

# MASTER OF SCIENCE PROGRAM STUDENT HANDBOOK 2022-2023

## DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY California State University, Fullerton

Welcome to the Department of Psychology at California State University, Fullerton. This handbook contains information about the Psychology Department and the M.S. Graduate Program relevant to your studies. The requirements and rules governing graduate students in psychology are provided. Information in this Handbook is **supplemental** to the University Catalog, which contains general University graduate degree program information and regulations.

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*The faculty of the Department of Psychology wish you success with your graduate studies!*

*Jack Mearns, Coordinator  
Master of Science Program*

# ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL

## **Psychology Graduate Office**

Location: H835N  
Phone: (657) 278-3589

M.S. Program Coordinator

Jack Mearns, Ph.D.  
Phone: (657) 278-3566  
Office: H-710O  
[jmearns@fullerton.edu](mailto:jmearns@fullerton.edu)

Psychology Graduate Office  
(Graduate Support Staff)

Cynthia Landin  
Phone: (657) 278-3589  
Office: H-835N  
[lpabon@fullerton.edu](mailto:lpabon@fullerton.edu)

## **Psychology Department Office**

Location: H-830M/830L  
Phone: (657) 278-3514

Chair

Dr. Jessie Peissig  
Phone: (657) 278-3514  
Office: H-830M  
[jpeissig@fullerton.edu](mailto:jpeissig@fullerton.edu)

Department Administration

Phillip Schierer  
Phone: (657) 278-3516  
Office: H-835O  
[pschierer@fullerton.edu](mailto:pschierer@fullerton.edu)

Department Office

Noel Torres  
Phone: (657) 278-3514  
Office: H-830M  
[noeltorres@fullerton.edu](mailto:noeltorres@fullerton.edu)

Phone: (657) 278-3845  
Office: H830L

Information Technology

Daniel Sohn  
Phone: (657) 278-3562  
Office: H-613K  
[dasohn@fullerton.edu](mailto:dasohn@fullerton.edu)

## **University Graduate Studies Office**

Location: CP-950  
Phone: (657) 278-2618

## **Psychology Graduate Computer Lab**

Location: H-607

# MASTER OF SCIENCE PROGRAM INFORMATION

The Master of Science in Psychology requires 60 units of approved graduate work, including the completion of a Thesis (see Thesis information).

## **Graduate Office**

The M.S. Coordinator is responsible for advisement, supervision and approval of students' study plans. The Psychology Graduate Office (H-835N), staffed by our Graduate Support Staff, is also a focal point for graduate student affairs. The Graduate Support Staff is familiar with our program and is a valuable source of information. **Students are responsible for keeping abreast of requirements and deadlines. Failure to do so may delay graduation.**

## **Master of Science Graduate Studies Committee**

This committee is responsible for management of the Master of Science Program. It is made up of M.S. faculty members. Student requests and petitions are reviewed and acted on by the Committee.

## **Time Limit**

The M.S. Program is designed for completion in two-and-a-half to three years (5 to 6 semesters). All M.S. core classes and fieldwork must be taken in sequence and completed during the first four semesters. This is a very challenging and demanding program; it is important not to overload one's schedule. Tenure in the program cannot extend beyond five years (10 semesters) from the date of admission, unless approved by the University. A petition must be submitted to the Graduate Studies Office and is available from their website. For this petition to be approved, students must submit a memo from their thesis chair detailing a time-line for the student to finish the thesis. Students who fail to complete the program in five years and fail to file a petition are automatically disenrolled from the university. Those disenrolled students who wish to return and complete their degrees must reapply for admission to the program. Readmission is not guaranteed.

## **Study Plan**

The M.S. Study Plan serves as both a program-planning document and a formal declaration of degree requirements for each student. **Students are responsible for meeting with the M.S. Program Coordinator during their first semester in the program to create a study plan.** The Coordinator helps students choose courses that best fit their academic and career goals (including licensure or doctoral study). The student is expected to complete all course work and other requirements listed. Study Plan changes may be made with consultation and approval of the Graduate Coordinator. **To continue in good standing, students must receive a grade of "B-" or better in all Study Plan classes, and they must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0.**

## **Classified Standing**

Participation in the Graduate Programs in Psychology requires Classified Student Status. The requirements are usually met as part of the admission procedures and include (1) official undergraduate transcripts that document appropriate course work completed in psychology; and (2) completion of program prerequisite courses.

## **Prerequisites for Master of Science Program**

PSYC 461 Psychological Testing (prerequisite for PSYC 561 Advanced Testing; grade of "B-" or better);  
PSYC 465 Advanced Statistics (prerequisite for PSYC 510 Research Design; grade of "B-" or better).

If you are missing either PSYC 461 (Testing) or PSYC 465 (Advanced Statistics) you must take this class during your first semester in the program. If you are missing both, you should complete PSYC 461 (Testing) first semester and PSYC 465 (Advanced Statistics) second semester.

## Grades

Letter grades **must** be used for all classes listed on your study plan for Master of Science. Students should be careful *not* to choose CR-NC (Grade option 2) when registering for classes, because it will delay graduation. Students must receive a grade of "B-" or better in all study plan classes. Students must maintain a minimum grade-point average of 3.0. **Students who receive lower than a "B-" in a study plan class must retake that class and receive a passing grade.** Receiving lower than a "B-" in a class that is a prerequisite for later classes will mean that those later classes **cannot** be taken until after the student has retaken and passed the prerequisite (i.e., a student who gets lower than a "B-" in PSYC 501, 545 or 547 during the fall semester cannot take PSYC 548 or 560 in spring). M.S. Students with a grade-point average of less than 3.0 are subject to academic probation and possible dismissal from the program. The university permits two semesters of probation to raise the GPA above 3.0. After two semesters with a GPA below 3.0, students will be dismissed by the university.

GRADE	POINTS
A+	4
A	4
A-	3.7
B+	3.3
B	3
B-	2.7
C+	2.3
C	2
C-	1.7
D+	1.3
D	1
D-	.7
F	0

Admission to the Graduate Program does not assure students automatic "A" grades in course work or thesis. The full range of grades may be used, and faculty members will award grades within this range, based on students' performance.

## Master's Program Evaluation

Following their first semester in the Program, all students will receive a formal evaluation of their performance in their fall course work. In addition, students' progress through the program will be periodically evaluated by the M.S. Program faculty. Consistent progress toward completion of the degree is expected.

The CSUF University Catalog states: "It should be noted that successful completion of course work is not sufficient to permit continuation in the program. In addition, faculty judgment must be satisfied with respect to the student's effectiveness, and professional and ethical behavior in dealing with potential clients. Continuation in the program is contingent upon satisfactory performance in all aspects of the program as judged by the Graduate Studies Committee."

## Appeals

Graduate students have the right to request an independent review of academic decisions made by faculty members, the Program Coordinator, or the Master of Science Graduate Studies Committee. An attempt should first be made to reach a satisfactory solution with the party involved. Concerns regarding faculty should be brought to the attention of the Program Coordinator. Appeals of decisions of the Coordinator or Graduate Studies Committee should be addressed to the Department Chair. The final level of appeal is to appropriate authorities at the College and University levels.

### ***Advancement to Candidacy***

University policy dictates that a student who has been granted classified standing is normally advanced to candidacy after a request is filed for graduation by the student and an affirmative recommendation is made by the graduate program adviser. A minimum grade-point average of 3.0 for all study plan course work is required; other scholastic, professional and personal standards, the passing of examinations, and other qualifications may be prescribed. Only those students who continue to demonstrate a satisfactory level of scholastic competence and fitness for the profession, as determined by the M.S. faculty, shall be eligible to continue in the graduate program.

