



Graduate Programs in Psychology

Master of Arts/ Master of Science

The Psychology Department presently offers six master's degree programs. Three lead to the Master of Arts in Psychology with concentrations in Developmental, Psychological Research, and Social Psychology. Three areas of graduate study lead to the Master of Science in Psychology with concentrations in Clinical, School, and Industrial/Organizational Psychology. All of these programs have been designed to meet specific academic needs and to qualify students for further study and/or vocational goals.

Departmental Application Filing Dates

The programs in Clinical, School, Social, Industrial/Organizational, and Psychological Research accept applicants **only** for **Fall** semester entry. The Developmental program accepts for both **Fall** and **Spring** semester entry. Application deadlines are

- February 1 for Fall semester entry
- October 15 for Spring semester entry

International Students

Inquiries about specific University application procedures or deadlines for international students should be directed to International Admissions at (415) 338-1293 or at Graduate Division, prospective international applicants <http://www.sfsu.edu/~gradstdy/international-application-submission.htm>

Graduate Record Examination (GRE) Requirement

All of the Psychology programs require the "general" portion (verbal, quantitative, and writing assessment) of the GRE. The GRE is designed to help graduate school admission committees assess the qualifications of the applicants. For information concerning the GRE, contact the Educational Testing Service at (510) 873-8000 or San Francisco State's Testing Center at (415) 338-2271 or go online at <http://www.sfsu.edu/~testing>.

The Application Process

It is very important to understand the application process. There are two parts which must be completed simultaneously. **One**, a **University application** must be filed with the Graduate Division. The University application can be obtained online at http://www.csumentor.com/admissionapp/grad_apply.asp questions regarding the University application can be directed to the Graduate Division (415) 338-2234. **Two**, a **complete Psychology Departmental application** must be filed with the Psychology Department. Departmental application forms can be obtained from the Psychology Office (Ethnic Studies & Psychology Building, Room 301), e-mailing a request to psych@sfsu.edu, calling (415) 338-2711 or at <http://bss.sfsu.edu/psych/>

Application Checklist

These materials go directly to: **Psychology Department (in one packet)**

Graduate Division

- Departmental Application
- Transcripts of all Course Work
- Answers to Essay Questions
- Request official GRE Scores to be sent to the Dept.
- Letters of Recommendation

- On line University Application
 - Transcripts of all Course Work
- Send to: **Division of Graduate Studies**
1600 Holloway Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94132

Departmental Application Instructions

1. The psychology department promotes a self-managed application process. In this process, the applicant is requested to collect and **submit all required application materials together as one packet**. This ensures a timely processing of materials. When this is not possible, the applicant is responsible for ensuring that any required missing materials are received by the Psychology Department and the Graduate Division. Please complete the departmental application form and answer the appropriate questions for your program.
2. Distribute the three recommendation forms to persons whom are acquainted with your **academic** qualifications.¹ Request their **signature** (across the sealed flap of the envelope). Shortly before the deadline, contact your references to ensure that the letters are ready for you to pick up and mail in a complete packet. (Most useful are letters from professors in courses that are closely related to the program to which you are applying.)
3. Order a set of **official** transcripts from **all** of your undergraduate institution(s), including San Francisco State University, if applicable. (A second set of transcripts should be ordered for the University application, and sent to the Graduate Division.)
4. On the departmental application include your cumulative GPA from your **degree granting undergraduate institution**. Also calculate your GPA from all undergraduate coursework in psychology (listed on the second page of the application). A+/A=4.0, 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.
5. Request to have your **official GRE scores sent directly to the department**. To ensure you receive your scores in time for the application deadline, take the GRE test no later than the December prior to the deadline.

GRE Institution Code:

4684

GRE Departmental Codes:

2001--Clinical

2006--Developmental

TOEFL Institution Code: 4683

2008--Industrial/Organizational

2010--Research

2015--Social

2099—School

6. Send only a **Complete** Departmental application by regular mail directly to:

Graduate Secretary (indicate which program you are applying to in parenthesis, e.g. **Social, I/O, Clinical**)
Psychology Department, EP 301
San Francisco State University
1600 Holloway Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94132-4168

Applications *must be POSTMARKED by February 1st*

7. Include a self-addressed, stamped postcard if you would like us to inform you when we receive your departmental application.

