Brain, Behavior & Quantitative Science (BBQ) Application Instructions

For Admissions or Application related questions:
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Before Applying
• Please prepare to provide the following items for your application:
  o Current Curriculum Vitae (C.V.) or Resume
  o Statement of Purpose
  o Three (3) names of recommenders
  o List of relevant courses completed
  o Copies of official transcripts from all institutions attended
  o Potential Advisor choice in BBQ
  o English Proficiency Scores (Non-Native English Speakers)
  o Optional: GRE Scores

Applying to the Program
• Applications are accepted generally from September-November 15th for the following Fall Semester admission.

Accessing the Application
1. Navigate to the KU Graduate Admissions webpage and click “Apply”
2. Select your status of application: Returning user (Click Log in) or First-Time user (Click Create an account). If you have not submitted an application to KU before Spring 2022, you will need to create an account.

3. Once you have created an account, you may login to the application using your chosen email address and password.
4. Once logged in, you will have the option of Starting a New Application or continuing work on a previous application. To open a previous application, click the title of the application.

5. If starting a new application, Select “Start New Application” below your In-Progress applications. When selecting “Start New Application” you will be prompted to Select your application term. Once you have chosen a term
from the drop down, select Lawrence/Edwards Graduate Application and select Create Application from the pop-up to continue.

6. Once you select “Create Application” an application will be made and another pop-up will display. From this pop-up you can select “Open Application.”

7. This will open the application and you can begin completing your information or start where you ended your last session. Complete your information completely.

8. Once you navigate to the Program Information section of the application, you will need to select your Academic Intention, Academic Area of Interest, Academic Program, and Entry Term. Your screen should appear similar to the screenshot below.
9. If you are interested in being nominated for a fellowship or scholarship, please be sure to select “Yes” for this question under Additional Information.
10. Complete the remaining sections of the application. If you need to leave the application for any reason, make sure you choose “Save for Later” at the end of the application to return to the “Home” screen.

KU Psychology: Brain, Behavior, and Quantitative Science Program
Process for Selection of Graduate Students
October 6, 2023

Currently, an application consists of the following information:
- Information on the application
- List of academic honors, election to honorary societies, distinctions, scholarships, fellowships, publications, professional society memberships.
- List of relevant courses taken.
- Curriculum Vitae
- Statement of Purpose
- Undergraduate transcripts
- Graduate transcripts (if applicable)
- GRE Scores (optional for 2023)
- TOEFL Scores (for international students)
- 3 Letter of Recommendation
- Identified potential advisor in BBQ

We will use a multi-step process to identify applicants to extend an offer to. The process will be steered by a BBQ Admissions Committee made up of three faculty members and one graduate student.

Selection Process

Stage 1:
- BBQ faculty members will holistically evaluate the application materials of each of their “potential supervisees” (i.e., applicants who listed them as their primary potential advisor). Faculty may decide to conduct brief one-on-one phone or video interviews with applicants that they would like to learn more about. Based on the application materials (and any one-on-one interviews that take place), each faculty member will ultimately rate each of their potential supervisees on the following 5-point scale:

1. An outstanding prospect (with no reservations)
2. A very good prospect (with only minor reservations)
3. A good prospect (with only minor reservations)
4. A fair prospect (with major reservations)
5. A poor prospect (with major reservations)

Stage 2:
- The BBQ Admissions Committee will holistically evaluate the application materials of all applicants and rate each on the same 5-point scale used above. These ratings will be combined with those from Stage 1 to create a “short list” of applicants to invite to our online interview event. Note that, in rare cases, an applicant with a strong average rating may not be invited (e.g., if their potential advisor is not considering applications that cycle and their interests do not align with other potential advisors’).
Stage 3
- The BBQ Admissions Committee will host an online interview event (on January 19th) during which invited applicants will have a chance to meet with BBQ program faculty and graduate students for one-on-one interviews and group information sessions. Each faculty and student who interviews an applicant will provide holistic ratings of that applicant using the same 5-points scale used above.

Stage 4
- The BBQ faculty will meet after the online interview event to discuss the ratings of all short-listed applicants, including any reservations they have. Each faculty member will then (a) decide whether they would like to make an offer to each of their potential supervisees and (b) create a rank-ordering of which potential supervisee they would like to make an offer to first, second, third, and so on.

Stage 5
- The BBQ Admissions Committee will collect these rank-orderings from each faculty member and create a final list of decisions for each applicant. The three possible decisions will be: reject, admit, or waitlist. Applicants who receive a reject decision will not be made an offer to join the BBQ program this cycle, applicants who receive an admit decision will be made an offer to join the BBQ program, and applicants who receive a waitlist decision will be considered for admission in the event that other admitted applicants turn down the offer.
- Applicants who receive an admit or waitlist decision will be invited to attend an in-person campus visit (in February) to learn more about the program, university, and campus. Note that this visit will be optional and is not an interview (i.e., it occurs after the decisions have already been made).