DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN THE FIELD OF APPLIED SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

The PhD in Applied Social Psychology program trains students to apply social psychological theories and methods to understand and address major health problems and health disparities.

Following the scientist-practitioner model, the program provides a solid foundation in social psychological topics such as attitudes, social cognition, social influence and decision-making, and also promotes mastery of research methods (i.e., experimental and correlational approaches, and quantitative, qualitative and mixed methods research). Students may round out their academic experience with electives from other areas of study including, but not limited to, public health, public policy, economics, and minority and community psychology.

In addition, because faculty specialize in a broad range of analysis in their own research, students in the program also learn multiple perspectives on human behavior. With the program’s applied focus on health promotion and disease prevention, students have collaborated with faculty on research related to HIV/AIDS, obesity, sexual risk, substance use, sun exposure and the doctor-patient relationship.

Many students also add to their portfolio of skills by pursuing service-sector research and internship opportunities at consulting firms, government agencies, health care organizations, nonprofits, corporations and other organizations.

This is a STEM-designated program.

Visit the program website (https://psychology.columbian.gwu.edu/applied-social/) for additional information.

ADMISSIONS

Admission deadlines:
- Fall: December 1

Standardized test scores: The GRE General Exam is recommended but not required for the application. (Institutional code 5246)

The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), the academic International English Language Testing System (IELTS), or the PTE Academic is required of all applicants except those who hold a bachelor’s, master’s, or doctoral degree from a college or university in the United States or from an institution located in a country in which English is the official language, provided English was the language of instruction.

Minimum scores for the program are:
- Academic IELTS: an overall band score of 7.0 with no individual score below 6.0; or
- TOEFL: 600 on paper-based or 100 on Internet-based; or
- PTE Academic: 68;

Prerequisite requirement: A bachelor’s degree with a major in psychology.

Recommendations: (3) recommendations required:

Prior academic records: Transcripts are required from all colleges and universities attended, whether or not credit was earned, the program was completed, or the credit appears as transfer credit on another transcript. Unofficial transcripts from all colleges and universities attended must be uploaded to your online application. Official transcripts are required only of applicants who are offered admission. If transcripts are in a language other than English, English language translations must be provided. The English translation alone should be uploaded into your application.

Statement of purpose: In an essay of 250 – 500 words, state your purpose in undertaking graduate study in your chosen field. Include your academic objectives, research interests, research experience and career plans. Also discuss your related qualifications, including collegiate, professional, and community activities, and any other substantial accomplishments not already mentioned on the application. If you are applying for an assistantship or fellowship, you should also describe any teaching experience you have had.

Interview: An interview is required.

International applicants only: Please review International Applicant Information (https://columbian.gwu.edu/international-graduate-applicants/) for details on required documents and English language requirements.

For more information on the admission process, please visit the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences Frequently Asked Questions (http://columbian.gwu.edu/graduate/admissions/faqs/) page.

Supporting documents not submitted online should be mailed to:
Columbian College of Arts and Sciences - Graduate Admissions Office
The George Washington University
801 22nd Street NW, Phillips Hall 215
REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements must be fulfilled:

The general requirements stated under Columbian College of Arts and Sciences, Graduate Programs (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/#degreeregulationstext).

The requirements for the Doctor of Philosophy Program (http://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/#doctoraltext).

72 credits, including 33 credits in core requirements, 21 to 27 credits in elective courses, and 12 to 18 credits in dissertation, and successful completion of a comprehensive examination.

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<tr>
<td>PSYC 8231</td>
<td>Development of Psychometric Instruments</td>
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<td>PSYC 8245</td>
<td>Seminar: Organizational Behavior</td>
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<td>PSYC 8257</td>
<td>Current Topics in Social Psychology</td>
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<td>PSYC 8258</td>
<td>Qualitative Research and Analysis</td>
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<td>PSYC 8259</td>
<td>Psychology of Individual and Group Decision Making</td>
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<td>PSYC 8279</td>
<td>Special Topics in Health Psychology</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 8295</td>
<td>Independent Research</td>
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Dissertation

12 to 18 credits in dissertation.

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<td>Advanced Reading and Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 8999</td>
<td>Dissertation Research</td>
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Comprehensive examination

Students must successfully complete a comprehensive examination.

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