

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN THE FIELD OF APPLIED SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY (STEM)

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/graduate/phd-applied-social-psychology/>) for additional information.

ADMISSIONS

Admission Fall: December 1 deadlines:

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 requirements A bachelor's degree with a major in psychology. Students whose academic preparation is in other disciplines will be expected to have completed prerequisite undergraduate courses to prepare for graduate study in psychology before admission.

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> (<https://columbian.gwu.edu/international-graduate-applicants/>)) carefully for details on required documents and English language requirements.

Supporting documents not submitted online should be mailed to:

Columbian College of Arts and Sciences, Office of Graduate Studies
The George Washington University
801 22nd Street NW, Phillips Hall 107
Washington DC 20052

For additional information about the admissions process visit the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences Frequently Asked Questions (<https://columbian.gwu.edu/graduate-admissions-faq/>) page.

Contact:

askccas@gwu.edu
202-994-6210 (phone)

Hours: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday

REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements must be fulfilled:

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

The requirements for the Doctor of Philosophy Program (<https://bulletin.gwu.edu/arts-sciences/#doctoralstext>).

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.

Code	Title	Credits
Required core		
Applied social		
PSYC 8253	Social Cognition	
PSYC 8254	Social Influence	
PSYC 8255	Attitudes and Attitude Change	
PSYC 8277	Health Psychology	
Methods/statistics		
DNSC 6274	Statistical Modeling and Analysis	
DNSC 6275	Advanced Statistical Modeling and Analysis	
DNSC 6276	Exploratory and Multivariate Data Analysis	
PSYC 8202	Psychological Research Methods and Procedures	
PSYC 8256	Introduction to Survey Research	
Breadth		
6 credits in psychology (PSYC) courses out of the applied social program.		
Electives		
21 to 27 credits in elective courses. Recommended electives are listed below; other courses may be selected in consultation with the advisor.		
PSYC 8218	Evidence-Based Interventions	
PSYC 8231	Development of Psychometric Instruments	
PSYC 8245	Seminar: Organizational Behavior	
PSYC 8257	Current Topics in Social Psychology	

PSYC 8258	Qualitative Research and Analysis
PSYC 8259	Psychology of Individual and Group Decision Making
PSYC 8279	Special Topics in Health Psychology
PSYC 8295	Independent Research

Dissertation

12 to 18 credits in dissertation.

PSYC 8998	Advanced Reading and Research
PSYC 8999	Dissertation Research

Comprehensive examination

Students must successfully complete a comprehensive examination.