



**Psychology Department**

**Graduate Student Handbook**

**for the Master of Arts**

**in**

**Psychological Science**

**2019 - 2020**

[www.csusm.edu/psychology/maprogram](http://www.csusm.edu/psychology/maprogram)

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Greetings prospective and entering graduate students!

The Psychology faculty developed this handbook to introduce our Master of Arts program in Psychological Science. If you are considering CSU San Marcos as a possible choice for graduate school, our handbook will give you some insight into our goals, curriculum, and strengths. If you are already admitted to our program, the handbook will inform you of our policies, procedures, and requirements. In any event, our handbook will be a useful tool toward determining your graduate school and professional objectives.

The graduate school experience in our program is challenging and rewarding, allowing you to develop and grow in your specific field of study. Our program also offers the opportunity to develop professional and collegial relationships with accomplished and devoted faculty. All of us wish you the best of luck as you pursue your educational and career goals.

Regards,

Elisa Grant-Vallone, Ph.D.  
Professor and Chair of Psychology

Nancy Caine, Ph.D.  
Professor and Graduate Coordinator

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of the graduate program in psychological science at CSU San Marcos is to provide graduate education of the highest caliber to qualified students from the local community and beyond, leading to the Master of Arts (M.A.) degree. Our objective is to prepare students for the following: continued study at the doctoral level; a variety of positions in business, industry, and the public sector; and/or academic careers at the two-year college level. It is our belief that excellent graduate education is best accomplished in an atmosphere in which graduate students are treated collegially, and are closely mentored by the faculty. We are committed to the study of psychology as a scientific enterprise, and our program will encourage the development of skills that are consonant with the scientific spirit of inquiry and the critical thinking, articulate verbal expression, quantitative reasoning, and healthy skepticism of graduate-level study. In keeping with the mission of CSU San Marcos, we offer our students a curriculum that includes opportunities to enhance professional development and to contribute to the community at large. In addition, our program seeks to recognize the value of multicultural perspectives and to be sensitive to diversity concerns.

Our graduate degree is designed to accommodate students with a wide range of goals. The active research programs of our faculty, and our recognition of psychology as a scientific enterprise, provide graduate students with the intensive research training and course work in primary content areas that are central to preparation for more advanced graduate work. Likewise, students who have aspirations for careers in community college teaching, community service, or business and industry, benefit from our program's emphasis on critical thinking, research methods, and advanced course work. Individual career goals are served by allowing choice in the content of the thesis research and by providing a curriculum that provides options in course content areas.

Many students undertake graduate work in psychology in order to pursue careers in clinical psychology or psychological counseling. Training specifically geared to those seeking licensure as a Marriage and Family Therapist (MFT) or Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC) is not offered by our program. However, the program *will* prepare students to better compete for admission to doctoral programs in clinical or counseling psychology. Students with interests in clinical or counseling psychology will find opportunities to pursue course work and thesis topics at CSU San Marcos that are related to their interests.

## **MENTORING**

It is our belief that the quality of a student's graduate experience is, in large measure, a reflection of mentoring. Too often, especially in graduate programs that have large faculty-student ratios, students do not receive adequate faculty supervision. In our program, each student is carefully mentored throughout her/his training at CSU San Marcos. No student will be without an adviser at any time in her/his course of study, including during periods of part-time study. Our aim is to include our graduate students in the every-day life of the department: offering teaching opportunities in PSYC 680, inviting participation in faculty research programs, and welcoming involvement in general departmental activities such as colloquium series, curricular decision making, and social events.

Upon acceptance into our program, a student will be assigned a faculty adviser whose research interests appear to match those of the student. Students are free to seek an adviser other than the one originally assigned, should interests change in the early part of the student's program. The faculty understands that the professional and personal compatibility of students and faculty may change, and if another faculty member is willing to assume the role of adviser, there is no problem with making such a change. However, if a student wishes to change his/her committee membership (the adviser or any other committee member) after the second year of study or any time after the thesis proposal has been presented to the faculty, the change must be approved by a majority vote of the Psychology faculty.