### ***Master of Science Program Electives***

Elective classes give breadth to students' Study Plans in the Program. Therefore, elective courses must not have overlapping content with Program course work. Students may choose elective course work to fit their specific career or educational paths, especially meeting requirements for licensure. Students planning to continue in a Ph.D. program may choose to take additional statistics courses or other research-related course work that will assist them in gaining admission to a Ph.D. program.

Graduate seminars (PSYC 520T) do not need to be approved; a student may take additional seminars to fulfill elective requirements. Elective course work chosen from outside the Department, Department classes that are not approved seminars, or course work from another University will need M.S. Coordinator approval. If a student has fulfilled the residency unit requirement for CSUF, he or she may complete elective course work at another university. The course work must be acceptable to that university's graduate program and be approved by the M.S. Graduate Studies Committee. Enrolling in elective courses during the summer before their first semester in the program will help students complete the program in a timely manner, particularly if they are missing prerequisites. Certain program and BBS requirements (e.g., PSYC 535–Addictions and PSYC 538–Trauma and Stress) will most conveniently be taken during summer after first or second year in the program. Not taking these classes during the summer may delay graduation. The Counseling Program typically **does not** have room for clinical psychology students in its fall and spring classes: Counseling courses are offered for Counseling students. Therefore, planning to meet program or licensure requirements with Counseling courses always entails a gamble.

### ***Scheduling***

The Study Plan is developed by the student and the M.S. Coordinator in the first semester of the program. The Study Plan on the following page satisfies most of the MFT and LPCC requirements for licensure. However, specific course work must be taken to meet requirements for licensing. When choosing M.S. program electives, it will be important to keep in mind plans for obtaining licensure. By choosing electives carefully, it will be possible to meet requirements for both MFT and LPCC licenses.

#### **Elective Classes Needed to Meet MFT Requirements:**

**Psychopharmacology**, PSYC 475 or COUN 525

**Human Sexuality:**

PSYC 562 or COUN 562, **Counseling Couples** (may count as study plan elective)

Or

PSYC 312, Human Sexual Behavior (**can't** be used for a study plan elective; but if you took Human Sexuality while an undergraduate, even at a community college, that class **meets** the BBS requirement)

#### **Elective Classes Needed to Meet LPCC Requirements:**

**Career Counseling**, PSYC 502 or COUN 502

**Crisis and Trauma**, PSYC 538 OR COUN 538

**Group Psychotherapy**, PSYC 550 or COUN 528

**Psychopharmacology**, PSYC 475 or COUN 525

**Note:** Counseling (COUN) classes are offered by the Counseling Program for their students. Occasionally, psychology students are able to take a COUN class; but you should **not plan** on taking COUN classes to meet elective requirements.

Clinical classes—set in italics—must be taken during your first four consecutive semesters in the program. Non-clinical classes may be scheduled after consultation with the Master of Science Program Coordinator.

### FIRST YEAR

FALL SEMESTER		UNITS
PSYC 501	<i>Professional/Legal Issues in Psychology</i>	3
PSYC 545	<i>Advanced Psychopathology</i>	3
PSYC 547	<i>Theories of Psychological Intervention</i>	3
PSYC 461 or 465 Or	Psych Testing or Advanced Statistics Program Prerequisite	--
PSYC 520T Or	Seminar	3
Elective	Must be Approved by the M.S. Coordinator	

SPRING SEMESTER		UNITS
PSYC 548	<i>Psychotherapeutic Techniques</i>	3
PSYC 560	<i>Treatment of Children &amp; Adolescents</i>	3
PSYC 569	<i>Cross Cultural Psychology</i>	3
PSYC 599	Independent Graduate Research	3
PSYC 465 Or	Advanced Statistics (Prerequisite to PSYC 510)	--
PSYC 510 Or	Research Design	3
PSYC 520T Or	Seminar/Advanced Topics	
Elective	Approved by MS Coordinator	

SUMMER SESSION		UNITS
PSYC 535	<i>Addictions</i>	3
PSYC 538 Or	Crisis and Trauma	3
Elective	Approved by MS Coordinator	

### SECOND YEAR

FALL SEMESTER		UNITS
PSYC 549	<i>Marriage/Family/Child Therapy</i>	3
PSYC 594A	<i>Fieldwork</i>	3
PSYC 598	<i>Thesis</i>	3
PSYC 510 Or	Research Design (If not taken spring semester first year)	3
PSYC 520T Or	Seminar/Advanced Topics	
Elective	Approved by M.S. Coordinator	

SPRING SEMESTER		UNITS
PSYC 594B	<i>Fieldwork</i>	3
PSYC 561	<i>Advanced Testing</i>	3
PSYC 598	<i>Thesis</i>	3
PSYC 520T Or	Seminar	3
Elective	Approved by M.S. Coordinator	

### THIRD YEAR

FALL SEMESTER		
PSYC 520T Or	Elective Seminar or Electives approved by M.S. Coordinator	3
PSYC 594A	Fieldwork (use the Credit/No Credit grade option #2—does <u>not</u> count as program elective; you need to repeat 594A if you wish to count for the BBS summer client hours or to continue counting hours into the fall)	--

**TOTAL UNITS** 60



## ***Master of Science Program Advisement***

Each student in the M.S. program shall see the M.S. Coordinator during the first semester to complete a Study Plan. This is a good time to get acquainted and to discuss other topics regarding the program, your expectations, and your career plans in psychology. The Coordinator follows your progress through the program and is your first recourse if you have any problems, questions, concerns or other input regarding the program. If you are considering dropping a course or dropping out of the program, you must consult with the M.S. Coordinator.

Other occasions for seeing the Coordinator might be regarding:

1. Selection of elective courses.
2. Unsatisfactory academic performance.
3. Adding courses/changing study plan.
4. Discussing internship plans, potential thesis advisor and postgraduate plans.
5. Problems and concerns about aspects of the program.
6. Personal problems that might impair your program performance.

If you are struggling, **do not** keep these problems to yourself! The Coordinator wants to support you through the program. See the Coordinator to get needed support.

In addition to the knowledge and abilities to be learned in formal classroom situations, it is necessary that every student in the M.S. Program possess a variety of skills essential to clinical work. Toward this end, the faculty of the clinical program provide feedback to students. Assessments of strengths, as well as suggestions for improvement and constructive criticisms, will be given to students formally and informally. Personal therapy may be recommended/required if a student's development as a clinician would be facilitated.

It is extremely rare for a student to be disqualified from the program on grounds other than poor grades in courses. Such action would be taken only in the event of a serious breach of professional ethics or because of severe deficiencies in the student's abilities or suitability for becoming a professional. Should there occur an adverse recommendation by the M.S. faculty, this will be reviewed by the M.S. Graduate Studies Committee.

## ***Student Responsibilities***

Your participation in the M.S. Program is not just academic training. It also represents your entry into the profession. Therefore, students should maintain a high standard of behavior in keeping with being professionals-in-training. All incoming students will sign an M.S. Student Code of Conduct that enumerates the Program's minimum expectations for student honesty and decorum. Failure to adhere to these standards will raise questions about a student's suitability for a profession that requires a high degree of ethical, responsible and socially appropriate behavior. Failure to abide by the code of conduct will result in remedial requirements and possibly dismissal from the program.

