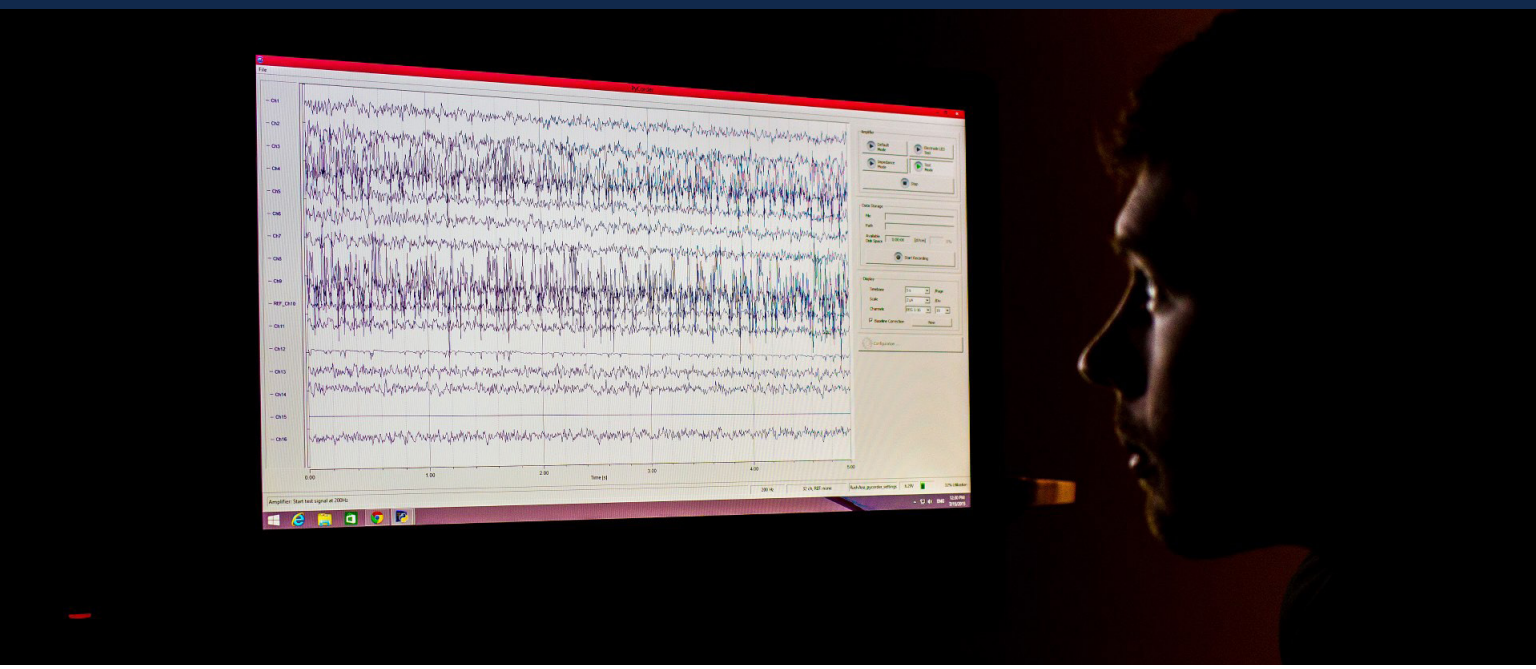
DREXEL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Applied Cognitive and Brain Sciences (PhD)



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Drexel University PhD in Applied Cognitive and Brain Sciences (ACBS) program is a research-intensive, non-clinical program focused on psychological questions of real-world significance. The program, grounded in basic science, emphasizes rigorous quantitative and methodological training, preparing students to excel in diverse careers across academia, industry, and beyond. With a strong mentorship model and minimal course requirements, students can tailor their research to their interests.

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGICAL AND BRAIN SCIENCES

Drexel University's Department of Psychology is a tightknit, active community of internationally renowned faculty and impressive student scholars. Graduate and undergraduate students work alongside faculty on cutting-edge research and clinical projects in a range of areas.

RESEARCH AREAS AND LABS

Drexel University is home to renowned faculty experts who advance the forefront of applied cognitive and brain sciences scholarship. Our faculty members publish widely in top-tier, peer-reviewed journals and are regularly featured experts in national and international media. Doctoral students will gain valuable research and analysis experience in faculty labs that include the following focus areas:

- **NEUROSCIENCE OF CREATIVITY**
- **MEMORY AND LANGUAGE**
- **COGNITIVE AND AFFECTIVE REGULATION**
- **PRECISION BRAIN STIMULATION**
- **NEURAL BASES OF MOTIVATION AND EMOTION**
- **NETWORK NEUROSCIENCE**

APPLICATION DEADLINES

We accept new students each Fall. While we review applications on a beginning in January, students are required to submit completed applications by **DECEMBER 1.**

UNIQUE MENTORSHIP MODEL

Graduate research is integral to building the intellectual life, growth and reach of the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences. An important feature of our PhD program is that students are not assigned faculty mentors. Rather, prospective students select mentors best suited to their unique program of study and interview with them as part of the application process. Once admitted, they work with the faculty mentor of their choice.

Students receive dedicated mentorship and critical hands-on training as active, contributing members of faculty research labs. These students often present their research at national and international scientific meetings and serve as co-authors on publications with their faculty mentors in distinguished, peer-reviewed journals.

DOCTORAL CANDIDACY AND DISSERTATION

In order to advance into doctoral candidacy in the PhD in Applied Cognitive and Brain Sciences program, students must complete all master's-level coursework during the first two years of their chosen concentration and successfully pass the comprehensive examination which consists of a critical, in-depth, publishable review article on a topic to be agreed upon by the student, their mentor and one additional faculty reader. Students are strongly encouraged to submit the article for publication.

This article may later be incorporated into the student's doctoral dissertation. After the exam has received a passing grade, the student may teach an undergraduate Special Topics seminar based on the content of the article. This will help solidify the material for the student and also help to enrich the undergraduate offerings for advanced undergraduates.

PROGRAM FUNDING

Information about scholarships and aid is available on our website. PhD students are fully funded with teaching assistantships, research assistantships, and/or fellowships. These funding options also include tuition remission and stipends to support students throughout their studies.

CAREERS

The Applied Cognitive and Brain Sciences program is designed to prepare doctoral students for a broad range of careers, from traditional faculty positions to the corporate world, government, startup companies, NGOs, and more. Through close interaction with mentors, opportunities for program customization, and extensive quantitative training in statistics, computational modeling, and computer methods for research, ACBS graduates excel in the competitive job market.

Some recent graduate career foci include educational testing and assessment, cognitive software development, and government health and military research. Graduates have received appointments at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Air Force Office of Scientific Research, and Naval Research Laboratory, just to name a few.

COURSE OFFERINGS

Key courses in the program include:

- **NEUROANATOMY AND BEHAVIOR**
- **COGNITIVE NEUROSCIENCE**
- **DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY**
- **JUDGMENT & DECISION-MAKING**
- **MOTIVATION AND EMOTION**

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