

The University of Windsor - Department of Psychology

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Location: The University of Windsor campus is located near the scenic riverfront in Windsor, Ontario – the only Canadian city where the mainland U.S.A. is Canada’s *northern* neighbour. Although Windsor is a medium-sized city, it offers the benefits of a much larger city; its proximity to Detroit just across the river offers ample opportunities for stateside shopping and entertainment. Windsor and Detroit also co-host one of the world’s largest fireworks as part of the Canada Day and Independence Day celebrations each summer. But Windsor, in its own right, has plenty to offer. Each November, the Windsor International Film Festival showcases recent films from a multitude of genres. Enjoying one of Canada’s warmest climates, Windsor’s landscaped riverfront features a jogging and bicycling path that is bustling with people throughout much of the year. Windsor’s large number and variety of ethnic restaurants – many of them located near the University campus – feature food from all corners of the world. Additionally, the picturesque Point Pelee National Park (the southernmost point of Canada) is just a short drive away – a great place to explore during your summer down-time!

Department: The Psychology Department was founded in 1963 and currently boasts one of the largest undergraduate programs and the largest doctoral program offered by the University of Windsor. During any given academic year, an average of 100 graduate students are enrolled. Currently, there are 30 full-time faculty members. For undergraduate students, the department offers General and Honours B.A. degrees in both Psychology and Developmental Psychology. A unique feature of our undergraduate program is the Behaviour, Cognition, and Neuroscience Program, a combined B.Sc. degree in Biological Sciences and Psychology. Graduate programs that lead to a doctoral degree in either Applied Social Psychology or Clinical Psychology are also offered. As a joint venture among the Departments of Psychology, Anthropology, and Sociology, a program of study that leads to a Master’s degree in Social Data Analysis is also offered. This program is presently the only one of its kind in Canada.

The department follows the scientist-practitioner model, with a strong emphasis on the integration of theory, research, and practice. The Applied Social Psychology faculty members and graduate students focus on community/health and organizational psychology research. The Clinical Psychology program is divided into three specialized tracks (i.e., Child Clinical, Adult Clinical, and Clinical Neuropsychology) and is accredited by both the American and Canadian Psychological Associations. Graduate students and faculty members enjoy a mutually supportive and respectful relationship and collaborate in more than 30 research and lab groups that span a diverse range of topics across all program areas.

Our graduate students receive funding from a variety of sources. Approximately 80% of graduate students receive yearly internal scholarships that cover the base cost of their tuition. Many students also receive external funding, including Ontario Graduate Scholarships and Tri-Council scholarships. Psychol-

ogy graduate students also receive financial support in the form of various Graduate and Research Assistantships.

The Psychology Department is committed to providing diverse research and training opportunities and many Psychology faculty and students are involved in multi-disciplinary and university-community collaborations. Graduate students in both the Applied Social Psychology and Clinical Psychology programs are required to complete applied training in the form of practicums and internships and many graduate students have engaged in such training at some of the university’s numerous community partners, including government and community agencies, organizations, hospitals, and mental health clinics in both Windsor and Detroit. The Applied Social Psychology practicum and internship are designed to develop students’ skills in theory, research and methods, and practice in a “real world” field setting. During past practicums and internships, students in the Applied Social Psychology program have worked on projects related to program development and evaluation, management consulting, needs assessment, survey construction and analysis, to name a few. On campus, the Psychological Services and Research Centre and the Student Counselling Centre provide clinical training opportunities for graduate students in the Clinical Psychology programs. The Child Study Centre offers research and clinical training opportunities pertaining to assessment and intervention for students in the Child Clinical stream. Clinical Neuropsychology graduate students enjoy access to the Clinical Neuropsychology Research and Resource Centre, which contains neuropsychological data from approximately 6000 adult and child cases.

Student Experience. In terms of student life, there are regular informal and formal departmental gatherings that enhance and maintain the close-knit atmosphere within the Psychology Department. During the fall semester, a number of department-wide and area-specific welcome events are organized to help new graduate students become acquainted with their program as well as other graduate students and faculty members. The Psychology Department also features a buddy system in which incoming graduate students are matched with a senior graduate student “buddy” who helps with (almost) any questions or concerns the new student may have. A number of graduate students also form the Psychology Graduate Council that represents and advocates the interests of psychology graduate students and organizes a variety of extra-curricular social events, such as movie nights, ice skating, a Halloween pumpkin carving contest, and a Thanksgiving potluck. Monthly colloquia featuring professors from various Canadian and American universities offer students and faculty members a chance to discuss current research topics and ideas in a collegial manner.

Website: For more information about the University of Windsor, please visit www.uwindsor.ca. Further information about the Department of Psychology is available at www.uwindsor.ca/psychology. Please also check out our graduate program’s page on facebook!

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