## **ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

To be considered for admission, students should have a Bachelor's degree in psychology, or a Bachelor's degree plus one course in statistics and at least 4 upper-division courses of 3 to 4 units each in psychology from an accredited university. Among the upper division courses there should be one or more laboratory courses in psychology. Applicants should have computing skills relevant to graduate course work in psychology, including statistical software experience. Admission to the program will be heavily influenced by the breadth and appropriateness of undergraduate course work and research experience in psychology. In addition, applicants should have a grade point average higher than 3.0 in the last 60 units of undergraduate study, plus at least a 3.0 average in upper-division psychology courses.

The Graduate Record Exam (GRE) is required of all applicants, but the advanced *subject* test in psychology is optional. We do recommend, however, that applicants take the subject test if they do not have a major in psychology or have marginal grades in psychology. We have no minimum cut-off scores for the general test; however, students who score below the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile are less likely to be admitted than those scoring higher.

International applicants should contact the Office of Global Education regarding requirements for admission to the university.

Applications for admission for Fall 2020 will be due on February 1, 2020. Information about the application process can be found on the Psychology Department's MA webpage: [www.csusm.edu/psychology/maprogram](http://www.csusm.edu/psychology/maprogram)

## **DEGREE REQUIREMENTS**

The program requires 33 semester hours (11 courses) of study, at least 27 of which are from the graduate level (500 or 600 series). All students will do a substantial piece of empirical research leading to a thesis. The thesis will be planned and executed while the student is enrolled in course work in the Master's program, and must be approved by the student's thesis committee (see thesis requirements, p. 13).

## **ACADEMIC STANDING**

The policies relating to academic probation, disqualification, and reinstatement are linked on the "policies" tab of the Office of Graduate Studies (OGSR) web page [www.csusm.edu/gsr/](http://www.csusm.edu/gsr/). We

urge you to go to this site and carefully read the policy, which applies to graduate students throughout the university.

## **GRADUATE STATUS**

Students must be continuously enrolled during the academic years unless they apply for a leave of absence (see below). Students need not enroll in courses during the summer, except that if the thesis is to be submitted to the library in the summer the student must be enrolled.

Our program is designed for full-time study. Unless an exception is requested and granted, graduate students are expected to engage in full-time study. Students should complete all courses in four semesters, although thesis work may take the student into extra semesters. On rare occasions, students may enroll on a part-time basis with the approval of the adviser and the graduate coordinator. The schedule for completion of the degree is adjusted accordingly. All students are expected to complete the degree according to a study plan formulated by the student and adviser, and in no case may a student take more than five years to complete the degree (see p. 10).

### Leave of Absence

In accordance with CSU San Marcos policy, a student may request a leave of absence for valid medical, planned educational or professional reasons. Note that the request form must be filed prior to the end of the add/drop period of the semester to which the leave will apply. Except during the summer, graduate students in Psychological Science must apply for a leave of absence whenever they are not enrolled in at least one course. During a leave of absence, the student will not use University resources or faculty time. If you fail to register for course work and fail to apply for a leave of absence, you will be dropped from the program.

### Graduation

Psychological Science graduate students need to apply for graduation in the semester prior to the expected semester of graduation. A student cannot apply for graduation until s/he: 1) has completed her/his thesis proposal and the proposal has been approved by the thesis committee; 2) has been advanced to candidacy (see p. 9). A candidate must apply for graduation with the Office of Registration and Records. If you apply to graduate but you do not finish in time, you must cancel your application for that semester and reapply for the next semester. It is the responsibility of the student to initiate and complete these steps when s/he is preparing to graduate.

It is Psychology Department policy that a student will be hooded at graduation if and only if her/his thesis has been completed and signed by the committee. **Students should therefore not make plans for participating in the graduation ceremony until it becomes evident that the thesis will indeed be completed on time.**

## **THE CURRICULUM**

The graduate curriculum is designed to reflect the scientific enterprise of psychology, emphasizing design, methodology, and analysis within the context of major content areas.

