The *GRE*® Psychology Test

We invite you to take a closer look…

Does your graduate department require or recommend that graduate applicants take the *GRE*® Psychology Test?

This test can be very useful in distinguishing among candidates whose credentials are otherwise similar. The test measures undergraduate achievement and provides a common yardstick for comparing the qualifications of students from a variety of colleges and universities with different standards. Consider these factors:

Predictive Validity

Subject Test scores are a valid predictor of graduate school performance, as confirmed by a meta-analysis performed by independent researchers who analyzed over 1,700 studies containing validity data for GRE tests.[1] This study showed that *GRE*® Subject Tests are reliable predictors of a range of outcome measures, including first-year graduate grade-point average, cumulative graduate grade-point average, comprehensive examination scores, publication citation counts, and faculty ratings. For more information about the predictive validity of the GRE tests, visit **www.ets.org/gre/validity**.

Content That Reflects Today's Curricula

The test consists of approximately 205 questions that are drawn from the core of knowledge most commonly encountered in courses offered at the undergraduate level within the broadly defined field of psychology. A question may require recalling factual information, analyzing relationships, applying principles, drawing conclusions from data, and/or evaluating a research design.

[1] Source: "A comprehensive meta-analysis of the predictive validity of the Graduate Record Examinations®: Implications for graduate student selection and performance." Kuncel, Nathan R.; Hezlett, Sarah A.; Ones, Deniz S., Psychological Bulletin, January 2001, Vol. 127(1), 162-181.

The questions require not only knowledge but also application. One question type requires the analysis of data or evidence presented in such material as graphs or a description of an experiment. The test content reflects the relative emphases placed on these topics in most undergraduate curricula.

The test that will be administered beginning in September 2017 will yield six subscores in addition to the total score. The titles of the six subscores will be as follows: Biological; Cognitive; Social; Developmental; Clinical; and Measurement, Methodological and Other.

A summary of test topics can be found on the back of this sheet. Additional information about the test and a full-length practice test are provided FREE and can be downloaded at **www.ets.org/gre/subject/prepare**.

Developed by Leading Educators in the Field

The content and scope of each edition of the test are specified and reviewed by a distinguished team of undergraduate and graduate faculty representing colleges and universities across the country. Individuals who serve or have recently served on the Committee of Examiners are faculty members from the following institutions:

- Albion College
- Ball State University
- California State University – Monterey Bay
- Eastern Illinois University
- East Tennessee University
- Indiana University-Purdue University, Fort Wayne
- Ithaca College
- University of Wisconsin, River Falls

Committee members are selected with input from the American Psychological Association and the American Psychological Society.

Test questions are written by committee members and by other subject-matter specialists from colleges and universities across the country.

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For more information about the *GRE*® Psychology Test,
visit www.ets.org/gre/subjecttests.

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Test Content

I. Biological **17-21%**

A. Sensation and Perception (5-7%)

1. Psychophysics, Signal Detection
2. Attention
3. Perceptual Organization
4. Vision
5. Audition
6. Gustation
7. Olfaction
8. Somatosenses
9. Vestibular and Kinesthetic Senses
10. Theories, Applications and Issues

B. Physiological/Behavioral Neuroscience (12-14%)

1. Neurons
2. Sensory Structures and Processes
3. Motor Structures and Functions
4. Central Structures and Processes
5. Motivation, Arousal, Emotion
6. Cognitive Neuroscience
7. Neuromodulators and Drugs
8. Hormonal Factors
9. Comparative and Ethology
10. States of Consciousness
11. Theories, Applications and Issues

II. Cognitive **17-24%**

A. Learning (3-5%)

1. Classical Conditioning
2. Instrumental Conditioning
3. Observational Learning, Modeling
4. Theories, Applications and Issues

B. Language (3-4%)

1. Units (phonemes, morphemes, phrases)
2. Syntax
3. Meaning
4. Speech Perception and Processing
5. Reading Processes
6. Verbal and Nonverbal Communication
7. Bilingualism
8. Theories, Applications and Issues

C. Memory (7-9%)

1. Working Memory
2. Long-term Memory
3. Types of Memory
4. Memory Systems and Processes
5. Theories, Applications and Issues

D. Thinking (4-6%)

1. Representation (Categorization, Imagery, Schemas, Scripts)
2. Problem Solving
3. Judgment and Decision-Making Processes
4. Planning, Metacognition
5. Intelligence
6. Theories, Applications and Issues

III. Social **12-14%**

A. Social Perception, Cognition, Attribution, Beliefs
B. Attitudes, and Behavior
C. Social Comparison, Self
D. Emotion, Affect, and Motivation
E. Conformity, Influence, and Persuasion
F. Interpersonal Attraction and Close Relationships
G. Group and Intergroup Processes
H. Cultural or Gender Influences
I. Evolutionary Psychology, Altruism and Aggression
J. Theories, Applications and Issues

IV. Developmental **12-14%**

A. Nature-Nurture
B. Physical and Motor
C. Perception and Cognition
D. Language
E. Learning, Intelligence
F. Social, Personality
G. Emotion
H. Socialization, Family and Cultural
I. Theories, Applications and Issues

V. Clinical **15-19%**

A. Personality (3-5%)

1. Theories
2. Structure
3. Assessment
4. Personality and Behavior
5. Applications and Issues

B. Clinical and Abnormal (12-14%)

1. Stress, Conflict, Coping
2. Diagnostic Systems
3. Assessment
4. Causes and Development of Disorders
5. Neurophysiological Factors
6. Treatment of Disorders
7. Epidemiology
8. Prevention
9. Health Psychology
10. Cultural or Gender Issues
11. Theories, Applications and Issues

VI. Measurement, Methodology and Other **15-19%**

A. General (4-6%)

1. History
2. Industrial-Organizational
3. Educational

B. Measurement and Methodology (11-13%)

1. Psychometrics, Test Construction, Reliability, Validity
2. Research Designs
3. Statistical Procedures
4. Scientific Method and the Evaluation of Evidence
5. Ethics and Legal Issues
6. Analysis and Interpretation of Findings