The M.S. CyberPsychology degree program admits full and part-time matriculating students, as well as non-degree seeking students, each August for the start of the Fall semester. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis throughout the year but are not reviewed until the Spring prior to anticipated entry. Priority deadline for applications is May 1, although applications will be accepted through the summer, subject to available space in the program.

All M.S. CyberPsychology degree program applicants are evaluated against the pool of available applicants, therefore meeting or being significantly higher than the minimum standards outlined below is not a guarantee of acceptance.

Matriculating full-time students are eligible to apply for tuition assistantship and graduate assistantship funding. Funds are highly limited and will be granted on a first come first served basis, subject to qualifications.

Norfolk State University’s application for Graduate Studies can be found here. The University’s minimum requirements are outline here. An official transcript identifying an undergraduate institution from which your degree has been conferred, and other graduate/undergraduate institutions from which you have received academic credit, is required prior to admittance. Unofficial transcripts may be uploaded with your application to expedite review by the Admissions Committee. You do not need to submit a “portfolio” of your work experience as mentioned in the university’s standard requirements and you are not required to take the GRE (but you may report your scores to the school if you have them).

Additionally, please ensure your application reflects the following program-specific documentation.

**Three letters of professional recommendation**

a. At least one recommender must be a professor or other academician with whom you have completed at least one course and who can attest to your academic performance and potential as a graduate student.

b. Other recommendation letters can be from professors, workplace supervisors, research supervisor, or another individual who knows you in any formal academic, vocational, research, or clinical supervision capacity. **Recommendation letters from recent professors from your courses are highly recommended.**

c. Recommendation letters from personal contacts (e.g., friends or family) will not be accepted.

d. The recommender must fill out the school’s rating form at minimum. It is **highly recommended for recommenders to** also write a personalized letter of recommendation and upload it along with their rating scale. Uploaded letters must be in PDF format and signed (or digitally signed) by the recommender.

e. The recommendation letter MUST specifically attest to the student’s previous academic or vocational performance, as well as the student’s abilities and future potential for success at the graduate level. Recommendation letters that do not address these specific areas will not be accepted.

2. **Grade Point Average (GPA)**

a. Undergraduate GPA of 3.0 on a 0-4.0 scale is highly preferred.

b. Prior graduate coursework (minimum GPA of 3.0 on a 0-4.0 scale) will be considered in addition to undergraduate coursework.

c. An undergraduate GPA of 2.50 may be considered assuming the application is accompanied by at least one of the following (along with accompanying documentation as needed):

   i. Strong letters of recommendation; a personal statement that provides insight specifically about your GPA in addition to all other required personal statement items, AND/OR
ii. Strong undergraduate coursework in statistics and research methods (at least two courses, both with grades of B or higher) and all psychology coursework that averages to a 3.0 or higher (please include a supplemental document in your application which outlines relevant courses, grades, and GPA calculations),
AND/OR

iii. GPA of 3.0 or higher for all coursework completed over the final two years of the student’s undergraduate education (please include a supplemental document in your application which outlines relevant courses, grades, and GPA calculations),
AND/OR

iv. At least two years of highly relevant work experience (to be accompanied by recommendation letter(s) from direct supervisor(s) who can attest to the level of rigor and relevance of your work, and strong undergraduate coursework in statistics, research methods, or equivalent (at least two courses total with grades of B or higher).

3. Current Resume or CV
   a. Your resume (or curriculum vitae) should outline your relevant skills, education, and/or work experience.
   b. Dates and locations for all activities should be indicated as needed.
   c. The resume is not for employment purposes; it should convey education, work background, and any extracurricular achievements that you believe are relevant.

4. Academic Experiences Statement
   a. Using the template on the last page of this document, create an itemized document accounting for the psychology courses you have completed at the undergraduate (and/or graduate) level.
   b. Using the template, itemize all courses you have completed (psychology or otherwise) that specifically focus on statistics and/or research methodology courses at any level.
   c. Using the template, provide a brief narrative explaining your comfort level and experience in online courses.

5. Personal Statement
   a. A personal statement, written in a narrative form, that addresses your specific interest in the field of cyberpsychology, including what you believe will allow you to be successful in this program.
   b. Please limit your response to about 2 pages (between 1—3 pages is acceptable).
   c. Specifically indicate:
      i. Why you are interested in the M.S. CyberPsychology degree program
      ii. What your interests are related to potential research
      d. What skills, abilities and background you believe would make you a successful student.
      e. What your short-term (and long-term) goals are during your time in the program, and post-graduation.
Other Application Items

* Virtual Interview (upon request)

a. Prior to submitting your application, you may request a (virtual) meeting with the MS. CyberPsychology Program Coordinator. A summary of any meeting will be made available to the Admissions Committee for their consideration during review of your application.

b. Subsequent to applying, the Admissions Committee may request a (virtual) meeting of any applicant to aid in the process of determining a candidate’s suitability for the program, including to further assess the applicant’s motivation and desire for applying, as well as the scope/breadth of background/skills/experience. The meeting may be attended by one (or more) members of the committee, and/or the Program Coordinator and a summary of the meeting will be added to the applicant’s application file.

* Non-degree status

Anyone with a recognized and conferred Undergraduate degree may apply for non-degree status. All prerequisite course requirements will be enforced, therefore, students are likely to only begin in the Fall only. Non-degree seeking students can opt to take one course for three credits (PSY510), two courses for six credits total (PSY510 and CSC535), or three courses for nine credits total (PSY510, PSY520, and CSC535). The two-course option mirrors the course sequence of a part-time student and the three-course option mirrors that of a full-time M.S. CyberPsychology student.

Towards the end of the first semester, non-degree seeking students may apply for matriculation into the M.S. CyberPsychology program under full-time or part-time status. If accepted, students would matriculate in the Spring semester and courses completed with a grade of B or higher will be applied to the M.S. CyberPsychology degree program requirements. Further details of this process can be found in the M.S. CyberPsychology program handbook, available to all students enrolled in M.S. CyberPsychology courses.

Satisfactorily completing courses as a non-degree seeking student does not guarantee future admission to the program as a matriculated student. When applying, updated application materials, as well as evaluation of your performance as a non-degree seeking student will weigh heavily on the admissions decision.
Template for reporting ‘Academic Experiences’ for the M.S. CyberPsychology application

Copy/paste the following formatted tables into a separate document and save it as your template. Modify the template as needed based on the courses you are itemizing and number or rows required.

1. **Inventory of Psychology courses completed** (insert additional rows as needed)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Number</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</table>

Please indicate your GPA for only your psychology courses:

2. **Inventory of Statistics / Research Methods type courses completed** (insert additional rows as needed)

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<th>Course Number</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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Please indicate your GPA for only your stats/research courses:

3. **Online Course Experience** (provide a short narrative outlining your experiences, if any, as an online student—not having online course experience will not negatively impact your application review)

To calculate a partial GPA for specific courses, you can use any [online GPA calculator](#).