Students will be given valuable training and experience in pedagogy in PSYC 680 (Teaching of Psychology), which all students will take. Students planning to seek future employment in clinical, industrial, or other community settings have the additional opportunity to engage in a supervised field experience (PSYC 681 Field Placement).

### Required Courses

The courses required for the graduate program are:

- PSYC 520 Graduate Statistics
- PSYC 530 Advanced Research Methods
- PSYC 600 Contemporary Issues in Psychology
- PSYC 680 Teaching of Psychology
- PSYC 699 Graduate Thesis

In addition to the above five courses, each student must complete four graduate proseminars from among the following:

- PSYC 550 Proseminar in Social/Personality Psychology
- PSYC 552 Proseminar in Developmental Psychology
- PSYC 554 Proseminar in Cognitive Psychology
- PSYC 556 Proseminar in Comparative/Physiological Psychology
- PSYC 558 Proseminar in Counseling/Clinical Psychology
- PSYC 560 Proseminar in Selected Topics in Psychology

Note that you may be taking one of these course numbers more than once, simply because the topics within that course can be very different. So, for instance, you may find that you take PSYC 554 in your first year, with the emphasis being on the study of memory, and then you take it again your second year because the topic of PSYC 554 that semester is language.

Because our program has a relatively small number of graduate students and faculty, we cannot afford to offer our students a wide choice of prosemantics each semester. Although we would like to be able to do so, we make no apologies for the fact that students take courses in areas that are not in their most immediate realms of interest. We think it is important that you are broadly educated in psychology. You may not be interested, for instance, in developmental psychology, but this lack of interest does not exempt you from needing a graduate-level understanding of the basic issues and methodologies in that field. Therefore, although you might be disappointed at having to take one or more seminars in your least favorite areas of psychology, the attitude you should cultivate is one that recognizes the importance of getting an excellent education in your discipline.

Proseminars in other departments may not be taken in place of the prosemantics offered by the Psychology Department, and both part-time and full-time students must enroll in a seminar in each of their first four semesters. That is, students may not avoid a particular seminar by intentionally skipping it or by looking for a graduate seminar elsewhere.

### Elective Courses

Students may take (with consent of adviser) one or two courses (maximum six units) from the

upper-division (400 level only) psychology undergraduate curriculum as one of their official courses for the master's degree. Most of our students need to take Advanced Statistics (PSYC 424) in the first semester of study so that they are prepared for PSYC 520 (Graduate Statistics) in the following semester. One other 400-level course can also be used as an elective, although this isn't typically needed or desirable. The elective courses in the graduate curriculum at the 600-level are:

PSYC 690	Graduate Research
PSYC 681	Field Placement

(Note: PSYC 681 may not be used as a means of acquiring course credit for research. If a student wishes to carry out a research project, s/he should register for PSYC 690.)

#### Credit/No Credit

Students may not elect credit/no credit for any course counted toward the degree that is also offered on a letter grade basis. PSYC 680, PSYC 699, and PSYC 700 are graded credit/no credit.

#### Courses Taken Elsewhere

The units from graduate-level courses and successfully completed while a student was an undergraduate or a post baccalaureate student will not count toward the Master's degree should s/he be accepted to the program. Although certain requirements may be met by having completed the graduate courses, the total number of graduate units toward the Master's degree will not be reduced. For instance, a graduate statistics course taken as an undergraduate may fulfill the graduate statistics requirement (if approved by the faculty). In this case, the student chooses an elective to replace PSYC 520. Typically, that replacement would be PSYC 690 (Graduate Research).

On occasion, a graduate student may wish to take a graduate-level course at another university. Units towards the M.A. earned at institutions other than CSU San Marcos may not exceed six (6), and must be approved by the adviser and graduate coordinator. With rare exceptions, proseminars at other institutions may not be substituted for proseminars in the Psychology Department at CSU San Marcos. If a graduate student was previously enrolled in another graduate program, up to six units of that course work may count toward the 33 units required in our program, if approved by the faculty. Students should not expect that courses taken elsewhere as a graduate student will transfer unless the student can show, to the satisfaction of the faculty, that prior work is truly equivalent to CSU San Marcos graduate course work.