### ***Academic Honesty***

Students are responsible for maintaining ethical and honest work practices during their time in the program. All academic work by students must be the students' original work, unless students cite appropriate sources from which the material was obtained. In particular, all wording in student assignments must be the students' own wording. If the wording of others is used, it must be so designated by being surrounded by quote marks, with the appropriate page number of the source given. Failure to designate with quote marks wording that did not originate with the student is *plagiarism*, a serious breach of academic honesty. Incidents of academic dishonesty, including plagiarism, will result in severe grade penalties and disciplinary proceedings.

Students should be especially careful **not** to cut and paste material from other sources such as websites. All material from other sources must be sufficiently paraphrased to distinguish it from the wording of the original source. Cutting and pasting is a dangerous practice, as students may not

sufficiently paraphrase material, resulting in plagiarism. Students must be very vigilant when using information from other sources. Be careful, as well, when taking notes from readings.

### ***Attendance, Work Load, Participation, and Deadlines***

Many M.S. Program classes meet only one day per week. Thus, missing one class session means you will miss a substantial amount of the semester's material. Students are responsible for attending classes they are taking. In case of emergency or illness, students should inform their professor that they will be missing class, and they should arrange with classmates to learn what was covered during that class meeting. Students are responsible for arriving to class early enough that they are seated and ready for the class to begin at the designated time. Arriving after the class has begun is disruptive to professors and peers. Repeated tardiness is disrespectful to others and does not show sufficient commitment to one's studies or developing a professional demeanor. Continuing problems with tardiness may bring academic penalties.

M.S. Program faculty expect students to keep current with their work load in classes and to submit assignments on time. Failure to meet deadlines will result in academic penalties. Repeated lateness of work raises faculty members' concerns about students' commitment to their professional development.

Professors also expect student participation in class. Class participation is excellent preparation for the verbal interchange of doing therapy. Students who find it difficult to speak up should discuss this with their professors or the M.S. Coordinator, so they can aid in developing strategies for increased participation. Overcoming shyness often is a necessary component of M.S. Program training.

At the graduate level, students are expected to spend several hours reading or working on papers or projects for every hour they are in class. It is important to keep up and not fall behind. Once you fall behind, it may be difficult to catch up.

Faculty are here not only to instruct and evaluate you but also to support and guide you. **Your professors want you to learn.** If you are having problems in a class, visit your professor's office hours early for recommendations about how to improve your performance.

### ***Politeness, Respect and Decorum***

M.S. students are expected to treat others with respect. This means showing tolerance for those from different backgrounds or those who hold views different from one's own. It also means listening attentively to others. Students should take care not to monopolize class discussions.

When talking informally with their peers, students may refer to their professors using only their last name. When talking with others (e.g., other faculty), referring to professors by only their last name sounds disrespectful and reflects poorly on the speaker. When talking with people in a professional context, students should refer to their professors as Doctor or Professor \_\_\_\_\_. Be mindful of the good impression you want to make on others.

If you have an odd or "cute" email address, it is advisable to create and use a new CSUF email address for communicating with professors. This will encourage others to regard you as a budding professional.

### ***Good Writing***

In addition to avoiding plagiarism, M.S. students are expected to develop their capacity to express themselves in writing. Paraphrasing is an essential technique for effective communication. Paraphrasing means taking material written by someone else and digesting it into your own words. Thus, it is not enough merely to quote the wording of others to avoid plagiarism. Good writers will also avoid long quotes, instead putting these ideas into their own words. Paraphrasing demonstrates a command of the material.





**Study Plan**

**Master of Science in Psychology (Clinical)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ CWID \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

The following pre-classification requirements have been met:

1. ☐ BA ☐ BS ☐ Other from \_\_\_\_\_ Month/Year \_\_\_\_\_
2. Research Methods Course and Introductory Statistics Course
3. Four upper-division courses from selected areas including a lab class
4. ☐ PSYC 461 Psychology Testing or equivalent with B- or better  
Completed prior to admission OR Within the first semester.
5. ☐ PSYC 465 Advanced Psychological Statistics or equivalent with B- or better:  
Completed prior to admission OR Within the first year.
6. Minimum GPA of 3.0 in psychology and 2.5 overall
7. Satisfactory scores on the GRE Tests. \_\_\_\_\_ Q \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ Advanced: \_\_\_\_\_
8. Three satisfactory letters of recommendation.
9. Previous clinical experience and paid or volunteer research experience.
10. Satisfactory interview

**Graduate Writing Requirement has been/will be met by PSYC 547.**

**ALL STATE AND UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS ARE TO BE MET INCLUDING FIVE-YEAR LIMIT**

<i>Study Plan Requirements*</i>	<i>Units</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>Sem/Yr</i>	<i>Ext.</i>	<i>Comments</i>
<b>CORE COURSES (12 units)</b>					
PSYC 501 Professional/Legal Issues in Clinical Psych**	3				
PSYC 510 Experimental Design	3				
PSYC 520T Advanced Topics in Psychological Research	3				
PSYC 599 Independent Graduate Research	3				
<b>CLINICAL COURSES (30 units)</b>					
PSYC 535 Addictions Counseling**	3				
PSYC 545 Advanced Psychopathology**	3				
PSYC 547 Theories of Psychological Intervention**	3				
PSYC 548 Psychotherapy Techniques**	3				
PSYC 549 Marriage, Family and Child Therapy**	3				
PSYC 560 Child and Adolescent Treatment**	3				
PSYC 561 Clinical Psychological Assessment**	3				
PSYC 569 Cross Cultural Psychology**	3				
PSYC 594A Fieldwork**	3				
PSYC 594B Fieldwork**	3				
<b>ELECTIVES (12 adviser-approved units)</b>					
<b>THESIS (6 units)</b>					
PSYC 598 Thesis	3,3				
<b>TOTAL UNITS REQUIRED</b>	<b>60</b>				

\*Minimum of "B-" (2.7) or better in all study plan classes and maintain a B (3.0) grade point average overall.

\*\* Required by BBS for MFT licensure. Please see Program Coordinator for additional course work necessary for MFT License.

CLASSIFIED STANDING recommended by committee (prerequisites met and Study Plan approved):

Members: Drs. Mearns (Chair), Ahmed, Okado & Panza

Reviewed by dept. staff (if required) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

MS Coordinator \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewed in Graduate Office \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

CLASSIFIED GRADUATE STANDING GRANTED \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Associate Vice President, Academic Programs

Rev. 8/17

Rec'd Graduate Studies Office:

Copies Sent:

## COURSE INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION

*The following classes require additional procedures to register*

**PSYC 599 (Independent Graduate Research) 3 Units** -- To receive Department credit for PSYC 599, please complete a Department of Psychology PSYC 599 Registration Form (available in the Department Office), have it signed by your instructor and the Program Coordinator, and submit to the Psych Graduate Office to receive a permit to register. Each instructor is assigned a separate schedule number. Be sure to register for 3 units of PSYC 599.

**PSYC 520T (Topical Seminars) 3 Units** -- One seminar (3 units) must be completed to fulfill your seminar class requirement. Additional seminar courses may be used to fulfill Elective Course requirements. Enrollment is limited. To register for a seminar course please contact the Graduate Support Staff for a registration permit. Once the permit is entered in the computer you can register for the class. Typically, two different seminars are offered each semester.

