Welcome

The Masters of Science in Neuroscience Program at Central Michigan University is designed to give each student a comprehensive understanding of the core principles in neuroscience and the requisite training that will prepare students for further, doctoral-level graduate training or for positions in academics, industry, or government that utilize highly trained research skills in specific areas of neuroscience. Throughout the program, all students are expected to be actively involved in research with a Program faculty member, who serves as a mentor. The focus of the M.S. Program in Neuroscience is the build a broad-based and comprehensive understanding of the basic principles of neuroscience and develop a strong background for applied research in some specific area of neuroscience. Current areas of specific research training include CNS control of respiration and studying the causes and potential treatments for Alzheimer’s, Huntington’s, and Parkinson’s diseases. Students are encouraged to contact Program faculty members in their area of research interest prior to submitting application materials.

Master of Science (M.S.) in Neuroscience

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Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Neuroscience

The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Neuroscience Program at Central Michigan University is designed to give each student a comprehensive understanding of the core principles in neuroscience and the requisite training that will prepare students for positions in academics, industry, or government that utilize highly trained research skills in specific areas of neuroscience. The foundation of the Program is provided during the first two years, which encompasses all the requirements for the Master of Science (M.S.) degree in Neuroscience. Throughout the program, all students are expected to be actively involved in research with a Program faculty member, who serves as a mentor. Upon receiving the M.S. degree in Neuroscience (or its equivalent, for students who enter the Ph.D. Program after their second year), students will work closely with their mentor to establish a line of research that will lead to a publishable-quality major paper and dissertation. As such, the focus of the Ph.D. Program in Neuroscience is to build upon the student’s broad-based and comprehensive understanding of the basic principles of neuroscience and develop a strong background for applied research in some specific area of neuroscience. Current areas of specific research training include CNS control of respiration and studying the causes and potential treatments for Alzheimer’s, Huntington’s, and Parkinson’s diseases. Students are encouraged to contact Program faculty members in their area of research interest prior to submitting application materials.
Program Information

Objectives
The major objective of the MS/PhD Program in Neuroscience is to provide students with the requisite academic background, technical skills, and hands-on research experience that will allow them to successfully compete for neuroscience-related jobs in the private and public sectors.

Description
The program follows a mentorship model, whereby each student will work closely with his or her mentor. Students will design a program of study which best fits their interests and needs, selecting most of their courses in close consultation with their mentor. Most of the coursework will be taken in the first two years, with minimal requirements of two courses in statistics/research methods, a year-long core course in neuroscience, and a neuroscience seminar each semester. In addition, all students will do a practicum or internship that associates their bench research with clinical applications. The predominant philosophy of the program will be its emphasis on applied research, which will be conducted each year, but with a special emphasis on the third and fourth year when students prepare a publishable major paper and dissertation, respectively.

Entrance Requirements
Applicants need to provide GRE scores and should have a 3.00 GPA in neuroscience, psychology, chemistry, or one of the bioscience disciplines. Applicants with previous research experience in neuroscience-related areas will be heavily favored, and applicants should have an expressed research interest which matches that of at least one of our program mentors.

Student Support
Graduate students accepted into the neuroscience program will have four year support which includes a stipend plus remission of fees and tuition.

Unique Qualities of the Program
Although the proposed program will share the critical requirements and expectations of many Ph.D. programs in neuroscience, there are a few areas of emphasis which make this program relatively unique, including:

• **Applied focus.** Although our required core course ensure a fundamental understanding of neuroscience principles and an appreciation for basic research, our primary focus is on training students who have interests in applied research which match those of our program mentors.

• **Mentorship model.** Students in our program are involved in research with their mentors from start to finish. The program is designed for students who already know what area of neuroscience they want to pursue and who have a desire to focus their efforts refining their knowledge and research skills in this area. In fact, students have a great deal of latitude in tailoring their academic program in consultation with their mentor to target specific needs.

• **Clinical relevance.** Translational research, or the ability to bring research from the bench to the bedside, is an area which will be emphasized strongly in this program. As part of an applied focus, our students will have first-hand experience with clinical populations through practicum or internships. This will help students devise new research protocols which may more accurately address the needs of the targeted clinical population.

Careers in Neuroscience
Neuroscience majors become medical professionals (MD, DO, PA, PT, etc.), researchers (in biotech, pharmaceutical, hospitals, etc.), educators (teachers, professors, etc.), and can be found in many other professions (such as law, business, etc.) that value the critical thinking skills and ability to synthesize diverse information that is gained by studying neuroscience.

Most of our majors have attained careers in biomedical research or in the medical/allied health professions. Others have pursued careers in industry (biotech firms and pharmaceutical companies), government (NIH), law, insurance industry, and education (professors, career counselors).

Some of these careers require graduate-level degrees:

• Behavioral Neuroscientist
• Clinical Psychologist
• Laboratory Technician
• Medical Assistant
• Neurologist
• Neuropsychologist
• Neurochemist
• Neuropsychologist

Apply Online
http://apply.cmich.edu

For More Information
If you have any questions or would like to schedule an appointment with the program director, tour the program facilities, meet with faculty, or request a paper application, please contact us.

Neuroscience Program Admissions
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Founded in 1892, CMU has since become a multifaceted and highly respected Doctoral Research University with over 28,000 students, including more than 2,000 graduate students on campus in Mount Pleasant, Michigan.