

Penn State Research Doctorate Programs with 5th Percentile Ranking¹ within Top 10% of Total Programs Ranked in the Field

S (Survey-based)² Rankings

| | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Anthropology | 1 and 2 (82) ¹ |
| Plant Biology | 1 and 4 (118) |
| Kinesiology | 1 and 6 (41) |
| Spanish | 1 and 8 (60) |
| Astronomy and Astrophysics | 2 and 10 (33) |
| Entomology | 2 and 14 (28) |
| Sociology | 3 and 10 (120) |
| Nutrition | 3 and 15 (45) |
| Demography | 4 and 14 (120) |
| English | 4 and 18 (122) |
| Environmental Engineering | 4 and 23 (131) |
| Meteorology | 4 and 18 (50) |
| Political Science | 4 and 11 (106) |
| Communication Arts & Sciences | 5 and 15 (83) |
| Mathematics | 5 and 14 (127) |
| Physics | 5 and 27 (162) |
| Statistics | 5 and 13 (61) |
| Biology | 6 and 21 (121) |
| Materials Science & Engineering | 6 and 28 (84) |
| Philosophy | 8 and 14 (90) |
| Chemistry | 10 and 38 (180) |
| Geosciences | 11 and 29 (142) |
| Electrical Engineering | 13 and 40 (136) |
| Human Development & Family Studies | 21 and 61 (237) |

R (Regression-based)³ Rankings

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Communication Arts & Sciences | 1 and 43 (83) ¹ |
| Kinesiology | 1 and 3 (41) |
| Plant Biology | 1 and 13 (118) |
| Materials Science & Engineering | 2 and 8 (84) |
| Nutrition | 2 and 11 (45) |
| Mathematics | 4 and 12 (127) |
| Physiology | 4 and 35 (63) |
| Spanish | 5 and 30 (60) |
| Anthropology | 6 and 18 (82) |
| Chemistry | 6 and 24 (180) |
| Statistics | 6 and 23 (61) |
| Industrial Engineering | 7 and 23 (74) |
| Mass Communications | 8 and 64 (83) |
| Biology | 10 and 22 (121) |
| Geosciences | 10 and 25 (142) |
| Physics | 11 and 27 (162) |
| English | 12 and 44 (122) |
| Mechanical Engineering | 12 and 28 (128) |
| Electrical Engineering | 13 and 23 (136) |
| Human Development & Family Studies | 14 and 69 (237) |

¹For each method, 500 individual rankings for each program in a field were generated, the highest and lowest 25 were removed, and the ends of the remaining range (5th and 95th percentile rankings) constitute the range of overall quality for that program. The numbers presented in the table represent the 5th and 95th Percentile Rankings (and Total Programs Ranked in the Respective Field) for the programs indicated. For example, by the "S" Method, Anthropology was ranked between first and second in a field of 82 ranked programs.

²The S method was based upon surveying faculty in each field who were asked to indicate the relative importance of 20 characteristics of doctoral programs (related to measures of faculty research activity; student support and outcomes; and diversity of the academic environment) to program quality in that field. The weights derived from these surveys were used as the basis for regression coefficients applied to data for the 20 program characteristics for programs in the field. In the majority of fields, characteristics related to faculty research activity were the most heavily weighted as indicators of program quality by the S method.

³The R method was based upon sending samples of 15 programs to faculty raters in each field, who were asked to indicate their familiarity with the programs, and rate the programs on a scale of 1-6 (6=distinguished; 1= not adequate for doctoral education). Program data included lists of faculty in the program, and six program metrics (# of Ph.D.s from 2001-2006; % Ph.D.s in academic positions; % completion rates; median time to degree; % female faculty; % non-white faculty). Regression coefficients were derived from these ratings and applied to data for the same 20 characteristics (related to measures of faculty research activity; student support and outcomes; and diversity of the academic environment) for programs in the field. In many fields, the factor that contributed most to program quality and was weighted most heavily by the R method was program size.

Note - The correlation between R and S methods ranged from 0.358 to 0.922 across all fields, so comparisons of the range of rankings between methods for any program should take into account the specific correlation for the respective field.

For more information, visit <http://www.nap.edu/rdp/>