Western Michigan University’s Psychology (M.A., Ph.D.) programs have a natural science orientation consistent with the contemporary definition of psychology as the science of behavior. Program degrees are available in:

- Behavior Analysis (M.A., Ph.D.)
- Clinical Psychology (Ph.D.)
- Industrial/Organizational (I/O) Psychology (M.A.)

The **M.A. in Behavior Analysis** prepares students to assume professional roles in business, industry, and mental health services (including autism), or to pursue doctoral training. We offer both practicum (non-thesis) and thesis options, as well as the course sequence and supervised experience needed for Behavior Analyst Certification Board exam preparation.

The **Ph.D. in Behavior Analysis** is designed for students who have a strong background in behavior analysis. This program provides intensive training in behavior analysis and is a research degree for persons intending to assume leadership roles in teaching, research, and service in a variety of professional and academic institutions.

The **Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology** provides broad clinical training utilizing a scientist-practitioner model, with an emphasis in evidence-based practice, and graduates are prepared for research, practice and college teaching roles. Includes practicum and research training within an on-site clinic, and practical experience in community agencies. The program is approved by the American Psychological Association.

The **M.A. in Industrial/Organizational Psychology** prepares students, through a combination of classroom and practical training, for human resource and organizational development positions in business, consulting, and human service organizations. Program options enable graduates to enter the work force or pursue doctoral training. Both practicum (non-thesis) and thesis options are offered.

- All programs have a strong behavioral orientation and are known both nationally and internationally for excellence in behavior analysis.
Teaching, Research, and Program Focus Areas

Key areas of faculty expertise are: attention deficit hyperactivity disorder and conduct disorders, autism, behavioral pediatrics, behavioral safety, behavioral systems analysis, developmental disabilities, drug and alcohol abuse, family therapy, feedback systems, health psychology, instructional design, interpersonal violence, mood and anxiety disorders, monetary incentives, post-traumatic stress disorder, risky choice behavior, sexual disorders, statistics, verbal behavior.

Admissions

General application criteria for all programs include:

- A bachelor’s degree with a minimum of 18 credit hours in psychology, which must include 3 credit hours of statistics.
- An undergraduate major in psychology is preferred.
- Other preferred qualifications include a minimum GPA of 3.0 and minimum scores corresponding to the 50th percentile on the verbal and quantitative sections of the GRE.
- Other criteria taken into consideration include letters of reference, research activity, work experience, social and professional skills, and the extent to which the applicant’s interests match the program.

Applications are accepted one time per year and are due on December 15. Applicants should submit a university application, departmental application (available on the department’s website), official transcripts from any college or university attended, GRE general test scores, three letters of recommendation, and a personal statement. If applying to the Industrial Organizational program, a supplemental application (available on the department’s website) is also required. The Clinical program also requires a writing sample (instructions available on the department’s website). For more application information visit the program website: wmich.edu/psychology/index.html

Graduate Assistantships/Associateships

Many of our students receive Graduate Assistantships/Associateships that provide a stipend and tuition support. We typically do not have enough funding to ensure that all students receive assistantships/associateships.

Contacts

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Western Michigan University

One of the top-100 public universities in the United States, Western Michigan University offers many nationally known graduate programs, including 29 doctoral and 64 master’s degrees. More than 20 percent of its 25,000 students are enrolled in graduate course work.

Kalamazoo

With a population of more than 325,000, Kalamazoo is the sixth largest metropolitan area in Michigan and among the 150 largest in the country. Kalamazoo is rated one of the 25 best cities in the country for young college graduates, and is located midway between Chicago and Detroit.