**Elective Courses (12 Units)** -- If you choose an elective course outside the Department of Psychology, please consult the Graduate Support Staff to verify if the class has been approved. If the course has not yet been approved as an elective, you will need to get approval from the Program Coordinator. The Coordinator may ask to see a copy of a recent class syllabus.

You should consult the department offering the class to verify if instructor approval is required or if the department needs to give you a permit to register for the class.

**Master of Science 400 Level Course Contract** -- Undergraduate 400 level classes used as electives for your study plan require an assignment above and beyond the class requirements for undergraduate students in the same course. Graduate students may complete an extra assignment that undergraduates do not do. Or, graduate students may complete an undergraduate assignment with added length, depth or complexity. An M.S. 400 Level Course Contract must be completed, including a description of any extra paper or other work to be completed; it should be signed by the instructor and returned to the Graduate Office. 400 level classes will not be accepted for your study plan unless a contract is submitted. (Because PSYC 461 and PSYC 465 are program *prerequisites*, not study plan classes, the 400 level course contract is not required.)

**PSYC 598 (Thesis Research) 6 Units** -- Ask your Thesis chair to e-mail the Graduate Support Staff indicating permission for you to enroll in PSYC 598. The Graduate Support Staff will issue a permit. You need **two semesters** of Thesis on your transcript.

**Registering for More Than 12 Units** -- Except for **spring of first year**, you will only be allowed to register for a maximum of 12 units. In rare cases, students may be permitted to register for more than 12 units in other semesters; however, this requires approval of the University. Students should use caution about over-extending themselves, which may impair their academic performance. Before you register for an overload, consult with the Program Coordinator.

### **Continuous Enrollment**

Students must maintain continuous enrollment at the University until degree award. Your place in the program will be forfeited if enrollment is not maintained (i.e, you will be disenrolled from the university). Application for re-admission is required if a break in enrollment occurs; re-admission is not guaranteed. Apply for a **leave of absence** from Graduate Studies if you expect to be absent from the program for an entire semester. Otherwise, you may register for GRAD 700 through Extended Education.

## **GRAD 700**

Once you have finished all 60 units of classes and only have the thesis to complete, you can sign up for GRAD 700. Taking GRAD 700 through Extended Education is inexpensive compared to registering for units. GRAD 700 maintains your status as a full-time grad student while you finish up.

There are a couple of disadvantages to GRAD 700. First, it has no unit value. That means that you will not be able to get financial aid; also, if you have student loans, the student loan company might expect you to start paying the loans back. Second, you cannot take any classes if you are enrolled in GRAD 700. Thus, you could not retake Fieldwork, which would mean that you can't count hours for BBS.

If you need to have units, 6 units is considered part-time graduate study. If you do not want to take substantive classes but want to get units while you finish your thesis, you can sign up for PSYC 599 (Directed Lab Research); **be sure** to sign up using the CR/NC grade option. This means that you do not need to do any work for 599. The CR will not affect your grad GPA.

If you need to take more than 3 units of 599, you can sign up for 3 units with your thesis chair; then you can sign up for an additional 3 units with the M.S. Coordinator. Again, be sure to select the CR/NC grade option.

## **Field Placements**

In the second year, students in the M.S. Program enroll in three units of Fieldwork each semester. A minimum of 12 hours per week of field experience at the internship site is required. Students are strongly encouraged to complete 16-20 hours per week. In the spring semester of your first year in the program, you will receive a packet of internship information and necessary forms. Also, in H-835N is a binder containing evaluations by past students of their fieldwork sites. This binder will give you an idea of the variety of sites available to our students.

Early in spring semester of your first year, **two mandatory internship meetings are scheduled**. The first is a chance to go over required paperwork and to learn about how to apply to placements. The second is a meeting at which representatives of several placement agencies present about their programs. All first year students must attend both meetings.

All placements must be approved by the Master of Science Program Coordinator. Approval is based on the breadth, depth and quality of the experiences the student is likely to receive. It is required that you provide therapy to individual cases; often you will do some group therapy. You must receive individual supervision (a minimum of 1 hour per week). You must also have a minimum of 2 hours of group supervision per week. Students must accrue a minimum of 280 hours of face-to-face client contact and must video record at least three sessions per semester. Students must be covered under liability insurance. If not covered under agencies' policies, students will need to purchase their own low-cost liability insurance: <https://forms.hpso.com/mustela/site?productName=HCl#/QuickQuote/>. (Select "Clinical Counselor" for Profession and check "Student" for Employment Status.) Students often also obtain testing, therapy consultation and community responsibilities.

Contract: You and your agency's on-site supervisor complete a contract specifying the commitments and responsibilities of each of you. For your own protection, this contract must be completed and signed before you begin working at your site.

### ***Advancement to Fieldwork***

During the spring semester, all first-year students will be evaluated by the M.S. Graduate Studies Committee with regard to their suitability for beginning Fieldwork in second year. In addition to academic performance, the Committee will also evaluate students' interpersonal readiness for working with clients. Conduct problems—such as chronic lateness or disrespectful behavior—are likely to delay approval for beginning fieldwork. Students must display the ethics, maturity, judgment and basic interpersonal skills needed to treat vulnerable clients seeking help. Faculty concerns will be conveyed to students in a formal evaluation, along with suggestions for remediation. Serious concerns may result in the Committee's requiring students to delay Fieldwork until their third year in the program. Failure to correct behaviors of concern may result in dismissal from the program.

### ***MFT and LPCC Licensure***

The Master of Science program of the CSUF Department of Psychology meets the requirements of the Business and Professions Code, Sections 4980.36 and 4999.33, if all courses indicated in the current catalog are completed. Consult the BBS website for the complete requirements for MFT and LPCC licenses. To receive times and an application for the Board's licensing exam, please contact the following address:

Board of Behavioral Science  
1625 N. Market Blvd. Suite S-200  
Sacramento, CA 95834  
Telephone: (916) 574-7830  
<http://www.bbs.ca.gov>

The content areas required for licensure are covered by your program course work, if you select appropriate elective classes. We cannot guarantee that courses will match with future administrative or legal changes in licensure requirements; while the program attempts to keep abreast of these changes, you should always remain informed of licensure requirements, especially during your post-graduation, prelicensure period. In addition, if you plan to move out of California, you may find that the new state's licensure requirements, even for the LPCC, differ from California's. You may need to complete additional academic work or training to become licensed in another state.

### ***Graduation Check***

The application for a Graduation Check should be filed **one semester prior** to the semester you are planning to graduate. **Filing this Grad Check late may delay your graduation!**

The University Graduate Studies Office receives your application and notifies the Department of your intention to graduate. The Department reviews your Study Plan and verifies completion of course work. The Department's evaluation is sent to the University Graduate Studies Office. Students are officially advanced to candidacy for their respective degrees at this time (see Advancement to Candidacy). A final evaluation is conducted by the University Graduate Office. If everything is in order, your degree will be awarded at the next graduation date (January, June or August.) **Students must file their complete, approved thesis by appropriate deadlines for degree award. Students are responsible for knowing and meeting all deadlines.**

**Graduation Check Instructions on Titan Online:** Students apply online for their grad check through the **Student Portal**. Once students have logged in to the **Student Portal**, they will enter **Titan Online** and then their **Student Center**. Once they have entered their **Student Center**, they need to locate the **drop-down menu on the left that reads "Other Academic."** Activate the drop-down menu, **select "Apply for Graduation," click the >> icon and follow the remaining instructions.** **Students must pay the University Cashier (UH-180) within five business days.**

### ***The Faculty Mentor Program***

The Faculty Mentor Program facilitates students' early involvement in research, helps students develop their thesis topic, and provides academic and career advice in areas of emphasis in psychology. New students, in consultation with the M.S. Coordinator, select a Mentor prior to their second semester in the program. Students may change Mentors at any time by obtaining the agreement of their new Mentor and informing the current Mentor. (You should consult with the M.S. Coordinator if you are considering switching advisors. If you feel there are problems, it is a good idea to communicate early rather than later with your current mentor.) It is typical that students' Mentors will serve as their Thesis Advisor in the second year. However, students are free to select a different person for their advisor. All tenured and tenure-track Psychology faculty are qualified to serve as Mentors. It is also possible for students to select faculty mentors outside of the Psychology Department. If interested in non-Psychology mentors, students should consult with the M.S. Coordinator to make sure their thesis committee meets all department and university requirements.

