

Graduate School
Fort Collins, Colorado 80523-1005
Telephone: (970) 491-6817
FAX: (970) 491-2194
E-mail: gschool@vines.colostate.edu

TO: Dean Jaros, Associate Provost for Graduate Studies
and Dean of the Graduate School

FROM: Alicia Skinner Cook, Associate Dean

SUBJECT: Department of Psychology - Graduate Program

The Department of Psychology offers both the M.S. and Ph.D. degrees.

Quality of Students: Admission to the graduate program in the Department of Psychology is highly competitive, and admitted students are a very select group. Traditional indices of quality (e.g., GRE scores) are high for these individuals and most are successful in completing their doctoral degrees in the department. Students in the program have received a variety of honors and awards for the quality of their academic work.

Enrollment: The program is in high demand. Over 500 individuals applied to the graduate program in the Department of Psychology during each of the last three years of the period under review, while the number accepted has been between 16-23. The size of the graduate program is large, especially considering the clinical supervision required for students in the Counseling Psychology section. The department has been highly successful in recruiting ethnic minority students, and it has received a variety of awards and other forms of recognition for its diversity activities.

Student Outcomes: The program produces high quality professionals. Graduates of the three doctoral programs are highly successful in obtaining jobs in a variety of settings and they often assume leadership positions. Many have continued to make significant contributions to their academic fields following graduation. Surveys show that they perceive their advanced training to be of excellent quality and relevant to their employment demands. The department appears to incorporate feedback from alumni when revising the graduate curriculum.

Program Quality: The department has made significant strides in obtaining funds to support its graduate students. These funding opportunities have also provided valuable learning experiences (e.g., journal editing assistantships, teaching fellowships).

Students in the graduate program have the opportunity to work with highly productive faculty, many of whom are well known in their respective fields. As part of their academic program, students are actively involved in presenting and publishing research findings. Throughout the department, high standards of scholarship are expected and fostered. The Counseling Psychology program was fully re-accredited by the American Psychological Association in 1995. The Department's Tri-Ethnic Center for Prevention Research has twice been designated as one of the University's Programs of Research and Scholarly Excellence.