

Developmental Psychology Ph.D. Program



UNIVERSITY of ROCHESTER
Department of Clinical & Social Sciences in Psychology

Welcome to our Developmental Graduate Training Program!

Our psychology department is home to outstanding scholars and offers an intellectually stimulating environment for Developmental, Clinical, and Social PhD students. As UR is a top-ranked research university, our psychology graduate students have access to experts in related fields and a wealth of professional development resources.



2012 Graduate
Dr. Peter Capraiello

The Developmental Psychology Ph.D. program* specializes in examining social and emotional development in context while offering rigorous training in developmental theory and methods. The program produces strong developmental scholars and prepares students for careers that combine research and teaching at the university level.

*From our program students will earn a sequential M.A. and a Ph.D., currently we do not offer either a terminal Masters or admission directly into a Ph.D. program

Visit psych.rochester.edu/graduate/developmental to find out more

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Our Strengths

- Small student-to faculty-ratio, allowing for extensive interaction and mentorship from program faculty.
- Five years of financial support, including grant-funded opportunities for many of our students.
- Expansive research opportunities, including affiliation with the Mt. Hope Family Center, a nationally recognized research center for child development research.
- Exceptional ranking: Our program ranks as one of the top Developmental Psychology Programs in North America.

The small size of the Developmental Psychology Ph.D. program cultivates a cohesive, supportive, and personal training environment that insures that graduate students receive individualized attention from their faculty mentors. We operate from a junior colleague model of graduate training where students are regarded as invaluable, integral members of the program. We encourage students to develop their own identity as researchers and scholars.

Students may earn their degree through one of two training tracks:

Developmental Psychology Track

Our traditional track specifically focuses on normal and atypical development during the first two decades of life.

Developmental Psychopathology Track

Students have additional opportunities and training experiences in methods of understanding and improving human development across a range of normative and risk conditions.

The training experience is designed to facilitate mastery of the scientific skills in the substantive knowledge area of the program faculty while allowing students to develop a research program that uniquely reflects their own interests. This process, in our view, is best fostered by intensive collaborative exchanges with faculty.

NEW: Quantitative Methods Certificate:

For students wishing to broaden statistical and quantitative skills, we offer advanced classes in methodological techniques specifically geared towards analyzing developmental research questions.



Discover more about the exciting training taking place
psych.rochester.edu/graduate/developmental/training.html

Placement Post Graduation

One of the most important indices for evaluating graduate programs in developmental psychology is their ability to place graduate students in top academic and research positions after graduation.



Positions of recent graduates:

- Post-Doctoral Associate at Columbia University
- Visiting Assistant Professor at the Rochester Institute of Technology
- Tenure-track Assistant Professor at Virginia Commonwealth University
- Tenured Associate Professor at the University of Missouri
- Tenure-track Assistant Professor at West Virginia University

Original Strong Memorial
Hospital Entrance

Core Faculty

Dr. Patrick Davies



Dr. Patrick Davies' research is concerned with the nature, antecedents, and consequences of children's reactivity to family conflict using evolutionary models. Other interests include understanding the nature and sequelae of children's temperamental and neurobiological reactivity to risky contexts.

psych.rochester.edu/research/rcf

patrick.davies@rochester.edu

Dr. Judith Smetana



Dr. Judith Smetana's research focuses on children's and adolescents' social and moral reasoning and development. She examines this in the context of early moral development and behavior, adolescent-parent relationships in different cultural and ethnic/racial contexts, with a focus on autonomy development, and parenting beliefs and practices.

psych.rochester.edu/research/socialdev

judith.smetana@rochester.edu

Dr. Melissa Sturge-Apple



Dr. Sturge-Apple's research focuses on children's adaptation within family relationships with an emphasis on children's neurobiological and psychological functioning. In addition, her work examines contextual-cognitive influences on parenting behaviors.

psych.rochester.edu/research/rcf

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Dr. Laura Wray-Lake



Dr. Laura Wray-Lake's research focuses on the development of social responsibility and civic engagement from a positive youth development perspective. She examines the role of family processes and other ecological assets as potential influences on adolescents' civic values and behaviors. In addition, her work investigates socioeconomic and cultural variations in positive developmental processes.

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