### ***Your Mentor's Responsibilities***

1. Your Mentor will supervise your PSYC 599 research during your second semester in the program. You may be asked to participate in various phases of your Mentor's research, such as library research, data collection, data analysis, and report preparation.
2. Your Mentor will provide you with academic and career counseling in their area of expertise.
3. Your Mentor will help you develop your thesis topic.

### ***Your Responsibilities***

1. Select a faculty mentor during the first semester of your program. The M.S. Coordinator will help you make this selection.
2. Work with your mentor in a timely manner to complete the required PSYC 599 project.

You should formalize your agreement about yours and your mentor's expectations in the PSYC 599 registration form, which is like a contract between you. These expectations include how many hours of work you will be putting in per week, what tasks you will accomplish, and how grades will be determined. Be as specific as possible.



# THESIS

There are a number of options available to M.S. students in terms of thesis projects. Most students complete a traditional empirical research study, for which they collect and analyze data. However, some students may find alternatives to the traditional empirical study more helpful in furthering their career goals. These alternatives include research-focused options, such as analysis of secondary data or a meta-analysis of published empirical studies. More clinically-based thesis projects are possible as well. These include program assessments; case studies, in which published empirical research is applied to the treatment of an individual clinical case; or analyses of empirical evidence for certain treatment approaches. These alternatives are described in detail on the M.S. program web page: <http://psychology.fullerton.edu/resources/pdf/MSThesisGuidelines13.pdf>. While these descriptions have been created to provide guidance and standards for each type of project, it will be up to the student's advisor and committee to determine whether a specific project is of sufficient quality and substance to be the equivalent of a more traditional thesis. Although not empirical, these alternatives will be equally stringent and will require the same level of work and commitment to complete them. A thesis project, regardless of type, shall be a scholarly document that enhances existing empirical or clinical science. It should be noted that not all thesis advisors will be open to serving as a mentor for all options; therefore, a student interested in doing an alternative type of thesis must ensure his or her advisor is capable of mentoring and willing to mentor that type of project.

## ***Your Thesis Advisor/Chair's Responsibilities***

Your relationship with your thesis advisor will probably be your most important during graduate school. Choose your advisor carefully. Talk with the M.S. Coordinator to help you make your decision and discuss your choice with other students who have worked with that advisor. It is important to find a thesis advisor who is a good fit not only for your area of academic interest but also for personal style.

1. Your Thesis Advisor supervises all aspects of thesis requirements.
2. Your Thesis Advisor is the chair of your committee and will help you to select appropriate faculty for your thesis committee and to develop a feasible timeline for your project.
3. Your Thesis Advisor will help you to devise a suitable project design and to execute the study. The advisor should also help you obtain any space, equipment, and IRB and administrative approvals necessary to conduct the project.
4. Your Thesis Advisor serves as the editor of the thesis manuscript—which includes supervising preparation of the initial drafts of the thesis prior to submission to the thesis committee—and editing the completed manuscript in preparation for your final thesis meeting. Students must receive approval from their Thesis Advisor before submitting their thesis to other committee members. Expect to submit numerous drafts of your thesis before it is approved.

## ***Your Responsibilities***

1. Work diligently toward preparation of a project that has a reasonable timeline for completion. A timeline for graduation is available from the Department Graduate Office.
2. Coordinate with your thesis advisor and committee to schedule the two required meetings (proposal and final oral) in accordance with the guidelines.
3. Keep your chair informed of your progress. There will be times during the graduate program when you will be extremely busy. Thesis work often suffers. Even if you are not making progress, it is essential to remain in periodic communication with your Thesis Advisor.
4. Know and follow the guidelines for thesis preparation. See *CSUF Graduate Thesis Regulations Student Handbook* available at the office of Academic Programs and Graduate Studies, CP-950
5. Be aware of deadlines.

Occasionally, misunderstandings develop between a student and the thesis chair. These should be resolved as soon as possible. Students are encouraged to discuss any concerns with the M.S. Coordinator, who can help find solutions.



### ***Thesis Committee***

This committee consists of a minimum of three CSUF faculty, at least two of whom must be full-time tenured or tenure-track members from the Psychology Department. Tenured faculty from other departments may co-chair your committee or serve as the third member. Individuals who are not employed by CSUF may serve as a visiting examiner, meaning a fourth committee member. Typically, all committee members will have a Ph.D.; however, individuals with a master's degree may serve on a committee if they have a particular area of expertise that contributes to the project. Students select their thesis committee in consultation with their Thesis Chair. Typically, this occurs as the thesis proposal is nearing completion.

### ***Thesis Proposal***

The Thesis Proposal details the project you plan to complete, including rationale, theoretical and empirical background, methods and procedures, and proposed data analyses. Your Thesis Advisor will guide you in the preparation of this document and provide you with specific guidance concerning length and format. The first drafts of your proposal are submitted to your Thesis Advisor for review and editing. **Only after your Thesis Advisor has given approval is it appropriate to submit to the other members of the committee for review.**

### ***Thesis Proposal Meeting***

Your Committee Chair will determine when you are ready to schedule your proposal meeting. The meeting is designed to review your research plans and, when necessary, to help you sharpen your conceptualization or methodology. At the meeting, you will make an oral presentation of your proposed project and answer questions about it from your committee. At the conclusion of this meeting, your Committee may:

1. Approve your thesis plan as presented;
2. Request that you document, in writing, modifications to your thesis plan that were agreed to at the meeting and submit a summarizing memo to your Committee Chair for approval;
3. Require that you make revisions in your proposal and resubmit the proposal for Committee review;
4. Require that you go back to the drawing board.

Thesis plans are rarely approved without modification. Thus, the second alternative listed above is most likely for well-conceptualized projects. Your Thesis Advisor will help you draft the memo detailing changes agreed to at the meeting.

### ***Thesis Timeline and PSYC 598***

Thesis planning usually begins in your second semester. In the third semester, you should enroll in your first three units of PSYC 598 (Thesis Research), which grants unit credit for thesis planning and completion of the proposal. A second three units of PSYC 598 cover data collection and thesis write-up. All phases of your activities are conducted in consultation with your Thesis Advisor. Keep them informed about your progress! Ask your Thesis Chair to e-mail the Graduate Secretary to issue a permit for you to enroll in PSYC 598 Thesis units. Deadlines governing the filing of your Thesis with the University Graduate Affairs Office are posted in the Psychology Graduate Office, will be e-mailed, and are available on the Graduate Studies web site. Consult these deadlines each semester and plan accordingly! The **CSUF Graduate Thesis Manual**, available at [http://www.fullerton.edu/graduate/current\\_students/thesis.php](http://www.fullerton.edu/graduate/current_students/thesis.php), details University regulations: **read these carefully!** It is the responsibility of the student to be aware of thesis guidelines and timeline.

