**ADMISSIONS**

**How do I use this map?**

Whether you are considering or have embarked on graduate studies at Queen’s, use this map to plan for success in five overlapping areas of your career and academic life. The map helps you explore possibilities, set goals and track your individual accomplishments. Everyone’s journey is different—the guide offers options for finding your way at Queen’s and setting the foundation for your future. To make your own customised map, use the online My Grad Map tool.

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**Why GRADUATE STUDIES in PSYCHOLOGY?**

Psychology is a particularly diverse profession encompassing research, teaching and applied work. While the two former activities are relevant mainly, but by no means exclusively to universities, applied psychologists work in a wide variety of settings, including industry, management, the school systems, private practice, penitentiaries, and hospitals. Like members of all professions, the conduct of psychologists whether they are engaged in practice, teaching or research, is regulated by principles, standards and by statute. In Ontario persons who call themselves a psychologist must meet at least one of three criteria: they must be a university professor, be employed in a psychologist’s position by the federal penitentiary service, or must be registered.

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**Why QUEEN’S?**

“I find that I’m getting a really good balance of experiences here. I’ve had the opportunity to travel a lot. In the last two years, I’ve presented at conferences in Halifax, Chicago, Washington D.C. and Puerto Rico.”

– Karen Blair, PhD

The graduate program in Psychology at Queen’s is internationally renowned for its excellent faculty and students, its innovative training and the value of its research, scholarship and skill development. We offer a wide range of Programs in core areas of Psychology, with a strong emphasis on fundamental research and discovery, as well as intensive training in clinical skills and applications. Our Department and Queen’s host world-class researchers and a number of state-of-the-art techniques and laboratories. Our goal is to prepare students for successful careers in a variety of settings, including academic institutions, clinical and health care settings, industry and the private sector, education, and many others.

At Queen’s, graduate students from all disciplines learn and discover in a close-knit intellectual community. You will find friends, peers and support among the graduate students enrolled in Queen’s more than 150 graduate programs within 50+ departments & research centres. With the world’s best scholars, prize-winning professional development opportunities, excellent funding packages and life in the affordable, historic waterfront city of Kingston, Queen’s offers a wonderful environment for graduate studies.

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**Why KINGSTON?**

Described by students as both “Quaint” and “electric,” Kingston is big enough to provide all the conveniences of modern life, and small enough for students, staff, and faculty to feel instantly comfortable and at home. Queen’s is an integral part of the Kingston community, with the campus nestled in the core of the city, a 10-minute walk to downtown with its shopping, dining and waterfront. For more about Kingston’s history and culture, see Queen’s University: Discover Kingston page.

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**Program STRUCTURE**

PhD (4 years): course work and thesis/dissertation.

**ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS**

- *Statement of Interest*:
  - A brief description of your personal and professional experience, your general academic and personal interests and intellectual pursuits, your goals for professional development and your reasons for choosing the psychology program at Queen’s University.

- *Statement of Research Interest*:
  - A detailed description of one or more areas of research that you are interested in pursuing during graduate study, and the reasons for your interest in each area.

- *Letters of Reference*:
  - At least two letters of reference on employers’ letterhead that speak to your academic achievement, potential as a graduate student and potential as a research and/or clinical professional.

- *Curriculum Vitae*:
  - A brief summary of your academic and professional background, previous work experience and any other relevant information.

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**ENGLISH PROFICIENCY TOEFL REQUIREMENTS**

- **Minimum score of 88 on the Internet-Based TOEFL (iBT)**.
- **Minimum score of 213 on the Computer-Based TOEFL (CBT)**.
- **Minimum score of 550 on the Paper-Based TOEFL (PBT)**.

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**ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS**

- **Minimum GPA of 3.0 on the last four years of undergraduate study**.
- **Minimum 60th percentile on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE)** scores.
- **Minimum 60th percentile on the Life Sciences Subject Test of the Graduate Record Examination (LSAT)** scores.
- **Minimum 60th percentile on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE)** scores.

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**Additional Qualifications**

- **Prior Research Experience**: demonstrate prior research experience through publications, presentations or other forms of research-related work.

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**DEADLINES**

**Application deadline**
- **December 1**.

**Notification of Acceptance**: decisions begin on December 1.

Before you start your application, please review the Graduate studies application process.

Visit the School of Graduate Studies website to read faculty profiles and learn more about faculty members’ research areas. When you find a faculty member with similar research interests to yours, contact him/her and tell them about your interest in graduate work, area of research interest and related experience.

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**What about funding?**

The minimum funding guarantee for Psychology PhD students is $18,000 per year, throughout years 1-4. This basic funding packages which include a combination of fellowships, scholarships and teaching assistantships.

