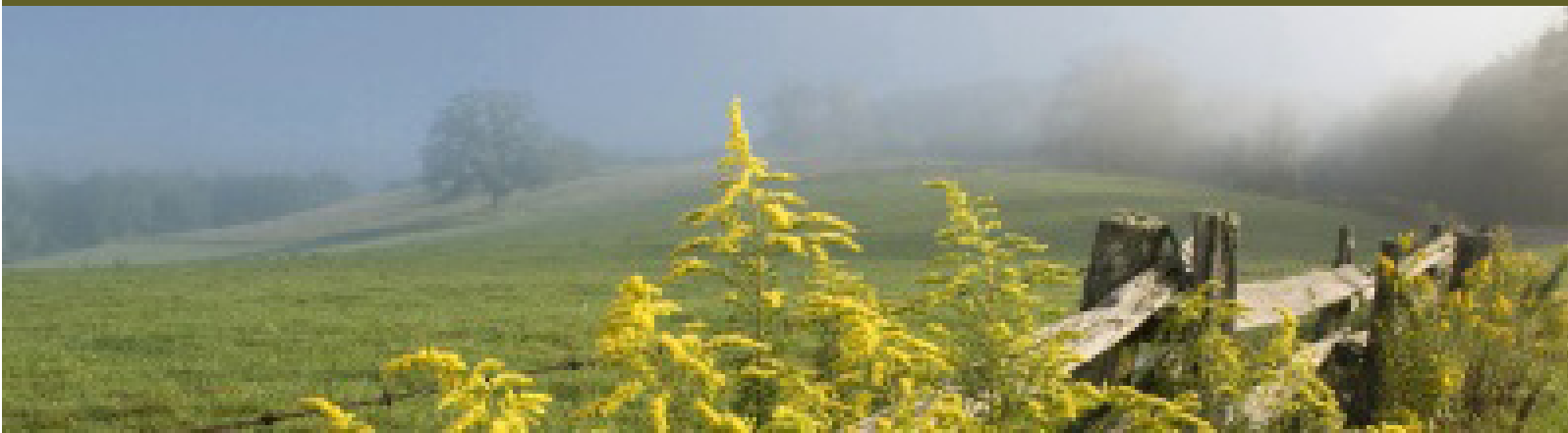


# Master of Arts in Psychology Experimental Track



Nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina, Appalachian State University offers a challenging academic environment, energetic campus life and breathtaking location. Appalachian combines the best attributes of a small liberal arts college with those of a large research university. Known for its value and affordability, Appalachian enrolls about 17,000 students and offers more than 50 graduate programs. Small classes and close interactions between faculty and students create a strong sense of community, which has become an Appalachian hallmark. Appalachian, located in Boone, N.C., is one of 16 universities in the University of North Carolina system. Students and faculty members alike choose Appalachian for its personality – the combination of a quality educational experience in a small-town atmosphere, astounding geography, and a community-wide passion for responsible citizenship and environmental sustainability. Boone is a college town in the best sense – where people say hello on the street and a vibrant downtown is mere steps from campus. Its eclectic hub, known as King Street, features specialty shops, restaurants and cultural attractions that appeal to students, parents, residents and tourists. Whether in town for a weekend or to pursue an education many people find Boone a hard place to leave.

Dr. Chris Dickenson (right) and Graduate Student utilize eye-tracking equipment in a perception study.



## Master of Arts in Psychology, Experimental track:

The primary purpose of the Master of Arts in Psychology, Experimental Track is to provide a sound program of intensive course work and independent research beyond the bachelor's degree. The Experimental program is based on a mentoring model with student-faculty academic and research relationships as a central component. Upon completion of this program, the student is prepared to pursue various scientific and applied activities. Most students choose to pursue doctoral work at other institutions. The Master of Arts in Psychology, Experimental Track consists of 33 semester hours including a thesis. Course work includes coverage of the major areas of experimental psychology: biological, cognitive, developmental, learning, personality and social psychology, research methodology, quantitative methods, two research-based seminar courses, two selected topics courses, and thesis research hours.

Experimental psychology is the cornerstone of an academic program in psychology. The program is committed to quality training of students at the graduate and undergraduate levels and the production of high quality research. Our goal is to offer courses and training in basic areas of experimental psychology. We strive to train our students to become researchers and/or teachers in experimental psychology. Because our faculty members maintain active research laboratories, we provide a rich environment for graduate and undergraduate students to participate and learn about the research process. Our purpose is to provide master's graduate students with extensive background in several basic areas of research, with the ultimate goal of training students to plan and execute original research in the field, as well as to advance their oral, writing and critical thinking skills. These actions are intended to prepare master's graduates for advanced study so that they will be competitive applicants for a doctoral program. The vision for the program is to maintain the quality of the existing program as demonstrated by number of students successfully completing the Master of Arts degree and/or gaining acceptance into a doctoral program or other professional program.

The Program faculty is composed of 18 full-time faculty members representing the areas of biological, cognitive, developmental (both child- and adult-focused), forensic, health, judgment/decision making, learning, personality, quantitative, and social psychology. The Program's scholarly-mentoring model prepares students for future pursuit of doctoral-level training at other institutions. In recent years, 85 percent of our students who have applied to doctoral programs have successfully gained admission. Graduates of our program who have not pursued doctoral degrees have gone on to work in animal research facilities, marketing companies, community colleges and research institutes.

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