## **ATTENDING PRESENTATIONS**

Graduate students are expected to attend **all** professional presentations (e.g., talks by invited speakers) on campus that are relevant to psychology. Furthermore, graduate students are expected to attend **most** thesis proposal presentations and thesis defenses. This expectation holds for all students in the program, including students beyond the second year.

## COURSE OF STUDY

Typically, students should proceed with graduate course work in the sequence given below. Any deviations from the sequence must be approved by the graduate coordinator and the adviser. Students should be aware that participation in the adviser's lab and progress toward the thesis is expected each and every semester, even if research units are not being taken. All graduate courses, with an occasional exception, are held during the day.

### First year, first semester

PSYC 600 Contemporary Issues in Psychology

Proseminar

PSYC 424 Advanced Statistics

(Students who completed PSYC 424 or its equivalent as an undergraduate may take PSYC 690 instead, with advisor's approval)

### First year, second semester

PSYC 530 Advanced Research Methods

Proseminar

PSYC 520 Graduate Statistics (Students who completed PSYC 520 or its equivalent as an undergraduate may take PSYC 690 instead, with advisor's approval)

### Second year, first semester

PSYC 690

Proseminar

PSYC 680 Teaching Psychology

### Second year, second semester

PSYC 699 Graduate Thesis

Proseminar

(Note: additional units may be needed to meet financial aid requirements)

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Part-time students should complete the required courses (including prerequisites, which will be enforced) in the appropriate sequence.

*Students should understand that it will be necessary to work on thesis planning, research, data analysis, and/or writing during the summer between the first and second year and, likely, during the summer after the second year. Most students find that they need to use the second summer to complete the writing of the thesis (see descriptions of GRAD 699 and PSYC 700 on page 13).*

## ADVANCEMENT TO CANDIDACY

You are advanced to candidacy when you have completed at least 15 units and have successfully presented your thesis proposal to the faculty. At that time, you should ask the graduate coordinator (currently Dr. Caine) to change your status to "advanced to candidacy" in the People Soft system. You should check myCSUSM to be sure your status has been updated. Remind the coordinator to do this if s/he forgets.

## TIME LIMITS FOR AND PROGRESS TOWARD THE DEGREE

According to university regulations, as stipulated in the CSU San Marcos catalog, students in graduate programs at CSU San Marcos have five years to complete the degree. If you begin coursework in Fall 2019, you must be finished with all requirements (including a complete, signed, thesis) by the last day of the summer session in 2024. There will be **no exception** to this rule, and leaves of absence will not extend the deadline. You WILL BE DROPPED FROM THE PROGRAM if you fail to complete all requirements in five years.

In light of the five-year deadline for completion of all requirements for the degree, it is extremely important to maintain steady progress toward completion of your degree. Therefore, all students MUST propose their thesis to the faculty NO LATER THAN the last day of the add-drop period in the fifth semester of course work. If a student has taken a Leave of Absence during his or her first two years, the date will be extended to December 15. These deadlines stand even if a student has not taken a full load of courses each semester. Please note that we strongly encourage you to propose your thesis much earlier than this (the third semester of study is ideal and is expected in most cases).

Students must demonstrate progress toward the degree at all times (expect during a Leave of Absence). Once all course work is completed (usually 2 years) you must continue to demonstrate that progress is being made toward completion of your thesis. If you fail to make progress you are in danger of being dropped from the program, even if your five-year limit has not been reached. For example: Student X enters the program in Fall 2019. She completes all of her courses and successfully proposes her thesis project in May 2021. She then gets a job and although she enrolls in PSYC 700 (as required) in Fall 2021 and Spring 2022, she makes little or no progress on her thesis during that academic year. In September 2022 she is sent a letter from the graduate coordinator stating that she will be dropped from the program if she has not collected all of her thesis data by December 2022. Student X does not do so, and is dropped from the program, even though her five-year limit has not expired.