We encourage all students to apply for external funding from OGS, SSHRC and other sources. Queen’s will automatically issue a $10,000 funding from OGS, SSHRC and other sources.

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**Where can a graduate degree take me?**

A PhD in Psychology can take your career in many directions. In Canada, less than 40% of all PhDs will work in post-secondary education—the majority will work in industry, government, or non-profits.

- **Academia and research**
- **Government agencies**
- **Private sector**
- **Clinical/Hospitals**
- **Correctional Services Canada**
- **Private practice**

Taking time to explore career options, build experience, and network can help you have a smooth transition to the world of work after graduation.

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**For more information, see the School of Graduate Studies’ information on awards and scholarships or see what awards are offered through the Psychology Department.**

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**School of Graduate Studies**

**Creating an impact**

**www.queensu.ca/sgs**
### YEAR I

**ACHIEVE YOUR ACADEMIC GOALS**
- Key priorities include your relationship with your supervisor(s) and forming your committee, coursework, field exams, and language exam.
- Look to Student Academic Success Services for a variety of supports.
- Complete the human and/or animal research ethics training.

**MAXIMIZE RESEARCH IMPACT**
- Think about audiences for your research.
- Complete ROMEO online module on research ethics if doing research with living people or sensitive topics.
- Apply to NSERC, OGs, and other funding.
- Attend conferences in your field.

**BUILD SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE**
- Serve on departmental or university committees. Talk to the Association of Graduate Students in Psychology (AGSIP) or tips on getting involved.
- Consider positions in student services, the SGPS, or media outlets like the Queen's Journal, 3MT, or the SGS Blog. Look in the AMS Club Directory.
- Use a Teaching Assistant or Research Assistant position to develop your skills and experience.

**ENGAGE WITH YOUR COMMUNITY**
- Explore how you can connect with your community through experiential opportunities on- and off-campus.
- Consider volunteering with different community organizations and events, such as the Get Your Backs campaign.

**LAUNCH YOUR CAREER**
- Finding career fit starts with knowing yourself! Take the Career Services Career Planning workshop or meet with a career counsellor for help. Check out books like So What Are You Going to Do With That? for advice on various career options.
- Start reading publications like University Affairs and the Chronicle of Higher Education. Browse non-academic labour market websites.
- Stay on the lookout for special events like Graduate Student Career Week to explore your career pathways.

### YEAR II

**Write and defend your thesis proposal.**
- Embark on your substantive research.
- Find your way through the academic process with the help of Expanding Horizons.

**PRESENT YOUR WORK**
- Present your work at graduate conferences, through professional associations, or topic conferences.
- Expand your research audience through social media such as Twitter or a blog.

**BEGIN TEACHING**
- Hone skills for non-academic employment by continuing involvement on committees and in community.
- Start keeping an eportfolio of your skills, experiences, and competencies.
- For help with teaching, get support from the Centre for Teaching and Learning. Visit the SGPS Teaching and Learning Guide or the PUTL certificate for more professional development in teaching and learning.

### YEAR III

**YEAR IV & TRANSITIONING**

**Continue to pursue publication options for your research.**
- Apply to jobs or make plans for other adventures.
- Key priorities include your relationship with your supervisor(s), forming your committee, coursework, field exams, and language exam.

**PRESENT YOUR WORK**
- Present your work at graduate conferences, through professional associations, or topic conferences.
- Expand your research audience through social media such as Twitter or a blog.

**BEGIN TEACHING**
- Hone skills for non-academic employment by continuing involvement on committees and in community.
- Start keeping an eportfolio of your skills, experiences, and competencies.
- For help with teaching, get support from the Centre for Teaching and Learning. Visit the SGPS Teaching and Learning Guide or the PUTL certificate for more professional development in teaching and learning.

### EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS

**Knowledge and technical skills**
- Knowledge and technical skills in area of specialization.
- Communication: effective and clear in written, oral and multimedia forms, for diverse audiences.

**Information management**
- Prioritize, organize and synthesize large amounts of information.

**Time management**
- Meet deadlines and responsibilities despite competing demands.

**Project management**
- Develop ideas, gather information, analyze, critically appraise findings, draw and act on conclusions.

**Creativity and innovation**
- Address complex, multifaceted challenges.

**Perseverance**
- Work through challenges to achieve desired outcome.

**Independence**
- And experience as a collaborative worker.

**Awareness and understanding of sound ethical practices, social responsibility, responsible research and cultural sensitivity**
- Professionalism in all aspects of work, research, and interactions.

**Leadership initiative and vision leading people and discussions**

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Visit careers.queensu.ca/gradmaps for the online version with links!