

Applying to Graduate School in Psychology

It takes a considerable amount of time to prepare a successful graduate school application. Long before the application due dates, you will need to research programs and prospective advisors that are a good match for your training goals, learn about the program requirements, study for and take the necessary examinations (if applicable), and seek out appropriate referees. Some students have reported that these tasks can consume at least as much time as a course. However, if you want a career in Psychology, this is time well spent!

Your grades will play a large role in determining your competitiveness as a graduate school applicant. Typically, your performance in your last two years, or 10.0 courses, will bear the most weight in your assessment. For purposes of information, at Western, our cutoff average for graduate school admission is 78%; however, some of our programs require a much higher average.

The Canadian Psychological Association has created a very useful document to assist undergraduate students in preparing applications for graduate training in Psychology. We urge you to read this document carefully.

<http://www.cpa.ca/cpsite/userfiles/Documents/publications/Applying%20to%20Grad%20School.pdf>

Many graduate programs in Psychology require students to take the Graduate Record Examination. Learn more about this examination at www.gre.org

International students may be required to take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). Learn more about this examination at www.toeflgoanywhere.org

If you have any additional questions about applying to graduate school, please contact our Psychology Program Advisor, Ms. Ramona Fudge, at psycouns@uwo.ca, or Associate Chair—Undergraduate, Dr. Lynne Zarbatany, at lynnez@uwo.ca.

Good luck!