

Psychology MSc Map

Applying to and Navigating Graduate Studies

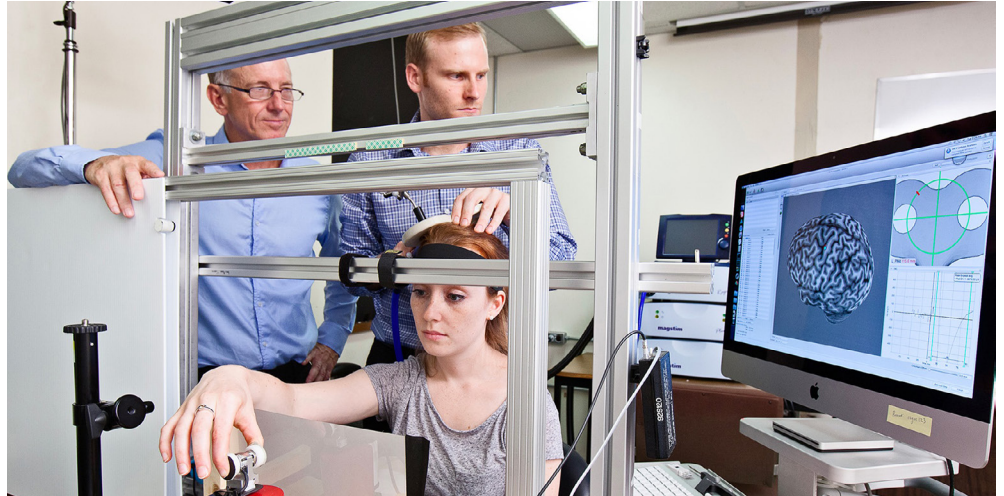
GRAD MAP FOR MSc STUDENTS 

Why GRADUATE STUDIES in PSYCHOLOGY?

Graduate studies in Psychology provide training in establishing a scientific understanding of human behaviour and its causes across the lifespan. This training focuses on developing expertise in the discipline's theoretical and empirical literature, conducting research aimed at making new scientific discoveries, and disseminating knowledge about psychology to students and the broader community. The skills and expertise that graduate students develop during the course of their graduate degrees are in demand in the public and private sector, including a wide range of industries, management, government, universities and schools, corrections, hospitals, and private practice. Those with graduate degrees in Psychology will be well situated to take advantage of these and many more opportunities to apply this crucial expertise.

Why QUEEN'S?

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 programs in core areas of Psychology, with a strong emphasis on high-quality critical scholarship, fundamental research and discovery, and application in clinical,



community, and private sectors. Students work collaboratively with an interdisciplinary group of world-class researchers who provide training with state-of-the-art techniques to make discoveries and communicate those discoveries to the relevant stakeholders. Our goal is to prepare students for successful careers in a variety of settings, including clinical and health care settings, industry and the private sector, academic institutions, private consulting firms, and many others.

Program STRUCTURE

MSc (2 years): course work, and thesis.

RESEARCH Areas

- Clinical Psychology
- Cognitive Neuroscience
- Developmental Psychology
- Social/Personality Psychology

We encourage you to identify an area of research interest and contact a potential supervisor before applying.

Visit the Psychology Department website to read faculty profiles, learn more about faculty members' research laboratories and interests, and discover whether they are open to supervising students in the year you are applying. If you find a faculty member with similar research interests to yours, reach out to tell them about your

interest in graduate work, area of research interest, and related experience.

Watch our website to learn about upcoming Open Houses, when you can visit us either virtually or on campus to learn more about Psychology graduate studies at Queen's.

"The Master's program in Psychology at Queen's is about what you make out of it! It provided a diverse variety of learning opportunities for me; from coding and multivariate statistics to research, teaching, and even course development!"

– Shahryar Naeini, Psychology MSc graduate



GRADUATE STUDIES AND POSTDOCTORAL AFFAIRS

queensu.ca/grad-postdoc

Psychology MSc Map

MASTER OF SCIENCE (MSc)



GETTING STARTED

INTERMEDIATE STAGE

WRAPPING UP

ACHIEVE YOUR ACADEMIC GOALS

- Start with key priorities like developing your relationship with your supervisor, forming your committee, and doing your coursework.
- Consider how your course papers can contribute to your dissertation/thesis.
- Find your way through the academic process with help from departmental and School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs (SGSPA) professional development workshops, the department Grad Chair, and the SGSPA website.

- Complete your coursework; begin to research and write your dissertation/thesis.
- Complete the human and/or animal research ethics training.

- Complete your dissertation/thesis.

MAXIMIZE RESEARCH IMPACT

- Start to think about the audiences for your research.
- If you will be continuing graduate studies, apply for Tri-Council funding.

- Attend or present at a graduate conference.
- Attend and participate in graduate seminars.
- Consider participating in the 3 Minute Thesis (3MT) or GRADflix competition.
- Expand your research audience through social media like LinkedIn, a blog or podcast.

- Consider publication options for your research.
- Attend a major conference in your field, such as the Canadian Psychological Association Annual Conference, or the European Congress of Psychology.
- Consider being interviewed on the SGSPA radio show Grad Chat to talk about your research.
- Consider putting an article in The Conversation.

