The Neuroscience Program provides state-of-the-art research training in how the brain works, how it develops and how it can be affected by aging, environment and disease.

Ready to Apply
(http://graduate.wfu.edu/admissions)
- Submission of applications is encouraged as early as possible for full consideration for financial aid and for invitations to interview.
- Deadlines:
  - December 6th – Ph.D. applications for full consideration for graduate fellowship funding.
  - January 15th – M.S. program; Ph.D. deadline with no guarantee of fellowship.
- Checklist:
  - Submission of application
  - $75 application fee
  - Personal Statement
  - GRE scores
  - TOEFL (or IELTS) for international students with degree not from a U.S. school
  - Transcripts (unofficial acceptable)
  - 3 Recommendations

Financial Aid
Applicants to the doctoral program will be considered for a full tuition scholarship and stipend for living expenses if application is received by the December 6th deadline. Some financial aid for the master’s program is also available.

Contact Information
Dr. Christos Constantinidis
Neuroscience Program Recruiter
(336) 716-7424 | cconstan@wakehealth.edu

Location
The Bowman Gray campus of Wake Forest University is situated in and around downtown Winston-Salem, NC, and is home to a thriving revitalization movement that has received national recognition.
Winston-Salem, the tenth most affordable city in the United States, was recently ranked among the top ten “fun and affordable communities” by Business Week. The city is located in the Piedmont region of North Carolina, about 75 miles from the Blue Ridge Mountains and 225 miles from the beaches of the Atlantic Ocean.
Forbes.com voted our city among the best downtowns in the nation. Our community has received numerous additional accolades for livability with numerous activities including the weekly farmer’s market at Old Salem, the Winston-Salem Open, and minor league baseball. Downtown Winston-Salem hosts many festivals such as Twin City Rib Fest, Rock the Block and Gallery Hop.
Nearby Yadkin Valley is home to over 50 vineyards and the Huffington Post named our annual wine festival, Salute!, as one of the best of 2013.
Graduate students can easily afford to live in and around the downtown area, or in one of the safe and affordable historic neighborhoods adjacent to the medical center with easy access to shopping, public transportation and recreation.

Graduate School of
Arts & Sciences

Neuroscience Program

The Neuroscience Program provides state-of-the-art research training in how the brain works, how it develops and how it can be affected by aging, environment and disease.
Why a Neuroscience PhD?

According to the Alzheimer’s Disease Association website, 5 million individuals currently have AD, with a projected 16 million by 2050. In 2013, 17.7 billion hours of care provided by family and friends was valued at $220.0 billion. Moreover, caregivers themselves accrued $9.3 billion in additional health care costs due to the physical and emotional toll. This is just one example of the current and projected devastation wrought by neurological disorders and disease.

While absolute numbers may differ, the same cost pattern occurs with Autism, stroke, pain, epilepsy, addiction and the rare diseases. The burden is borne by all without regard for socioeconomic status, gender, age or race. There is no question that as scientists and educators, we have a responsibility to train individuals capable of pioneering research into both normal development and function of the nervous system and into the causes and mechanisms underlying neurological disease.

The vast majority of our graduating PhD students go on to such research-related positions, but the ability to expertly analyze and interpret data provides a foundation for success in a wide variety of professions including finance, law, public policy and education. We feel strongly that the Neuroscience program at Wake Forest prepares the student for multiple career opportunities. See the website for more information: http://neuroscience.graduate.wfu.edu/.

Career Development

In addition to neuroscience rigorous training, we also consider it essential for students to have access to teaching experiences and be fully cognizant of the increasing opportunities for both non-academic and non-research careers that utilize their scientific and scholarly training.

The future success of Neuroscience graduate programs will depend upon not only rigorous academic and research training, but also the ability to follow a successful career path. Our program strongly encourages all students to participate in opportunities to provide career development including:

- The Individual Development Plan
- Summer Career Development Lunch Sessions
- Alumni Network
- Other Professional Opportunities

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- 2014 – Top 10 Neuroscience Programs (Graduateprograms.com)
- 29 PhD students, 7 MD/PhD students,
- Four T32 training grants from NIH (Interdisciplinary Neuroscience; Alcohol; Drug Addiction; MultisensoryIntegration),
- 56% of third year and above students supported by individual NRSA or equivalent fellowships,
- Approximately 70 faculty from 15 departments, providing wide opportunities for research specialization and collaborations,
- Exceptionally collegial research environment,
- Average years to PhD: 5.3 years,
- Average number of publications per student: 6.7,
- >95% of graduates obtain postdoctoral positions,
- Active outreach programs – Brain Awareness Council,
- Competitive Fellowship Stipend – higher than NIH national standard; Winston Salem is very inexpensive, providing exceptional value,
- Small incoming class of 6 PhD students, 2 Master’s students, 1-2 MD/PhD students means more individual attention.

CURRICULUM

Our curriculum ensures that course choices and lab training are designed to provide individualized training that will prepare the student for multiple career opportunities. See the website for more information: http://neuroscience.graduate.wfu.edu/.

AREAS OF STUDY

- Behavior
- Cell and Molecular
- Cognitive
- Development and Aging
- Mental Health
- Multisensory Integration
- Substance Abuse and Addiction
- Systems Neuroscience
- Translational Neuroscience

Connecting Graduate Education with the World of Work and Professionalism

The Neuroscience Program participates in the PhD/MBA Program. When Wake Forest created this joint degree program in 1999, the Neuroscience program was the first doctoral program to join this one of a kind innovative program in the U.S.

Students have the opportunity to earn both degrees in about the same time it takes to earn the PhD. We actively promote engagement with industry, and offer internships for course credit. Training in professionalism extends to grant writing, presentation skills and the responsible conduct of research.

New MS Program Beginning Fall 2015

Clinical and Population Studies of Neuroscience-related Health Disparities

By 2060 current minority populations (e.g., black and Hispanic) will represent 57% of the U.S. population. Disparities in neurological disorders in these populations are expected to place an overwhelming burden on society in terms of costs, care and loss of productivity. Limited diversity in the neuroscience workforce is thought to further limit the identification and tackling of health disparities.

The Master’s Program in Clinical and Population Studies of Neuroscience-related Health Disparities is designed to provide individuals with a solid foundation and training in Neuroscience, Epidemiology and Biostatistics, and hands-on practical research projects. Our goal of this program is to also recruit undergraduate students from diverse backgrounds and provide an opportunity for training in health disparity research to generate further interest in pursuing careers in this field.

Masters in Biomedical Science

Neuroscience Concentration

For students interested in furthering their education through a Masters Degree, our new M.S. in Biomedical Sciences provides preparation for a PhD program or to strengthen your basic science skills for a range of opportunities. You will have the option to select a thesis-based degree, or courses only.