

Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Admissions to the Doctoral Program

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Is the GRE required for admission to the doctoral program?

Yes, official GRE scores (verbal, quantitative, analytical) are required of all applicants to the doctoral program. Official scores must be received by the application deadline of December 1st. Please request that ETS send your scores to Institution Code 4846 and Departmental Code of 2016. We do not require the subject test.

You will upload a PDF of your official score report from ETS directly on the application and request that official scores be sent to the department.

Is the TOEFL required for all international applicants?

Proficiency in the English language is vital to the academic success of international students. Students whose native language is not English must supply official results of the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) examination as part of their application. Please request that ETS send your scores to Institution Code 4846. The departmental minimum score for the Internet-based TOEFL is 88. Official scores must be received by the application deadline of December 1st.

If an international student has received a bachelors or masters degree from a college/university within the United States, the TOEFL is not required.

You will upload a PDF of your official score report from ETS directly on the application and request that official scores be sent to the university.

Deadline?

Is the application deadline a “received by” or “postmarked by” deadline?

All application materials must be “received by” December 1st. This includes a completed online departmental application, three letters of recommendation, statement of purpose, curriculum vita/resumé, official transcripts from all colleges/universities attended, writing sample, and official GRE scores (plus official TOEFL scores for international applicants).

Is there an additional form to apply for departmental teaching/research positions?

No additional form needed.

What about letters of recommendation?

We only require three (3) references. Please be prepared to enter the individual’s name, position, institution, phone number and email address. References will receive an automated email requesting that they upload their letter of recommendation to the online application. All letters must be received by the application deadline of December 1st. You can return to your application to view the progress of your letters.

What if the writer did not receive the automated email?

If the writer did not receive the automated email, you can return to your application and click on the link to have a new email sent.

Do transcripts have to be mailed directly from previous colleges/universities?

Transcripts can be mailed in by the applicant or directly from the college/university as long as the transcript remains in the original, sealed envelope from the college/university attended. Official transcripts must be received by the application deadline of December 1st.

You will upload a PDF of your transcripts from all colleges/universities attended directly on the application and request that official transcripts from all colleges/universities attended be sent to the department.

What is the mailing address for departmental application materials?

Graduate Secretary
Department of Psychology
1227 University of Oregon
Eugene OR 97403-1227

When will decisions be made?

Review of applications will begin in early December. Decisions can be made as early as the first week in February.

When will interviews take place? How will I know if I will be interviewed?

Applicants to be interviewed will be notified by early February 2013. Interview dates have yet to be determined.

Why you chose Oregon for your graduate studies?

- ❖ I wanted to work with Paul Slovic, and from our meetings and correspondence before the deadline I was convinced that it would be a good match. My meetings with other people, including Ellen Peters, Robert Mauro, and Mick Rothbart were also extremely positive and gave me the impression that my various research interests would be fully supported by the faculty. Moreover, the graduate students that I met during my stay (Francesco Foroni and Chuck Tate, to name only two of several) were by far the friendliest among the schools that I visited.
- ❖ Strong reputation, great program, nice campus, friendly people, good fit with my adviser, nice town, and great resources.
- ❖ I was initially drawn toward the UO because of the work of Dare Baldwin, whose research looking at how social cognition influences language acquisition was particularly exciting. I was also anxious to return to the northwest; Eugene is a fantastic city for those who love outdoor activities like hiking, camping, and cycling. When making my selection between various graduate schools, the collegiality and interdisciplinary orientation within the department played a big part in my choice. The department is incredibly friendly and supportive, and it sounded like a great place to work.
- ❖ It was suggested to me that I could possibly be accepted. I had always assumed since I did my undergrad at U of O that I would not be accepted there. I visited U of O 3 years in a row for cheerleading camp and knew it was the place to go!
- ❖ It was a great research match, but also the best environment match for someone with my personality style. The environment among students and faculty is collaborative (as opposed to competitive), encourages broad thinking about research, and is supportive.

What makes Oregon, Eugene, and our campus unique and interesting?

- ❖ UO is very good at working cross departments/fields. I don't know where else you find so many collaborations between different sciences e.g. linguistics-psychology, physics-

psychology, but also with in the different fields of psychology e.g. Developmental-cognitive neuroscience.

- ❖ Oregon is unique because it is quite far away from civilization centers. Eugene is unique because people have their own (slow) pace, and in comparison to other places I have been in the U.S. it is much more liberal and free thinking. The campus is interesting because it is very green and beautiful. On top of that, and it was one of the reasons why I favored the UO, is the excellent rec center right next to Straub.
- ❖ Great restaurants, small sized city with things to do, treed campus with pretty buildings, close to hiking, outdoors, and ocean, friendly people!
- ❖ Some of the best mountain biking in the country is less than an hour from Eugene, and there are an incredible number of gorgeous hikes and camping sites within short driving distance of Eugene. The area cannot be beat for natural beauty.
- ❖ The campus has the most beautifully taken care of lawns, gardens, and flowers. The old architecture (Gerlinger) and the cemetery really stand out to me as the roots of the campus. Eugene has the best groups of people. In this town we agree to disagree and that is ok. Everyone is allowed to be themselves. This area is also very close to the coast, mountain environments, swimming, and hiking trails.
- ❖ The outdoors, the laid-back atmosphere.
- ❖ Eugene has good public transportation for a town its size, and is easily the most bike-friendly town I have ever visited (including Portland). I am particularly fond of both Thai food and microbrews, and Eugene has a myriad of options for both.

What is student life really like around here?

- ❖ For me it was rather lonely at times after the above mentioned graduate students graduated and left. However, there are plenty of opportunities to get involved in sport teams and other forms of recreation. If you don't like the outdoors and rain, however, you will find yourself indoors for the majority of the year.
- ❖ People are usually getting together on weekends and are generally pretty active. The rain is a bit of a downer, but it's not as bad as I expected. I think we have a pretty high quality of life for grad students.
- ❖ I have found that student life is very laid back. The department has a very friendly atmosphere, which obviously contributes to that. Of course, completing graduate school requires a lot of work, but people always make time for down-time. I have gone camping with fellow students at Crater Lake, gone on several hikes, and participated in a cooking club, just to name a few. People tend to work hard so that they have the freedom to relax.

- ❖ Lots of undergrads filling up the town. It feels like a hustle and bustle all the time (except the summers). The summers are nice and quiet good for getting lots of work done!
- ❖ Students can really choose how much time is spent in Straub vs. doing other things. It is possible to really focus and work all the time, or it is possible to take a more laid-back approach and only work almost all the time :) But people really do have outside hobbies and interests, some of which take up a lot of time. We are encouraged to be well-rounded people.