



COLLEGE OF SCIENCE
PSYCHOLOGY
VIRGINIA TECH™

OCTOBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

Grad School Applications, Study Abroad & FAFSA

Hello Psychology Majors,

Happy October! For any students interested in applying to graduate school - it's important to start thinking about the possibility of graduate school early. You will need to begin searching for programs, deciding on whom to ask for letters of recommendation, potentially taking the GRE exam in advance, writing a personal statement, and updating your resume. We have a lot of relevant resources in this newsletter.



We also highlight some study abroad resources and want to remind you about the financial aid and scholarship opportunities that we know about.

We hope you have a wonderful month and continue to enjoy the football season and the beautiful fall weather. Good luck with any mid-terms!

*Taylor Swan, Christina Minford,
Courtney Glass, & Dr. Kurt Hoffman*



Searching for a Graduate Program

Have an idea of what kind of Psychology program you are looking for before you start your search, such as your preferred specialization.

- Peterson's Graduate School Search Tool [here](#).
- Princeton Review Graduate School Search Tool [here](#).
- American Psychological Association (APA) Graduate Program Search (Costs \$) [here](#).
- APA Graduate Study in Psychology Book (Costs \$, APA recommended for Clinical/Counseling) [here](#).
- Ideas on career paths and related PSYC graduate programs [here](#).

Graduate School Application Process

- Applying to graduate school requires that you typically send in three professional letters of recommendation, your official VT transcript, a personal statement, your resume/CV, and sometimes a GRE score. However, requirements overall can differ from institution to institution.
- Noodle's How to Apply to Grad School article [here](#).
- Month-by-Month Application Guide (be sure to be aware of specific application deadlines) [here](#).
- VT Career and Professional Development has many resources [here](#).



Recommendation Letter Tips

- Virginia Tech letter of recommendation tips [here](#) (for health profession schools specifically).
- Cornell University guide for requesting recommendation letters [here](#).
- Guide for how to ask for a recommendation letter [here](#).
- Letter of recommendation tips for grad school and job positions [here](#).

GRE - Graduate Record Exam Information

- How to sign up for the GRE [here](#).
- Information on the content tested on the GRE [here](#) and you can find the GRE structure [here](#).
- **Reminder:** In the last few years, fewer and fewer graduate programs are requiring the GRE as part of the application. Check out specific application requirements for programs you apply to.

Other Helpful Information

- Writing a Winning Personal Statement for Grad School [here](#).
- Financial aid ideas for graduate school are [here](#) and [here](#).



Study Abroad Opportunities

- You can find a list of featured programs for psychology students [here](#). This link is a little dated, but a good place to start.
- You can participate in study abroad for a semester, winter session or summer session.
- You can go on any study abroad program (not just psychology specific) but make sure to check in with your academic advisor beforehand to plan your next semesters accordingly.
- You can search study abroad programs and scholarships [here](#).
- You can contact the Global Education Office and be connected with an Advisor at vtabroad@vt.edu.

FAFSA & General Scholarship Application

- [Complete Your FAFSA!](#) The 2025-2026 FAFSA will be available in December 2024. Prospective and current Hokies - complete both the 25-26 FAFSA by priority deadline **March 1st, 2025**.
- Complete the FAFSA and the [General Scholarship Application](#) in VT Scholarship Central by **January 22, 2025** for maximum financial aid and scholarship consideration for next year.
- Information on the [Federal Loan Forgiveness](#) policy.



Undergraduate Research Centers and Labs

Are you interested in getting involved in research in the Psychology department?

- You can find all of the Psychology labs and centers offered [here](#).
- Each lab has a unique process surrounding when and if they recruit for Undergraduates.
- It is recommended to reach out to the faculty or graduate students with questions regarding their labs.
- For more information about the process of adding PSYC Research to an upcoming schedule, contact your advisor.

Upcoming Dates and Deadlines

- **October 22nd - November 5th:** Course Request
- **October 28th:** Last day to resign and/or change grade option from P/F to A-F
- **December 2nd:** Drop/Add Opens