### ***Equipment***

Your Thesis Advisor will facilitate your acquisition of participants and equipment. Use of departmental equipment is coordinated with Daniel Sohn (H-613K; 657-278-3562), the Department's Instructional Support Assistant.

## **IRB INFORMATION**

Studies involving human or animal subjects must be reviewed by either CSUF's Institutional Review Board (IRB) for research involving human participants, or the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) for research involving animals. IRB applications are submitted through the Cayuse online system: [http://www.fullerton.edu/doresearch/compliance/irb\\_cayuse.php](http://www.fullerton.edu/doresearch/compliance/irb_cayuse.php). You must complete CITI training to complete the submission process. Allow 2 to 6 weeks for approval. The IRB may not approve studies during the summer.

Note that you can be the principal investigator and your advisor can be the faculty sponsor. Typically, you will not apply for IRB approval until *after* your proposal meeting.

## **Data Collection and Analyses**

Data collection for your thesis may commence only after your Thesis Committee approves your Thesis plan. Approval is designated when all members of your committee sign the cover sheet attached to your proposal. You must also have IRB approval before you may collect data from human or animal subjects.

During data collection, consult with your Thesis Chair and Committee Members about data analysis plans. Students are expected to know how to use the statistical packages necessary to carry out their data analyses. Tutors and consultants are available. For assistance, contact the Social Science Research Center, MH-33.

## **Thesis Preparation and Final Meeting**

Following data collection and analyses, you will prepare a draft of your thesis for your Advisor's review. Your manuscript should be prepared according to the **Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association** and **Format Guidelines** and **Thesis Template** from the University Graduate Affairs Office available at [http://www.fullerton.edu/graduate/current\\_students/thesis.php](http://www.fullerton.edu/graduate/current_students/thesis.php).

A number of revisions will be necessary before the thesis is ready to be distributed to the members of your Committee. After the Committee reviews your thesis draft (give them a minimum of two weeks), the oral examination is held. Scheduling of this meeting is coordinated by you, your Thesis Advisor and the Graduate Secretary. An announcement of your Thesis Meeting is published **one week** prior to your meeting. **You will need to e-mail the Graduate Secretary the title page and abstract of your study for inclusion in this announcement, with the date, time and room number of your meeting.** Your thesis meeting is open to all interested faculty and students. If you conduct a case study or treatment method analysis for your thesis, an alternative meeting will be needed. Consult with Program Coordinator regarding format.

At the final thesis meeting, you will report your research findings. Emphasis is placed on presenting research results, interpretation, and conclusions. You will likely be asked several questions about your project by your Committee Members regarding results and interpretation. Your Thesis is officially approved when all members of the Committee sign the Thesis/Dissertation Verification form that is generated once the Thesis Reader gives final acceptance of your thesis.

There are three typical outcomes to a final thesis meeting:

1. Pass the oral defense: All Committee Members approve the thesis as is.
2. Minimum revision required: Your thesis chair agrees to make sure all recommended changes are made.
3. Substantial revision required: A second Oral Defense meeting is necessary.

After your thesis has been formally accepted and passed by all Committee Members, submit your final thesis manuscript to the Thesis Reader in the Graduate Studies Office, for review and approval. Formatting and other editorial revisions may be required for the Thesis Reader to give final approval.

### ***Summer Completion of Thesis***

Summer completion of thesis cannot be guaranteed. It will depend on availability of faculty on the Thesis Committee. Unless faculty are teaching summer school, they are not being paid during the summer. Thus, any supervision of thesis work during the summer is as an unpaid volunteer. In addition, faculty may not come to campus often or may have other commitments during the summer. If you wish to finish your thesis during the summer, you should coordinate this with your Thesis Advisor well in advance of the summer. You will need to file a Petition for Summer Completion with the University. (**International students** seeking summer completion must register for GRAD 700 during summer. This only applies to international students.)

### ***Thesis Deadlines***

Faculty understand that students desire to finish their thesis in time for deadlines. However, your Thesis Advisor's first priority is making sure your thesis is a worthy academic document. Do not expect your Mentor and your Committee to pass a thesis that is rushed and inadequate.

### **Thesis, PSYC 598, Grading Policy**

#### ***First Three Units***

RP (Satisfactory Progress)	Student has made reasonable progress toward completing thesis proposal
I (Incomplete)	Student has begun thesis work but has not made reasonable progress toward completing thesis proposal
WU (Unacceptable)	Student shows little effort toward making progress on thesis

#### ***Second Three Units***

RP (Satisfactory Progress)	Thesis proposal is approved by the committee
I (Incomplete)	Thesis Proposal not yet completed
WU (Unacceptable)	Student has not made reasonable progress on the project

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*NOTE: The PSYC 598 (Thesis) final letter grades will be issued after the final approval of your thesis following your thesis meeting.*

## THESIS CHECKLIST

- **Mentor:** Choose a mentor with the guidance of the M.S. Coordinator, and enroll in PSYC 599.
- **Enroll in PSYC 598 (Thesis) first 3 units:** Ask your Thesis Advisor to email the Graduate Secretary requesting that you be permitted to register for thesis units.
- **Thesis Committee:** With your Advisor's guidance, choose two other faculty to serve on your Thesis Committee. Once your Advisor has approved your thesis proposal, submit it to your Committee and schedule a proposal meeting. Bring a cover sheet to be signed by the Committee to signify passing your proposal.
- **Reserve a room for your Proposal:** email Noel Torres [noeltorres@fullerton.edu](mailto:noeltorres@fullerton.edu)
- **Proposal Meeting:** following the proposal meeting, make any revisions specified by the Committee and **submit a copy of your signed title page** to the Department Graduate Office.
- **Submit IRB Documents**
- **Enroll in PSYC 598 (Thesis) second 3 units:** Ask your Thesis Advisor to e-mail the Graduate Secretary requesting that you be permitted to register for thesis units.
- **Reserve a room for your Thesis Defense:** email Noel Torres [noeltorres@fullerton.edu](mailto:noeltorres@fullerton.edu)
- **Email Information to the Department Graduate Office:** no later than one week prior to your defense email Cynthia Landin [clandin@fullerton.edu](mailto:clandin@fullerton.edu) the following:

Thesis Title Page  
Abstract  
Date, Time and Room of your defense

*If the information is not received by the Department Graduate Office, necessary documentation to process thesis grades and graduation won't be submitted.*

- **Thesis/Dissertation Verification Form:** your Committee Members will sign this form after your thesis meeting.
- **Additional thesis information:** See the Department of Psychology Graduate Handbook, The CSUF University Catalog and the Graduate Affairs Office Thesis Handbook located at:  
[http://www.fullerton.edu/graduate/current\\_students/thesis.php](http://www.fullerton.edu/graduate/current_students/thesis.php)
- The **University no longer requires students to obtain bound copies of the thesis from the bookstore.** However, you may still wish to purchase your own bound copies of the thesis.