¹ Applicants to the Clinical Program should include references who are familiar with your clinical experience

San Francisco State University

PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENTAL APPLICATION FOR GRADUATE STUDY

SEMESTER _____ YEAR: _____

IMPORTANT! THIS IS NOT AN APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TO THE UNIVERSITY. YOU MUST FILE A SEPARATE UNIVERSITY APPLICATION WITH THE GRADUATE DIVISION AT THE SAME TIME YOU FILE THIS DEPARTMENTAL APPLICATION AT <http://www.sfsu.edu/~gradstdy/>

Name: _____
(Last Name) (First Name) (Middle Name)

Mailing Address: _____
(Street Number) (Street Name) (City/State) (Zip Code)

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ last 4 digits of SS# _____

E-mail: _____

THIS APPLICATION IS FOR:
 (Please note: Separate applications must be filed for each program.)

<input type="checkbox"/> M.A. Developmental, Fall or Spring <input type="checkbox"/> M.A. Social, Fall <input type="checkbox"/> M.A. Psychological Research, Fall	<input type="checkbox"/> M.S. Clinical, Fall <input type="checkbox"/> M.S. School, Fall <input type="checkbox"/> M.S. Industrial/Organization, Fall
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Graduate Record Examination General Test _____
Date Taken/Scheduled Scaled Score: Verbal Quantitative Analytical Writing

Undergraduate Cumulative GPA (from degree granting institution): _____

Psychology GPA (computed from undergraduate psychology coursework listed on next page): _____

Have you applied to this department before? _____ If "yes", semester and year: _____
 Are you a continuing graduate student at SFSU? _____ If "yes", is your status: Classified__ Unclassified__
 Date of enrollment: _____

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES ATTENDED
 Print names and locations of all, with most recent first.

INSTITUTION(S)	CITY/STATE	DATES ATTENDED	MAJOR	DEGREE	GPA

PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENTAL APPLICATION

ESSAY QUESTIONS

This essay portion of the departmental application should be **typed, 12 point font, double spaced**, and no more than **7 pages** in length (on the top right hand corner include your last, first name and last four digits of your SS #). Please answer the questions listed for the graduate Psychology program to which you are applying.

CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY and SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY

1. What are your professional goals?
2. Aside from your professional goals, describe what you consider to be the mainspring(s) of your motivation; i.e., what is really personally important to you?
3. Please submit an autobiography so that we can more clearly get to know you as a person. We hope that this attempt will produce a meaningful confrontation with yourself and that the process of doing so will be worth the effort. In responding, it is important that you take a careful psychologically-minded perspective of your attitudes, life and goals. Your statement will be a central factor in the evaluation of your total application.
4. In addition to the essay which addresses the above points please include in your application a current Curriculum Vitae (CV; i.e., academic resume).

DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY

1. What are your professional goals and how would completion of the graduate Developmental Psychology program at SFSU facilitate achieving them?
2. Describe the area(s) of developmental psychology which you are most interested in and, briefly, how these interests emerged.
3. What research, publication, work, volunteer, or other experiences have you had which are related to your current interests in psychology?
4. Describe one or more people or an experience which has influenced your life.

INDUSTRIAL/ORGANIZATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

1. Aside from making the workplace better, why specifically are you interested in the field of Industrial/Organizational Psychology?
2. What areas of Industrial/Organizational Psychology are of interest to you and why? Please be specific.
3. Describe any educational, work, volunteer, or other experiences you have that demonstrate your abilities in the following areas:
 - a. Ability to analyze complex problems and think about innovative and creative solutions
 - b. Ability to work independently, set priorities and meet deadlines, and sustain performance and motivation on long term projects
4. What, if any, work experience has prepared you for a career in I/O? Please be specific as to how and why it has prepared you.
5. What are your areas of research interest and how do they align the research interests of our faculty?
6. What are your future educational and/or career goals? Please be specific. Describe what you might be doing after getting your Masters degree.
7. What business trends do you think have the most potential for impacting the field of Industrial/Organizational Psychology and why?