## ANNUAL PLANS AND EVALUATIONS

To help students make consistent progress toward the final goal of a Master's Degree, each student will meet with his/her adviser in September of each year and devise a written Academic Plan for the coming year. This will include the courses in which the student will enroll and the identification of steps that will be taken toward the development/execution/completion of research leading to the thesis. Target dates will be included in the Plan. A copy of the Plan will be put in the student's file and will be reviewed by the adviser and student at the end of the year (May). At that time, the student and her/his adviser will fill out a Year's End Progress Report/Reflection, commenting on the extent to which the student met or failed to meet his/her goals as stated in the Plan. If deemed necessary by the adviser, the adviser and student will meet with the graduate coordinator to discuss ways in which the student can better accomplish his or her goals, as set forth in the Plan.

## **GRADUATE WRITING ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENT (GWAR)**

A mandatory evaluation of writing competence is required by University policy. The Psychology Department's policy for administering the GWAR is given in Appendix A, and the scoring rubric is given in Appendix B.

## **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

**PSYC 520 Graduate Statistics** This course will introduce students to theory and application of some of the more advanced parametric and nonparametric statistical techniques employed in psychological research. Topics will include but are not limited to multiple regression, analysis of covariance, factor analysis, causal modeling, and discriminant function analysis. (Prerequisites: PSYC 424 or its equivalent and consent of instructor)

**PSYC 530 Advanced Research Methods** Advanced study of research design, including experimental, quasi-experimental, and non-experimental designs, assessment of reliability and validity, and ethical use of human and animal subjects in research. (Prerequisites: PSYC 424 or 520 or consent of instructor)

**PSYC 550 Proseminar in Social/Personality Psychology.** An exploration of research and theory in social and personality psychology. Advanced study of theories of personality and individual differences, social perception, group processes, attitudes, and the application of personality and social psychological theories across a variety of social, institutional, and cultural settings. A substantial portion of class time is devoted to the critical examination of current research articles and theoretical models in social/personality psychology. Students will make formal oral and written presentations of individual or group projects/assignments. (Prerequisite: enrollment in the graduate program or consent of instructor)

**PSYC 552 Proseminar in Developmental Psychology.** Advanced study of current research and theory in developmental psychology. Issues such as temperament, attachment, gender-identity, cognition, and emotion will be considered from a developmental perspective, as well as the influences of family relationships, social-interactions, cultural values, education, and social policy on development. Class discussions and assignments will encourage critical and analytic thinking as well as active learning approaches. Students will make formal oral and written presentations of individual and/or group projects. (Prerequisite: enrollment in the graduate program or consent of instructor)

**PSYC 554 Proseminar in Cognitive Psychology.** Advanced study of human cognition. Course will focus on theory and research in areas such as attention, categorization, memory, knowledge representation, learning and skill acquisition, psychology of language, thinking, reasoning, problem-solving, and judgment. Relevant issues in neuropsychology, cognitive development, and cognitive disorders will be included to complement the focus on normal adult performance. The role of culture in cognitive activity will be discussed. Class discussions and assignments will center around a critical examination of current literature in these areas, including both integrative and inter-disciplinary (cognitive science) perspectives. (Prerequisite: enrollment in the graduate program or consent of instructor)

**PSYC 556 Proseminar in Comparative/Physiological Psychology.** Advanced study of the biological bases of behavior. Students will explore current research and theory in neuroanatomy and physiology, endocrinology, evolutionary theory, and the adaptive significance of behavior. Where appropriate, issues of global environmental change and its effects on health and species diversity will be addressed. Class discussions and assignments will center around a critical examination of current research articles and theoretical models in comparative and physiological psychology. Students will make formal oral and written presentations of individual or group projects. (Prerequisites: enrollment in the graduate program or consent of instructor)