## Department of Psychology Graduate Program Forms

FORMS	WHEN TO SUBMIT
Study Plan	Meet with the Program Coordinator during the first semester of your program to develop and complete your study plan.
Request for Excess Units Department Graduate Office H-835N Computer Lab H-607 <a href="http://www.fullerton.edu/graduate/current_students/forms.php">http://www.fullerton.edu/graduate/current_students/forms.php</a>	To enroll in more than 12 units of course work, the Program Coordinator's approval is required. Excess units cannot be added to your schedule until the first week of classes. Completed and signed form is submitted to the registration window in Langsdorf Hall. After permit is issued you can register on Titan Online for the extra units.
Independent Graduate Research (PSYC 599) Department of Psychology H-830M Computer Lab H-607	To receive Department credit for Independent Graduate Research. Complete the form and sign, have your instructor approve and sign, and return to the Graduate Secretary. You will receive a permit on the computer to register.
M.S. Elective Course Contract Dept. Grad Office H-835N Computer Lab H-607	To receive graduate credit for an approved 400 level course
Thesis Manual <a href="http://www.fullerton.edu/graduate/current_students/thesis.php">http://www.fullerton.edu/graduate/current_students/thesis.php</a>	Published by the University Graduate Affairs Office. Contains information regarding thesis formatting guidelines.
Request for Leave of Absence Graduate Studies Office CP-950 <a href="http://www.fullerton.edu/graduate/current_students/forms.php">http://www.fullerton.edu/graduate/current_students/forms.php</a>	If you are unable to attend classes for a semester, you need to apply for a leave of absence. Unless an official leave of absence is granted, you will be disenrolled from the University. Readmission to the Program is not guaranteed once you are disenrolled.
Application for a Graduation Check <a href="http://www.fullerton.edu/graduate/current_students/graduation.php">http://www.fullerton.edu/graduate/current_students/graduation.php</a>	Apply for a graduation check online <u>one semester prior</u> to the semester you wish to graduate. You may not graduate on schedule if you have not completed the application in a timely manner.
Change of Graduation Date Univ. Admissions and Records LH 114	If you have applied for a Graduation Check, but are unable to complete requirements by your scheduled date, you must officially change your date of graduation to remain eligible. This is a paper petition obtained from the University's Admissions and Records office.
Petition for Summer Completion Graduate Studies Office CP-950 <a href="http://www.fullerton.edu/graduate/current_students/forms.php">http://www.fullerton.edu/graduate/current_students/forms.php</a>	If you have filed a Graduation Check for June graduation and are unable to complete your thesis on time, you may file a petition for August completion. Please ascertain whether your Committee will be available to meet during the summer. The form needs the approval of your Thesis Chair and the Program Coordinator.
GRAD 700 Extended Education Enrollment Graduate Studies Office CP-950 Email: <a href="mailto:gradstudiesrecept@fullerton.edu">gradstudiesrecept@fullerton.edu</a>	If you have completed all course work, you may enroll in GRAD 700 through Extended Education to complete your thesis for a minimal fee. Form is available on the University Graduate Affairs web site or in the Department Graduate Studies Office.  To maintain enrollment, you must register for GRAD 700 each semester until you complete your thesis and graduate.
Petition for Extending Time Limit Graduate Studies Office CP-950 <a href="http://www.fullerton.edu/graduate/current_students/forms.php">http://www.fullerton.edu/graduate/current_students/forms.php</a>	If you have not graduated within the five year limit, you may petition for extending your time limit up to two years. Students will need to document their time-line for thesis completion for the extension to be approved.

**Department Web Sites:**

<http://psychology.fullerton.edu>

The Department website has department forms and information about:

- Contacting faculty/staff
- Faculty Research Interests
- Graduate Program Information
- Graduate Handbooks
- Financial Aid
- Student Organizations
- Faculty Office Hours
- Professional Organizations

**Department Address:**

Department of Psychology  
P.O. Box 6846 (H-830M)  
Fullerton, CA 92834-6846

**Street and Shipping Address:**

Department of Psychology  
800 N. State College Blvd  
Fullerton, CA 92834

**Paulina June & George Pollak Library**

The library supports the Department of Psychology's learning outcomes for students. Through its reference and instruction services, they strive to assist you in the development of your information literacy skills, such as:

1. Identifying resources that will best meet your information needs	3. Evaluating your resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Understanding the nature of peer-reviewed, scholarly articles</i></li><li>• <i>Recognizing the unique features of empirical studies</i></li><li>• <i>Identifying popular sources (both print and online)</i></li></ul>
2. Conducting effective searches using various resources (especially the online databases) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Finding books and other resources using the Library's catalog</i></li><li>• <i>Effectively searching PsycINFO</i></li><li>• <i>Acquiring search strategies for PubMed</i></li><li>• <i>Locating and searching other relevant subject-specific databases</i></li></ul>	4. Acquiring tools to properly cite your sources <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Formatting citations in APA style</i></li><li>• <i>Navigating and effectively using RefWorks</i></li><li>• <i>Understanding the importance of academic integrity</i></li></ul>

Please visit the Pollak Library homepage to access their many services, including links to the library's online catalog, online databases, research information, subject guides, library blog, live help features, policies and guidelines, and more: <http://www.library.fullerton.edu>

You have access to the Pollak Library's research guide for psychology students via the Department of Psychology Web site:

"Forms and Links" tab → "Psychology Links" → "Psychology Resources" section → "Psychology Research Guide-Pollak Library, CSUF" link



# STUDENT AFFAIRS

## ***Graduate Assistants (GA's)***

Several graduate assistantships are available each semester. Assistantships are awarded on a semester basis to full-time students in good standing.

Open GA positions are emailed to students. Faculty members requiring a Graduate Assistant interview candidates and recommend appointments to the Department Chair. Both the faculty member and student come to an agreement about workload and responsibilities **prior** to commencement of the assistantship.

## ***M.S. Student Representative***

Meetings of the M.S. Graduate Studies Committee typically are held prior to Psychology Department faculty meetings. A student representative attends these meetings to disseminate information back to the students and to communicate student opinion in discussions. At the beginning of the fall semester, the Graduate Secretary will solicit interested students in their second year or above to run for election. The Graduate Secretary will conduct the election, in which all current students will be given a vote.

## ***Financial Aid***

The University Financial Aid Office (UH-146; 657-278-3125) provides information about student loans, scholarship and funds available through Work Study Programs. Please consult their website:

<http://www.fullerton.edu/financialaid/>

## ***Student Organizations***

Your membership in one or more of Psi Chi (National Psychology Honor Society), Psychology Department Student Association (PDSA), Peer Mentors, Latin Student Psychological Association, and Psychology Association of Graduate Students of Color and Allies (PAGSOCA) is encouraged. These organizations sponsor a variety of academic and social activities. If you wish further information on these organizations or would like to become involved, please consult the department web site:

<http://psychology.fullerton.edu/students/index.aspx>

## ***Student Research Grants***

The University, the parent group of PDSA, provides funds for activities of the Associated Students. Each year, some of these funds are set aside for student research, including travel funds to participate in the meetings of scientific societies. Contact your student PDSA representative for more information. The Department of Psychology also provides an opportunity for students to be reimbursed for conference registration fees if they are an author on a presentation. Applications are available from the department's main office.

Funding for thesis supplies is also available from the College of Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS) Intercollegiate Council (ICC): [http://hss.fullerton.edu/students/icc/interclub\\_council.aspx](http://hss.fullerton.edu/students/icc/interclub_council.aspx)

## ***Election of the Outstanding Master of Science Student(s)***

***Nominations:*** In April a memo is circulated to the faculty to solicit nominations. To be qualified for this nomination, M.S. students must be advanced to candidacy and have completed their thesis or be near completion (June or August). Faculty nominating an M.S. Student write a nomination letter. Often a second letter in support of the nominee is submitted as well. The nominated student must provide a CV that will be included in the nomination packet.

