Who are our Students?

Their backgrounds:
Our students enter with a thesis-based Master’s degree in Psychology in hand from a program providing statistical training. They also have prior research experience, and have documented this (often in the form of an accepted Master’s thesis). Those who do not meet these criteria may be considered for conditional admission.

Their scores:
Master’s GPA and GRE (general) are used in the application process. For applicants whose native language is not English, TOEFL is also used. Average scores for our recent cohorts are 3.88 GPA, 153 GRE-Q, and 157 GRE-V.

Their interests and goals:
Examples of current students’ interests included self-perception and subjective well-being; social exclusion and social function; entitlement, performance, and stress; mindfulness and addiction; mindfulness, endocrinology, stress, and depression.

Where can I learn more?
Visit the department web site at http://colfa.utsa.edu/psychology or UTSA’s graduate college at http://graduateschool.utsa.edu/future-students/academic-programs/psychology-ph.d
What are we about?
The goal of our program is simple: to train the next generation of researchers in advanced techniques that will allow them to conduct applied research with theoretical significance. To do this, we have designed a program delivering a the kind of strong foundation in theory, methods, and statistical techniques for which psychology is known while incorporating training on how this foundation applies to health issues, the military, and military health.

Please note, this program is not meant to prepare treatment providers. We are about preparing people with interests in social, cognitive, biological, developmental, clinical, and other areas of psychology to do research with implications for health. Like NIH, we value both directly applied research and basic research with applied implications. Like many funding agencies, we think combining across these areas facilitates the creation of high quality research and increases the likelihood of scientific breakthroughs. The diversity of our faculty’s backgrounds and interests support this mission.

What’s special about our program?
Actually, a lot. More and more fields are recognizing the need for PhDs who can use the theory and methodology of Psychology to conduct applied research. More and more funding agencies are emphasizing these skills as well. We designed our program with that in mind. We expect our graduates to have the theory, methods, applied expertise, and communication skills necessary to bridge the gap between academia and applied settings. We expect them to be able to do both theoretical and applied research, and compete for both academic and applied positions.

As demonstrated in the range of interests listed in this brochure (see reverse side), we have drawn together faculty from a range of areas to ensure we can provide this mix of theory, statistics, and application.

Coursework
Please note that this is not a clinical psychology program. Students who complete the program will not be eligible for licensure.

Core Courses (9 hours)
PSY 7003 Multivariate Statistics
PSY 7013 Advanced Research Design
PSY 7023 Military Health Psychology

Advanced Seminar Topics (12 hours)
PSY 7103 Biopsychology
PSY 7113 Clinical Psychology
PSY 7123 Applied Social Psychology
PSY 7133 Applied Cognitive Psychology
PSY 7143 Diversity & Health Disparities

Prescribed Electives (6 hours)
PSY 7203 Grant Development
PSY 7213 Program Evaluation
DEM 7233 Forecasting
STAT 5413 Nonparametric Statistics
STAT 5253 Time Series Analysis
STAT 6113 Bayesian Statistics
STAT 6853 Categorical Data Analysis

Research and/or Internship (9 hours)
PSY 6513 Psychology Research Internship
PSY 7911-6 Doctoral Research

Dissertation Research (12 hours)
PSY 7921-6 Doctoral Dissertation

For More Information
Email the PhD Graduate Advisor, Dr. Rebecca Weston at Rebecca.Weston@utsa.edu