**PSYC 558 Proseminar in Counseling/Clinical Psychology** In-depth seminar designed to investigate and discuss current topics in counseling/clinical psychology, including assessment and intervention techniques, professional ethics, multicultural issues, and outcome research. Students will present formal written and oral presentations and lead class discussions of advanced issues relevant to counseling/clinical theory, research and/or practice. (Prerequisites: enrollment in the graduate program or consent of instructor)

**PSYC 560 Proseminar in Selected Topics in Psychology** Examination of a topic of current interest in a specific area of psychology. *Enrollment restricted to students enrolled in the psychology graduate program.*

**PSYC 600 Contemporary Issues in Psychology** First year graduate students will receive exposure to theoretical background, current research, and contemporary issues in counseling/clinical, cognitive, comparative/physiological, developmental, and social/personality psychology. Presentations will be given by faculty, second year graduate students, and guest speakers in their fields of expertise. Professional issues including ethics in psychological research and practice, the dissemination of scholarly discourse, the status and coherence of the discipline, and its role in a multicultural, global society will also be explored. (Prerequisite: admission to the graduate program)

**PSYC 680 Teaching of Psychology** An introduction to pedagogical theories, styles, and strategies as they apply to college teaching of psychology. Students will explore a range of options available to a college instructor in the presentation of course material, learning assessment tools, test construction, and grading. Different styles of learning, especially as they may apply to a multicultural student population, will be explored. Students will have the opportunity to write and practice giving lectures, lead discussion groups, and construct exams. Graded as credit/no credit only. (Prerequisites: completion of 15 units in the graduate program and consent of instructor)

**PSYC 681 Field Placement** Students will spend a minimum of ten hours per week working within a social service, mental health, educational or business/industry setting, with the goal of applying psychological knowledge to and learning about the delivery of services in that setting. Students will be supervised both on site, and by the course instructor. Students enrolled in the course will meet 3 hours per week as a group to discuss issues and readings relevant to their experiences. Graded as credit/no credit only. (Prerequisites: completion of 9 units in the graduate program and consent of instructor)

**PSYC 690 Graduate Research** Faculty-supervised research. May be repeated, but no more than 6 units of credit may be applied toward the Master's degree. (Prerequisite: admission to the graduate program). Students will spend a minimum of ten hours per week conducting research

supervised by a faculty member. The students and faculty member will meet at least one hour per week to discuss research issues, readings, and progress on the project. The course has variable units (1-3). Weekly hours for supervised research with less than 3 units will be adjusted by the faculty member. A student should consult with the adviser regarding research activities that require approval of the CSU San Marcos Institutional Review Board (IRB) or Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC).

**PSYC 699 Graduate Thesis** Preparation of the thesis. Graded as credit/no credit only. (Prerequisite: completion of 27 units in the graduate program and formal approval of the thesis proposal).

At the end of the semester, if the thesis is not complete, the student will be issued a grade of RP (Report in Progress) if the adviser believes that the student has made satisfactory progress toward completion of the thesis. When the thesis has been successfully defended and accepted, a grade of "Credit" will be issued. No letter grade is issued for the thesis, and a grade of Incomplete is never appropriate for PSYC 699. If the thesis is not completed at the end of the term, but a grade of RP has been issued, the student must enroll in GRAD 699 or PSYC 700 in all subsequent fall and spring semesters until the thesis is completed. If the thesis is to be defended in the summer, enrollment during the summer session is required.

Students cannot enroll in PSYC 699 until the thesis proposal has been presented to the faculty and approved by the student's committee. Students should be aware that it usually takes more than one semester to collect and analyze data and write the thesis.

**PSYC 700 Thesis Extension.** This course is limited to students who have earned an RP in PSYC 699 and who have not yet defended their thesis. The course has variable units and is graded credit/no credit. (Prerequisite: prior registration in PSYC 699 with an assigned grade of RP).

