Welcome

Central Michigan University offers multiple graduate program options in Experimental Psychology. Students in each academic program work closely with faculty mentors on research towards completion of their graduate degree requirements.

Admission

Admission to either the Master's or Ph.D. program requires an overall grade point average of 3.0, 15 hours of undergraduate psychology course work or the equivalent (as determined by the department), satisfactory scores on the verbal and quantitative portions of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE), and satisfactory letters of reference. The admission criteria is described in more detail in the application materials. The application deadline is Jan 15th.

www.chsbs.cmich.edu/experimentalpsychology

Master's Program

The Master of Science in Experimental Psychology at Central Michigan University is a broad, flexible program designed to develop individual scholarship. The program's primary emphasis is to prepare students for doctoral study or research positions.

Students are exposed to a variety of content areas, while concentrating on a major area of study. Students are expected to be actively involved in research with a faculty mentor.

During the past few years, CMU graduates have been successfully admitted into top doctoral programs around the country. They also have gained employment in the public and private sectors.

The Master's program requires a minimum of 36 hours of graduate work. Course work includes:
- research seminars;
- psychological foundations, including physiological, learning, social developmental, perception, and cognition;
- quantitative foundations, including measurement and statistics; and
- electives in other areas of psychology and possibly other fields.

Accelerated Master's

Advanced undergraduate students currently enrolled at Central Michigan University can earn both a Bachelor of Science degree with a General Major in Psychology and a Master of Science degree in Experimental Psychology in five years. The accelerated program course requirements are identical to the General Major in Psychology/Master of Science in Experimental Psychology, but allow students to apply 12 credit hours of graduate course work toward both their Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degree programs.

Doctoral Program

The objective of the Ph.D. in Applied Experimental Psychology program is to develop individuals with strong applied research skills for positions in business, industry, allied health, government agencies, and academia. The program offers advanced training in psychological processes (e.g., biological, cognitive, behavioral, social, personality) and quantitative methodological procedures (e.g., statistics, experimental design, computer applications) and their utilization in applied settings.

The first two years of the Ph.D. program are identical to those of the Master's program in Experimental Psychology. Emphasis in the third and fourth years of doctoral study is placed on advanced specialized training, including generating high-quality research and gaining practical experience through internships. Specialized applied training, including pre-doctoral internships, use a mentor system that matches students with faculty members who have closely related areas of interest.
Financial Assistance

Financial assistance is available through graduate fellowships and graduate assistantships. Other sources of financial assistance include research assistantships from faculty grants. Although funding is not guaranteed, most students receive some form of financial assistance. Information about financial aid is available online from the College of Graduate Studies (see www.grad.cmich.edu) and the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid (see financialaid.cmich.edu).

Program Faculty

Jane Ashby, Ph.D., University of Massachusetts, 2006. Skilled word recognition, reading disabilities, neurocognition of reading and language, and reading development. ashbyj1@cmich.edu

Renee Babcock, Ph.D., Georgia Institute of Technology, 1992. Lifespan development psychology, cognitive aging, and cross-cultural differences in worry and stereotypes. babco1r@cmich.edu

Rick Backs, Ph.D., University of Southern California, 1984. Human factors, psychophysiology, aging, attention, and emotion. backsrwr@cmich.edu

Stephen Colarelli, Ph.D., New York University, 1982. Personnel psychology, evolutionary psychology, and influences on the HRM utilization. colar1sm@cmich.edu

Christopher Davoli, Ph.D., Washington University, 2010. Visual attention and perception/embodied cognition/peripersonal space/action/tool-use/visual learning and memory/visual search/eye-tracking/emotional processing/cognitive aging/individual differences. davoli1c@cmich.edu

Gary Dunbar, Ph.D., Clark University, 1988. Behavioral neuroscience and stem cell and pharmacological treatment of brain damage and neurodegenerative diseases. dunbar1g@cmich.edu

Bryan Gibson, Ph.D., University of Utah, 1991. Self-presentation, smoker-nonsmoker interaction, and psychology of gambling. gibsonb@cmich.edu

Kyunghee Han, Ph.D., University of Minnesota, 1993. Scientific study of culture, quantitative methods, psychological test/scale development, and evaluation. han1k@cmich.edu

Cari Johnson, Ph.D., Michigan State University, 1979. Sleep disorders, applied behavioral analysis, and organizational behavior management. johnson1c@cmich.edu

Yannick Marchalant, Ph.D., University of Caen, 2004. Focus on brain aging and the influence of endocannabinoid system in the context of Alzheimer's disease. marchal@cmich.edu

Hajime Otani, Ph.D., University of Georgia, 1989. Human memory and cognition. otanith@cmich.edu

Debra Poole, Ph.D., University of Iowa, 1983. Basic language/cognitive/social development in children related to social issues and forensic psychology. poole1da@cmich.edu

Mark Reilly, Ph.D., West Virginia University, 1996. Experimental analysis of behavior, operant/respondent conditioning, quantitative models, animal learning, behavioral pharmacology, and substance abuse. reil1mp@cmich.edu

Michael Sandstrom, Ph.D., Ohio State University, 1998. Brain plasticity, compensatory neuronal activity, and behavior associated with deteriorative diseases using animal models. sands1m@cmich.edu

Kyle Scherr, Ph.D., Iowa State University, 2011. Examines the psychology and law topic of police interrogations. scherrke@cmich.edu

Roger Van Horn, Ph.D., Iowa State University, 1969. Human development and developmental changes in cognitive and psychosocial processes. vanhonr@cmich.edu

Research Facilities

The Department of Psychology maintains a variety of excellent facilities that are used in the education of undergraduate and graduate students. These facilities include:

- Sloan Hall computer laboratories
- Sloan Hall human research laboratories
- Health Professions Building animal and human research laboratories
- Rowe Hall animal research laboratory

Apply Online

www.chsbs.cmich.edu/applyExperimental

For More Information

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