Getting in and Succeeding in Graduate School in Psychology

**KEYWORDS:** Education, Graduate School, Professional Development

**Moderators**:

Debora Bell, Ph.D., University of Missouri – Columbia

Karen Christoff, Ph.D., University of Mississippi,

**Panelists:**

Joseph Magness, M.A., University of Mississippi,

David J. Hansen, Ph.D., University of Nebraska

Kathleen J. Hart, Ph.D., ABPP, Xavier University

Mitchell Prinstein, Ph.D., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Jennifer C. Veilleux, Ph.D., University of Arkansas

This panel will provide general information about graduate school and specific information about individual graduate programs to prospective and early-career graduate students, similar to that provided to prospective interns in the annual internship panel. This panel consists of faculty and graduate students from a variety of clinical psychology Ph.D. programs in the U.S. and Canada.  
Panelists will provide information about the graduate school application process, including how undergraduate students and other prospective applicants can: (a) select a graduate degree and graduate program that meets their training and career goals, (b) best prepare themselves to be successful applicants to graduate programs, and (c) effectively navigate the application process. Panelists will also discuss how, once enrolled in graduate school, students can capitalize on the skills that got them there by focusing on their work ethic, love of learning, passion for research or practice, and channel those skills to build a vita and set of experiences that will prepare them for success at each future step of their graduate careers—coursework, thesis, practicum experiences, comprehensive examinations, and dissertation.   
The panel will be followed by a question-and-answer session and by a “graduate programs on parade” session where representatives of graduate programs will be available to discuss their particular programs with interested applicants.  
You will learn:

1. Information about activities one could engage in as an undergraduate student that will best prepare him/her for graduate school in psychology.  
2. Information about selecting graduate programs, filing applications, completing a personal statement, and interviewing.

3. Information about strategies for surviving the first year in a graduate program.