**GRAD 699.** This course is limited to students who have earned an RP in PSYC 699 AND who have defended their thesis. It may be taken only ONCE. The course carries no units; it is simply a way of registering the student in the university so that the thesis can be turned in to the library. (Continuous registration and registration at the time of thesis deposit is required by University policy). (Prerequisite: prior registration in PSYC 699 with an assigned grade of RP and successful defense of the thesis). No grade (not even CR/NC) is given for GRAD 699.

The student must be registered in GRAD 699 or PSYC 700 in every fall and spring semester until the thesis is complete, unless a leave of absence is granted. Summer enrollment is required if the thesis is to be completed during the summer.

## **THESIS**

Research leading to the thesis will be the culminating experience for each student enrolled in the Master's program. The thesis will be a substantial product of original empirical research carried out under the close supervision of a faculty adviser and two additional thesis committee members.

### Standards for Thesis Research

All theses conducted in fulfillment of the Master of Arts in Psychological Science must conform

to five **required** criteria. The student must:

1. Develop an original thesis question that can be addressed with empirical data
2. Propose the thesis to the faculty, and be prepared to make changes to the proposed research at the direction of the thesis committee and with advice from other faculty in attendance at the oral proposal session
3. Collect data to address the thesis question
4. Conduct the analyses of the data
5. Write and defend the thesis to the thesis committee

It is understood that there are two general paths to the thesis.

*Path A to the thesis*

In path A, which is the more common path and should be followed if possible, the student will work with her/his advisor to identify a thesis topic that is centered around an original research question. As part of the process of developing the idea into a thesis proposal, the student may collect pilot data. The student will work toward developing a written research proposal that is approved by the three-person thesis committee (advisor plus two additional faculty members) before the proposal is presented orally to a panel of faculty comprised of the thesis committee and at least three additional faculty members.

All faculty and all graduate students are encouraged to attend the oral proposal session. All faculty in attendance at the proposal will participate in the decision as to whether the student passes, and if there are any changes required before the student begins the study.

Assuming that the student passes the oral proposal, and once s/he makes any necessary modifications per the judgement of the faculty, the student may begin data collection. Data collection for the thesis (other than pilot data) may not take place before this time. It is understood that IACUC or IRB approval has been given for the research prior to data collection. The student will be the primary data collector, although s/he may have research assistants who contribute to data collection.

Once data are collected, the student analyzes the data and writes the thesis. The thesis is defended in front of the thesis committee (other faculty and all students are encouraged to attend). The thesis committee may agree to ask the student to make changes to the document before signing the final draft of the thesis.

*Path B to the thesis*

The second path differs from path A in that some of the data that are used in the thesis are collected before the student has proposed his or her thesis. Typically, in these cases, a graduate student has joined an ongoing research project, usually one for which the advisor is the PI, in her or his first semester. In the judgement of the advisor, the commitment to this project is such that developing a separate topic of research that would constitute a high quality thesis is not feasible. Rather, the student works with her or his advisor to determine a particular thesis question that can be answered in conjunction with the ongoing data collection.

To maintain compliance with the five required components of all theses in our department, the

following stipulations will hold for theses conducted under path B.

- The student will identify an original thesis research question. That is, the thesis question may not be one that the advisor has previously identified as a question that will be answered with the data being collected in the ongoing study (required criterion #1, above).
- Even if the student's original research question can be addressed with data that have been collected as part of the ongoing study, the student must collect additional data (required criterion #3, above). This can be additional data of the same sort, or, preferably, data relevant to a variable that only arose in the context of identifying the thesis research question. If the latter, data of a different sort will be collected in conjunction with the ongoing data collection process.
- To take path B, the student must propose the thesis on or before October 1 of the second year, so that faculty may have a chance to meaningfully comment upon and suggest changes to the student's thesis research proposal (required criterion #2, above). Students who will follow path B to the thesis must be made aware of the accelerated timeline, and the advisor must help the student make a plan to accommodate this timeline.

*All other aspects of the thesis process remain the same as described above for path A.*

There are two other stipulations that apply to all theses, regardless of path.