PSYCHOLOGICAL RESEARCH

1. What are your professional goals and how would completion of the graduate Psychology program at SFSU facilitate achieving them?
2. Describe the area(s) of psychology (Psychophysiological, Cognitive, Neuroscience, etc.) which you are most interested in and, briefly, how these interests developed?
3. What research, publication, work, volunteer, or other experiences have you had which are related to your current interests in psychology?
4. What would you say is the "mainspring" of your motivation as it applies to your academic and career goals?

SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

1. What are your professional goals and how would completion of the graduate Psychology program at SFSU facilitate achieving them?
2. Please summarize your principal areas of interest in psychology, and explain briefly how these interests developed.
3. Please describe experiences you've had that relate to your current interests in psychology--research, employment, volunteer activities, and others.
4. What is the motivation that underlies your academic and career goals?
5. Discuss your research interests. What areas of inquiry, objectives, methods, subject or respondent populations, and other aspects of the research process are most appealing to you? Why?

San Francisco State University
PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENTAL APPLICATION
Recommendation for Graduate Study

SEMESTER: _____ YEAR: _____

DUE DATE
February 1st--Fall Entry
October 15--Spring Entry

RETURN TO STUDENT: In a sealed envelope with the
Recommenders signature across
the flap of the envelope

(This section to be filled out by applicant)

Name: _____
(Last Name) (First Name) (Middle Name)

Mailing Address: _____
(Street Number) (Street Name) (City/State) (Zip Code)

Phone number: (____) _____ E-mail: _____

Graduate Psychology Program (e.g. Social, I/O, Clinical...): _____

WAIVER

I hereby waive my right to view this recommendation in the Psychology Department Office. My signature implies my compliance with the complete confidentiality of this recommendation.

Applicant's Signature

Date

The Department of Psychology would appreciate your frank evaluation of this applicant's ability for graduate study in Psychology at San Francisco State University. Feel free to go beyond the categories listed on the back of this form. Pertinent observations concerning the applicant's personality will be appreciated also. It is the Department's policy that applicants can review their admissions files and this recommendation unless the above waiver is signed by the applicant.

How long have you known the applicant? _____

In what capacity? Teacher _____ Supervisor _____ Colleague _____ Other _____
(Please specify)

How would you classify your knowledge of the applicant?

Extensive _____ Fairly Good _____ Casual _____

GENERAL EVALUATION:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____ Institution: _____

Title: _____ Phone Number: _____ E-mail: _____

To answer these questions, first identify the group to which you are comparing this applicant:
Your graduate students __, undergraduate students __, or another group (specify) _____.

Compare the applicant to this group and rank him or her on the following scale, understanding that “top 50%” means the applicant outranks 50% of the comparison group and “top 1%” means he or she outranks 99% of the comparison group.

1. Based on grades, test scores, and any other indications how would you rank this student in academic ability?

Applicant Ranks Within the Top ____%: 50% 25% 10% 5% 1%

Comments:

2. How would you characterize this student with respect to research ability, taking into account any available evidence with respect to originality, theoretical interests, and drive toward scientific achievement?

Applicant Ranks Within the Top ____%: 50% 25% 10% 5% 1%

Comments:

3. What is your estimate of this student's personal qualifications and potential for effective functioning as a professional psychologist after completion of a master's degree program?

Applicant Ranks Within the Top ____%: 50% 25% 10% 5% 1%

Comments:

4. How would you rate this student if he/she were being evaluated by you as a member of a selection committee?

Applicant Ranks Within the Top ____%: 50% 25% 10% 5% 1%

Comments:

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Phone number: (____) _____ E-mail: _____

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