WHY UAB?

DIVERSITY IN PRACTICE
The 21st century will be defined by a global mix of cultures, ethnicities, identities and viewpoints. Our students learn and live in an open community that is dedicated to shared respect and understanding. UAB is home to the Institute for Human Rights, which brings together scholars and activists from around the world in a city that was one of the epicenters of the Civil Rights Movement.

CAMPUS + CITY
With a brand-new student center, rec center and residence halls surrounding an action-packed quad, UAB has the best of traditional campus life. But we’re also located in the heart of Alabama’s largest city, with dining, nightlife and outdoor attractions that draw visitors from around the world.

NIH FUNDED
UAB ranks 23rd (top 4 percent) nationally and 8th (top 2 percent) among public institutions in funding from the National Institutes of Health.

RESEARCH
The Carnegie Foundation identifies UAB as one of a handful of institutions rated for “very high research activity” that also is a leader in “community engagement.”

Have questions about the Developmental Graduate Program?

Contact
Terri M. Roberson, M.A.
Graduate Programs Manager
trobe@uab.edu

Olivio Clay, Ph.D.
Director, Developmental Graduate Program
oclay@uab.edu

The University of Alabama at Birmingham
Psychology Graduate Programs Office

phone
205.934.8723

address
Campbell Hall Ste 201 | 1300 University Blvd.
Birmingham, AL 35294

web
www.uab.edu/cas/psychology/graduate/developmental
Our Department
There are 31 full-time faculty members in the UAB Department of Psychology who support our three graduate programs. Department culture emphasizes collaborative research. Faculty are committed to growing and establishing new areas of research, giving our students the opportunity to work in a challenging and exciting environment.

Our Mission
Using a developmental perspective, our graduate program trains students to discover basic principles of psychological development and apply them in interdisciplinary contexts.

Our Faculty
Developmental Graduate Program faculty are dedicated to rigorous research, excellence in teaching, and strong, supportive mentorship of students. Our faculty have received national recognition for their scholarship and for their practical contributions to promoting healthy development across the lifespan. Scientific outputs from our faculty have led to policy changes, new research tools, novel programs, and technological breakthroughs.

OUR RESEARCH FOCI
- Developmental Disabilities
- Child and Adolescent Health
- Applied Cognition
- Health Disparities
- Successful Aging
- Developmental Psychopathology
- Parent and Peer Influences
- Neighborhood Effects
- Bio-psycho-social Pathways
- Injury Prevention
- Post-injury Care and Recovery

Applied Training Opportunities
Students and faculty conduct socially relevant action research in a variety of settings across campus and surrounding community. Examples include:
- Civitan International Research Center
- Center for Research in Applied Gerontology
- Comprehensive Center for Healthy Aging
- Alzheimer’s Disease Center
- UAB Early Head Start Program
- Collaborations with the UAB Schools of Medicine, Education, and Public Health
- Public K-12 schools

Our Course Curriculum
Through a core curriculum of developmental psychology, statistics and research design, and general psychology, students develop a solid foundation in the history, methods, theory, and current research in developmental psychology.

Our Training Program
- Training emphasizes preparing students to study development in natural social contexts, as well as in laboratory settings.
- A key component of students’ training is translating basic scientific principles and theories to practice.
- The program is designed to be completed in 4-5 years.
- Graduates of the Developmental Graduate Program have secured academic faculty positions or have moved into industry, government, or community/non-profit organization positions.
- Please note that our program does not prepare students to be clinicians.
- There are opportunities to earn a dual degree (e.g., MPH).
- Graduate students typically receive full tuition remission and research or teaching assistantships that provide a competitive stipend.

Our Research Foci
- Developmental Disabilities
- Child and Adolescent Health
- Applied Cognition
- Health Disparities
- Successful Aging
- Developmental Psychopathology
- Parent and Peer Influences
- Neighborhood Effects
- Bio-psycho-social Pathways
- Injury Prevention
- Post-injury Care and Recovery

Admissions FAQ
What are the requirements?
Admission to the program is highly competitive. Research experience is essential. We prefer a solid background in psychology as well as some courses in the life sciences. Excellent grades in statistics and mathematics are also valued. We follow an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity process.

When should I apply?
The deadline for all application materials to be in the Graduate School online system is November 30th. Application materials are available at http://www.uab.edu/graduate. Late or partial applications will not be considered.

Do I need to choose a mentor?
Applicants should identify one or more faculty members with whom they share research interests.

Can I enroll part-time?
No, admission is for full-time studies only. Students are admitted annually each fall.

The Application Process
PREPARE
Gain Research Experience
Successful applicants typically have 2-3 years of research experience in psychology or related fields.

Finish Your Degree
Successful applicants typically have a degree in psychology or a closely related field with a GPA of at least 3.5

APPLY
Identify Your Faculty Research Mentor
Visit our website and learn more about our faculty and their ongoing research

Submit Application to Graduate School
by November 30th
Visit the graduate school website to submit application, CV, & personal statement

Send Supplementary Materials
Transcripts and at least 3 letters of recommendation

DECIDE
Interview
Competitive applicants will be invited for an in-person interview in January or February

Explore the Program
Applicants are encouraged to ask current students and faculty about the program

Explore Birmingham
Discover all that Birmingham has to offer!