faculty that genuinely care and want to foster your academic growth.

– Stephen Ramos, Spring 2016, Ph.D. student in Clinical Psychology, Illinois Institute of Technology

Students acquire skills and competencies relevant to the ethical conduct of basic and applied psychological research.

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Why choose Texas State?
Students work closely with highly qualified faculty mentors, learning about research relevant to their interests. The Department of Psychology has resources to assist and support graduate students such as office space, specialized facilities and software for data collection and analysis, funding for conference travel and graduate assistantships.

The faculty is a diverse group of experts with specialized labs for electrophysiology, sleep, exercise, salivary analysis, eye-tracking and behavioral testing, including software for online/remote data collection and analysis.

Course Work
The master of arts (M.A.) program in psychological research is a two-year, full-time program of study. The program requires the completion of 38 credit hours, consisting of 20 hours of core courses (six thesis hours taken in the second year) and 18 hours of electives. Courses are taught by faculty renowned for their expertise in developmental, health, clinical, cognitive and social psychology, as well as human factors and neuroscience (both basic and clinical). At least 12 hours of elective course credit must be obtained by completing courses offered by the Department of Psychology. Elective courses completed outside of the department require consent of the program director to be added to a student's degree plan.

Faculty
The graduate faculty in the Department of Psychology consists of internationally recognized individuals trained at universities such as Harvard, Yale, Duke and Northwestern, who are highly active in research. Faculty members work closely with students to develop original research in a mutual area of interest. Research interests of graduate faculty include:

- clinical psychology
- cognitive psychology and cognitive neuroscience
- developmental psychology
- health psychology
- social and international psychology
- psychology and diversity
- human factors
- psychometrics and quantitative psychology

Career Options
Graduates are prepared to work as research associates in academic, clinical, community, corporate and government settings. Students will learn skills that enable them to design and conduct ethical research, evaluate/synthesize information derived from various sources and communicate effectively in both written and oral formats. Competencies gained also benefit individuals wishing to pursue clinical or experimental doctoral degrees in psychology.

Important Deadlines*
Admissions
Priority Fall: February 3
Fall: April 30
Spring: No admission
Summer: No admission
Funding: Scholarships, Fellowships and Assistantships
Applications must be complete by the priority deadline to be considered for funding.

How to Apply
For information regarding admission requirements and submission instructions, please visit: gradcollege.txstate.edu/apply

*International applicants can view specific deadlines and requirements at: gradcollege.txstate.edu/international

For information on deadlines, admission requirements and funding, visit: gradcollege.txstate.edu/programs/psych-research