

## Graduate Admissions to Dr. Smart's Lab, Fall 2023 Admission

Thank you for your interest in SMARTLab! If you are interested in applying to the UVic Clinical Psychology Graduate Program under Dr. Smart's supervision for fall 2023, please read the following information.

1. Dr. Smart will only admit a student within the **clinical neuropsychology track** of our graduate program. This means extra coursework specialized on neuroanatomy, neuropsychological assessment, etc. Joining Dr. Smart's lab means a bigger commitment to joining the clinical neuropsychology track and ultimately having the career goal to become a clinical neuropsychologist. More information on this specific track is available on UVic's Clinical Psychology homepage. This is not something you can shoehorn yourself into if not genuinely interested in it, so consider carefully if clinical neuropsychology is the field in which you ultimately see yourself practicing.
2. Related, our lab has a major focus on trauma and resilience. However, given that these topics can be studied from a wide variety of theoretical and methodological perspectives, consider that our lab focuses specifically on the **neuropsychological aspects of trauma** (e.g., cognitive consequences of trauma and ACE exposure, impact of trauma on medical populations, etc.) as described on Dr. Smart's main webpage, found here: <https://www.uvic.ca/socialsciences/psychology/people/faculty-directory/smartcolette.php> Therefore, to fit with our lab, there has to be a neuropsychological component to your interest in this line of research. Also, it will be of benefit to your application if you already have demonstrated interest and/or experience in clinical neuropsychology, cognitive neuroscience, or affective neuroscience, either through coursework, lab-based experience, or volunteering in the community.
3. Because she often gets inquiries of this nature, it should be known that Dr. Smart does not have expertise in, and **would not be able to supervise**, trauma projects related to the following topics:
  - a. Domestic violence/intimate partner violence trauma
  - b. Trauma and mental health in children/adolescents
  - c. Psychosis, personality disorders, or severe mental illness (except for complex PTSD)
  - d. Forensic applications of trauma/populations within the justice system
  - e. Addictions
  - f. Immigrant/refugee trauma.
4. The UVic Clinical Psychology program is highly competitive, and we receive many more applications for students than we can reasonably interview. Typically, Dr. Smart is happy to receive your inquiries about joining the lab, but will not engage in lengthy discussions about your application until the initial application deadline in December. Once grades, GPAs, and other aspects of the application have been reviewed, Dr. Smart will be in touch if she is interested in contacting you.
5. If accepted for interview, this includes an interview with Dr. Smart for the lab, as well as an interview for the Clinical Program as a whole. Successful admission to the program means passing both interviews.