BUILD SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

- Consider positions in student services, the SGPS, or media outlets like the Queen's Journal, CFRC, and the SGSPA Blog. Look in the AMS Clubs Directory for more ideas.
- Serve on departmental or university committees. Talk to the Association of Graduate Students in Psychology (AGSIP) for tips on getting involved.
- Check out professional development workshops from School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs professional development and the psychology department.

- Start keeping an eportfolio of your skills, experiences, and competencies.
- Use a Research Assistant or Teaching Assistant position to develop your research or teaching skills.
- For help with teaching, get support from the Centre for Teaching and Learning. Enrol in SGS902 or the PUTL Certificate for more professional development in teaching and learning.

- Practice articulating the skills you have been developing in settings outside the university, such as casual conversation, networking, and interviews. Get help from a Career Services workshop.
- Check out opportunities for extra training through CTL, School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs professional development, Mitacs, or other sources to boost your skills.
- Investigate internships from MITACS and other sources.

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.

- Participate in your graduate and professional community through activities such as graduate student outreach programs, organizing conferences, and research groups.
- Prepare for work or studies in a multi-cultural environment by taking the Intercultural Awareness Training Certificate hosted by QUIC and Four Directions Indigenous Student Centre.
- If you are an international student interested in staying in Canada, consider speaking with an International Student Advisor.

- Do some targeted networking with people working in careers of interest, through Queens Connects on LinkedIn, the Queen's Alumni Association, professional associations, and at conferences. Get help from a Career Services workshop.
- Consider joining professional associations like the Canadian Psychological Association or the Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology.

LAUNCH YOUR CAREER

- Finding a career that fits starts with knowing yourself. Get help by taking a Career Services workshop or meeting with a career educator and coach. Check out the Career Resource Area for advice on various career options.
- Start reading publications like University Affairs and the Chronicle of Higher Education. Browse non-academic labour market websites.
- Check admission test deadlines if needed for further studies.

- Explore different careers of interest by using Queens Connects on LinkedIn to connect with Queen's alumni. Check out Career Cruising for more information.
- If you are considering a PhD, explore programs of interest reach out to faculty, and apply to PhD programs and external scholarships.

- Participate in hiring committees and attend job talks. Start focusing on areas of interest. Research organizations of interest and start putting together your CV or resume for potential positions of interest. Get help from Career Services with job searching, resumes, and interviews.

Knowledge & Workplace Skills

A graduate degree in Psychology can equip you with valuable and versatile skills, such as:

- **Knowledge and technical skills**
- **Effective communication skills** in multiple forms for diverse audiences
- **Information management:** prioritize, organize and synthesize large amounts of information
- **Time management:** meet deadlines and manage responsibilities despite competing demands
- **Project management:** develop ideas, gather information, analyze, critically appraise findings, draw and act on conclusions
- **Creativity and innovation**
- **Perseverance**
- **Independence** and experience as a **collaborative worker**
- **Awareness**, an 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 discussion

Career Possibilities

A Master's degree in Psychology can take your career in many directions. Many of our MSc students choose to continue their academic inquiry with a PhD. Our Master's students are equipped with a strong foundation for careers in:

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

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

How to use this map

Use the 5 rows of the map to explore possibilities and plan for success in the five overlapping areas of career and academics. To make your own custom map, use the My Grad Map tool: careers.queensu.ca/gradmaps.

Graduate Studies FAQs

How do I make the most of my time at Queen's?

Use the Grad Map to plan for success in five overlapping areas of your career and academic life. Everyone's journey is different - the ideas on the maps are just suggestions to help you explore possibilities. For more support with your professional development, take advantage of the SGSPA professional development framework and the new Professional Development Plan (PDP) process to set customized goals to help you get career ready when you graduate.

Where can I get help?

Queen's provides you with a broad range of support services from your first point of contact with the university through to graduation. Ranging from help with academics and careers, to physical, emotional, or spiritual resources – our welcoming environment offers the programs and services you need to be successful, both academically and personally. Check out the SGSPA website for available resources.

What is the community like?

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 130 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. Queen's is an integral part of the Kingston community, with the campus nestled in the core of the city, only a 10-minute walk to downtown with its shopping, dining and waterfront. For more about Kingston's history and culture, see Queen's University's Discover Kingston page.

Application FAQs

What do I need to know to APPLY?

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- Bachelor's Honours degree in Psychology (or equivalent area).
- **Grade requirements:** Minimum B+ average or international equivalent (e.g., upper second class).

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- Statement of Interest
- Two academic references
- If English is not a native language, prospective students must meet the English language proficiency requirements in writing, speaking, reading, and listening. The following minimum scores are required: (1) TOEFL iBT: Writing (24/30); Speaking (22/30); Reading (22/30); Listening (20/30). Applicants must have the minimum score in each test as well as the minimum overall score, or (2) IELTS: 7.0 (academic module overall band score and a 7.0 for each test band), or (3) PTE Academics: 65, or (4) CAEL CE -70 (minimum overall score).

KEY DATES & DEADLINES

- **Application due:** December 1.

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

What about FUNDING?

M.Sc. students in Psychology receive minimum funding of \$23,000 per year for the two years of the program.

Apply for external funding from the Tri-Councils and from other sources (e.g. Ontario Graduate Scholarship). For more information, see the School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs' information on awards and scholarships, or see Funding and Financial Support on the Psychology Department website.

