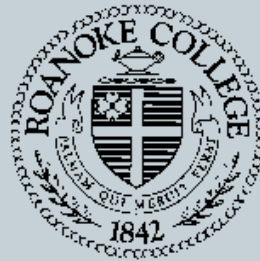


Graduate School in Psychology



**SELECTION, APPLICATION, AND
SUCCESSFUL ADMISSION.**



http://roanoke.edu/Academics/Academic_Departments/Psychology/Graduate_School_and_Careers.htm

Types of programs



- research
 - ✦ psychobiological
 - ✦ social
 - ✦ cognitive
 - ✦ personality
 - ✦ developmental
 - ✦ experimental

- professional/applied
 - ✦ clinical
 - ✦ counseling
 - ✦ industrial-organizational
 - ✦ school psychology
 - ✦ educational psychology
 - ✦ health psychology
 - community psychology
 - environmental psychology
 - forensic psychology
 - sports psychology
 - psychology and law

Type of degree



- Ph.D. (doctorate of philosophy in psychology)
 - ✦ research oriented
 - ✦ dissertation required
 - ✦ 5+ years
- Psy.D. (doctorate of psychology)
 - ✦ professional degree (no dissertation)
 - ✦ 4-5 years (including internship)
- MA/MS (master of arts/science)
 - ✦ general experimental (Ph.D. prep, IO psych, school psych, clinical, counseling, etc.)
 - ✦ 2-3 years (including internship for professional degrees)
- MSW (masters in social work)
- MD (medical doctor – specializing in mental disorders)
 - ✦ 4 years (including rotation and residency)

Roanoke College senior exit & alumni surveys for psychology majors (2004-05)



- ◆ Post-graduation plans (Senior Exit Survey):
 - graduate school now (38%)
 - graduate school someday (41%)
 - no graduate school (22%)

- ◆ Graduate School Degrees (Exit & Alumni Surveys):
 - MA Counseling (9)
 - JD Law (4)
 - MA School Psych (3)
 - MSW - Masters in Social Work (3)
 - MA I/O Psych (2)
 - PsyD Clinical Psych (2)
 - PhD Child Psych, MA Art Therapy, PhD Education Measurement, M.Ed (Special Education), MA Applied Behavior Analysis, MA School Counseling, MA Early Childhood Education
 - MA Forensic Psychology, MA Real estate/Housing, MA Communications, MA Environmental Studies

Finding a program



- literature review
 - ✦ read articles in your interest areas
 - ✦ find professors with similar interests
- research school & mentor
 - ✦ school website
 - ✦ order brochures & application materials
- contact faculty members
 - ✦ are they taking on new students?
 - ✦ is there a good “fit”?

Deadlines



- **Doctoral programs**
 - ✦ December to February
 - ✦ most only accept students in the fall

- **Masters programs**
 - ✦ May to June (most programs)

Paying for school



- **doctoral programs**
 - ✦ tuition waivers
 - clinical programs may not offer
 - ✦ teaching assistantship (TA)
 - ✦ research assistantship (RA)

- **masters programs**
 - ✦ fellowships
 - ✦ TA or RA
 - ✦ grant support of mentor
 - ✦ student loans

Getting accepted



- **GRE**
 - ✦ plan to take the Fall prior to applying to schools
 - ✦ some programs will require the Psychology Subject GRE

- **grades**

- **research experience**
 - ✦ conference presentations

- **internships**

- **letters of recommendation**
 - ✦ make it easy for your professor:
 - well organized (order by deadline)
 - pre-addressed stamped envelopes
 - give them plenty of time to complete by the deadline
 - include Vita , Statement of Purpose
 - use Reference Letter Checklist

- **statement of purpose**
 - ✦ get help, revise, and customize

Resources: books



- Department Chair's Office (Curt Camac)
 - Insider's Guide to Graduate Programs in Clinical and Counseling Psychology
 - Careers in Social Work.
 - Graduate Study in Psychology

- books in the RC library*
 - In the General Collection
 - ✦ Perfect Personal Statements: law, business; medical; graduate school
LB2351.52.U6S746 2002
 - ✦ Graduate Admissions Essays: write your way into the graduate school of your choice
LB2366.2.A84 2000

 - In the Reference Collection
 - ✦ Graduate Study in Psychology REF BF77.G73 2004 (a copy of this text can also be found in Dr. Mary Camac's office)
 - ✦ How to write a winning personal statement for graduate and professional school REF LB2351.52.U6S74 1997
 - ✦ The Psychology Major: career options and strategies for success REF BF76.L36 2003
 - ✦ The GRE CAT for Dummies REF LB2367.4.V558 4th ed. 2000
 - ✦ Cracking the GRE REF LB2367.4.C73 2003

* Thank you to Rebecca Heller of the RC library for compiling this list of resources.

Resources: Websites



- **RC Psyc Dept**
 - http://roanoke.edu/Academics/Academic_Departments/Psychology/Graduate_School_and_Careers.htm
- **RC Career Services**
 - <http://web.roanoke.edu/x11572.xml>
- **PsychInfo** - conduct a literature review to find professors with similar interests.
- **Departmental Websites** (admissions, degrees offered, and interests of individual professors)

Attend the Application Workshop



- **The application workshop will cover:**
 - How to write a Vita
 - How to write a Statement of Purpose
 - How to write a Cover Letter
 - How to get a good Letter of Recommendation
- **Please bring the following:**
 - your current Resume/Vita
 - a list of all of your college activities, organizations, honors, scholarships, internships, research experience, work experience, volunteer experience, etc.
- **Check out our website:**
 - http://roanoke.edu/Academics/Academic_Departments/Psychology/Graduate_School_and_Careers.htm

Good Luck!