**Voting:** A folder with the nomination letters, vita, and a copy of the study plan will be retained in the Psychology Graduate Office. The award winner will be determined by a vote of the M.S. Graduate Studies Committee.

### ***Recipients of the Master of Science Outstanding Student Award***

1982	Dorothy Ford/Patricia Williamson	2005	James Seghers
1983	Marlene Phillips	2006	Danielle Pajer
1984	Patricia Breit	2007	Christina Sun
1985	Rebecca Stirges	2008	Shruti Mukkamala/Yuko Watabe
1986	Kristie Winkle	2009	Maricela Aceves/Jennifer King
1987	Linda Nold	2010	Crystal Mcindoo/Keiko (Kono) Taguchi/Emaka Takashima
1988	Mary Hale	2011	Chloe Boyle/Shiela Kelley
1989	Sara Sutton	2012	Nicole Graham
1990	Lucyann Carlton	2013	Dmitry Tsukerman
1991	Betty Wadkins	2014	Isil Necef
1992	Tasha Akhtarkhavari	2015	Byron Kyle Smith
1993	Jennifer Brindley	2016	Kim Pham Vu
1994	Vicki Kennedy	2017	Elizabeth Light
1995	Steven Bautista	2018	Christina Rowley
1996	Stephanie Miller	2019	Karanjeet Kaur
1997	Jodi Greenblatt	2020	Abigail Saavedra
1998	Emese Csipke/Rachael Mason	2021	Lindita Djokovic
1999	Sara Marcoux/David Sitzer	2022	Lizette Ruiz
2000	Jill Cain/Tamara Mastri/Pernilla Sass		
2001	Samantha Etchells/Virginal Mintzlaff/Catherine VanRietten		
2002	Timothy Kovacs/Jyotsnaben Patel		
2003	Timea Kohegyi/Kathryn Rice		
2004	Barbara Enderson/Brett Wheeler		

## ***Ethical Principles Regarding Professional Relationships***

Graduate work is expected to be conducted in accordance with the APA Ethical Principles of Psychologists. While all the principles are important, Principle 1, Principle 4, Principle 6, and Principle 8 of these address issues of particular importance to students and supervisors. These say in part:

### **1.11 Sexual Harassment**

(a) Psychologists do not engage in sexual harassment. Sexual harassment is sexual solicitation, physical advances, or verbal or nonverbal conduct that is sexual in nature, that occurs in connection with the psychologist's activities or roles as a psychologist, and that either: (1) is unwelcome, is offensive, or creates a hostile workplace environment, and the psychologist knows or is told this; or (2) is sufficiently severe or intense to be abusive to a reasonable person in the context. Sexual harassment can consist of a single intense or severe act or of multiple persistent or pervasive acts.

(b) Psychologists accord sexual harassment complainants and respondents' dignity and respect. Psychologists do not participate in denying a person academic admittance or advancement, employment, tenure, or promotion, based solely upon their having made, or their being the subject of, sexual harassment charges. This does not preclude taking action based upon the outcome of such proceedings or consideration of other appropriate information.

### **1.17 Multiple Relationships**

(a) In many communities and situations, it may not be feasible or reasonable for psychologists to avoid social or other nonprofessional contacts with persons such as patients, clients, students, supervisees, or research participants. Psychologists must always be sensitive to the potential harmful effects of other contacts on their work and on those persons with whom they deal. A psychologist refrains from entering into or promising another personal, scientific, professional, financial, or other relationship with such persons if it appears likely that such a relationship reasonably might impair the psychologist's objectivity or otherwise interfere with the psychologist's effectively performing his or her functions as a psychologist, or might harm or exploit the other party.

(b) Likewise, whenever feasible, a psychologist refrains from taking on professional or scientific obligations when preexisting relationships would create a risk of such harm.

(c) If a psychologist finds that, due to unforeseen factors, a potentially harmful multiple relationship has arisen, the psychologist attempts to resolve it with due regard for the best interests of the affected person and maximal compliance with the Ethics Code.

### **1.19 Exploitative Relationships**

(a) Psychologists do not exploit persons over whom they have supervisory, evaluative, or other authority such as students, supervisees, employees, research participants, and clients or patients. (See also Standards 4.05-4.07 regarding sexual involvement with clients or patients.)

(b) Psychologists do not engage in sexual relationships with students or supervisees in training over whom the psychologist has evaluative or direct authority, because such relationships are so likely to impair judgment or be exploitative.

### **6.05 Assessing Student and Supervisee Performance**

(a) In academic and supervisory relationships, psychologists establish an appropriate process for providing feedback to students and supervisees. (b) Psychologists evaluate students and supervisees on the basis of their actual performance on relevant and established program requirements.

### **8.01 Familiarity with Ethics Code**

Psychologists have an obligation to be familiar with this Ethics Code, other applicable ethics codes, and their application to psychologists' work. Lack of awareness or misunderstanding of an ethical standard is not itself a defense to a charge of unethical conduct.

### **8.02 Confronting Ethical Issues**

When a psychologist is uncertain whether a particular situation or course of action would violate this Ethics Code, the psychologist ordinarily consults with other psychologists knowledgeable about ethical

issues, with state or national psychology ethics committees, or with other appropriate authorities in order to choose a proper response.

### **8.03 Conflicts between Ethics and Organizational Demands**

If the demands of an organization with which psychologists are affiliated conflict with this Ethics Code, psychologists clarify the nature of the conflict, make known their commitment to the Ethics Code, and to the extent feasible, seek to resolve the conflict in a way that permits the fullest adherence to the Ethics Code.

### **8.04 Informal Resolution of Ethical Violations**

When psychologists believe that there may have been an ethical violation by another psychologist, they attempt to resolve the issue by bringing it to the attention of that individual if an informal resolution appears appropriate and the intervention does not violate any confidentiality rights that may be involved. In the M.S. Program, we interpret these principles to mean that clinical supervisors do not date or have sex with their current students or supervisees.

Faculty or Clinical Supervisors do not see students for personal therapy while they are enrolled in their class, while they are their supervisees or if they reasonably anticipate contact with that individual in an evaluative role in the future.

The foregoing does not preclude doing research in collaboration with students and supervisees.

If students would like guidance about an ethical matter or are concerned that an ethical violation has occurred, they are encouraged to discuss it with the Coordinator, of the M.S. Program, their supervisor, or other third party faculty member.

You are encouraged to read and periodically reread the APA Principles in their entirety. Copies are available in the Graduate Studies Office.

## **Psychology M.S. Program in Clinical Psychology**

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

(rev. approved 2/16)

#### *A. Frameworks, Concepts, Terminology and Techniques*

1. Know the legal and ethical responsibilities related to clinical practice; apply these in actual clinical situations.
2. Master the diagnostic and conceptual framework for mental disorders and related terminology.
3. Master the conceptual and methodological approaches necessary for treatment planning and conducting therapy with clinical populations with an emphasis on evidence based practices.
4. Be sensitive to the influence of ethnicity and cultural values on clinical practice; consider cultural and ethnic influences while working with therapy cases.

#### *B. Research Mentorship*

5. Develop proficiency in research methods and statistical techniques and utilize this understanding to complete an original master's thesis.