

**Frequently Asked Questions
Regarding Admissions to the Doctoral Program
Application Deadline for Fall 2010 is December 1, 2009**

[GRE](#)

[Deadline](#)

[Online Departmental Application](#)

[Letters of Recommendation](#)

[Transcripts](#)

[Mailing Address](#)

[Decisions](#)

[Interviews](#)

[Why choose Oregon for graduate studies?](#)

[What makes Oregon, Eugene, and our campus unique and interesting?](#)

[What is student life really like around here?](#)

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.

How do I know if my scores are high enough?

You can email the Graduate Secretary (gradsec@psych.uoregon.edu) with your cumulative overall undergraduate GPA and GRE scores from all three sections (verb, quant, analytical).

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, official transcripts from all colleges/universities attended, writing sample, and official GRE scores (plus official TOEFL scores for international applicants).

Can I make changes to my departmental online application? How do I “submit” the application?

Yes, we encourage applicants to continue to review their departmental application to verify the receipt of all materials and to make changes/updates. The online departmental application remains open for revisions by the applicant until December 1st.

It is the applicant’s responsibility to verify that all materials have arrived by the application deadline. The online departmental application contains “status lights” next to each item. If the status light is red, no information has been received to date. If the status light is yellow, additional information is needed. If the status light is green, the item has been received successfully.

There is no final “Submit” button. When all of the status buttons are green, your departmental application is complete.

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

No additional form needed.

What about letters of recommendation?

You can only enter three (3) references. If you need to add an additional reference, please email all the contact information (including name, position, email, and phone number) to gradsec@psych.uoregon.edu.

Please ask the writers if they wish to submit their letter online or in paper form. When you fill out your online departmental application, you will enter each writer’s name and contact information.

If the writer has agreed to submit their letter online, you must click the “Use Web” box before the “Submit” button. The writer will receive an automated email within minutes.

If the writer would prefer to send a hard copy of their letter to our department, there will be a link that provides the letter of recommendation cover form. Please provide the cover form to your writer.

All letters must be received by the application deadline of December 1st.

What if the writer did not receive the automated email?

If the writer did not receive the automated email from us, it could be that their email system sent it directly to their junk folder.

Another possibility: You may not have checked the “Use Web” box before hitting the “Submit” button.

You can delete and re-enter their information.

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.

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 can 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?

Interviews for non-clinical areas will be held February 5-7.
Interviews for the clinical are TBA.

Applicants to be interviewed will be notified by the last week in January (non-clinical area) or the end of the second week in February (clinical area).

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.