- In no case may a student conduct a thesis based *entirely* on data that have been collected by someone else (e.g., existing data sets from public or private sources, or data maintained by a faculty adviser as part of her or his research program). The student may use these data as part of the thesis, but the requirement that all graduate students must gain the skills associated with thesis data collection (required criterion #3, above) must still be met by having the student collect additional and meaningful data in conjunction with the research question that is proposed to and approved by the faculty.
- Faculty advisers should direct graduate students away from thesis proposals that will rely solely on survey data collected through HPP that require no interaction with participants beyond having them complete questionnaires. Although such a thesis would technically meet the five required criteria listed above, it does not meet the spirit of our belief that a high quality thesis involves more direct interaction with or observation of subjects/participants in the context of a true experiment, a quasi-experiment, or an observational study. Exceptions to this guideline might include thesis projects that require unusually complex or sophisticated manipulations or analyses of the survey data. Correlational studies that involve data collection outside of or in addition to HPP (e.g., conducting surveys in an organization with which the student has had to establish a professional relationship) are also acceptable thesis projects.

Faculty advisers are encouraged to consult with colleagues at a department meeting should they feel uncertain about the compliance of a potential thesis topic with the above regulations.

### Thesis Committee

It is expected that the student and his/her adviser will work closely together to identify elective courses and possible research topics for a thesis. Together the adviser and student will select and ask two additional members from the tenure track or lecturer psychology faculty to serve on the thesis committee. A student must obtain the consent of each faculty member who will serve on the thesis committee. Upon approval of the student's adviser, a professional member from the

community or another university with background pertinent to the research topic may sit on the thesis committee. Likewise, with approval of the adviser, a member of the lecturer staff in the Department of Psychology may serve on a thesis committee. **However, at least two of the three thesis committee members must be CSUSM tenure-track faculty members, and all members of the thesis committee must hold doctoral degrees.**

In some cases a student will rely primarily on the adviser for thesis development; in other cases the committee members will be consulted more substantively. Although committee members differ in the extent to which they are involved with your thesis, you must be careful not to exclude them from the process of approval of your proposed work. Remember that all three members of your committee must approve your proposal before you can present it to the faculty (see below). Do not get yourself into a bind by going so far in planning your thesis that you are not able to make adjustments according to the recommendations made by your committee.

*Students can reasonably expect that committee members will respond to drafts of their proposals or final thesis within two weeks, unless there is some special circumstance.* If you have not heard from a committee member after two weeks you should feel comfortable in reminding him or her that you await comments in order to move forward.

### Thesis Proposal

Students must orally present a formal written thesis proposal to the Department of Psychology faculty and should normally do so in the third semester of study but no later than the end of the add-drop period of the fifth semester. Recall that when the student and her/his committee has determined that path B will be followed, the proposal MUST be presented to the faculty by October 1 of the second year (see above). The purpose of the proposal presentation is three-fold: (1) to allow faculty who are not on the committee, as well as fellow graduate students, to assess and offer suggestions for improvement of the thesis project; (2) to give graduate students valuable experience in presenting and defending planned research to other scientists; and (3) to provide a collegial educational opportunity for all students and faculty.

Before the student can schedule the presentation, the thesis committee must approve the written proposal on a preliminary basis. The proposal must be written in APA style or a style pertinent to the student's area of psychological research (with the consent of the committee), and must include thorough introduction and method sections. The proposal must include an abstract that will be circulated to the entire psychology faculty one week (or more) before the presentation. The presentation is open to all students and faculty. The student must schedule the presentation for a time when the thesis committee plus three other members of the tenure-track faculty are willing and able to attend, and commit to doing so.

After the presentation, the thesis committee and other faculty in attendance will privately deliberate and make suggestions for changes to the proposal, if warranted. The committee will issue approval contingent upon the successful inclusion of these changes to the proposal. The student's adviser will write a memo to the student to delineate the changes that need to be made. A copy of this memo will be placed in the student's file. In no case should a student who is following path A to the thesis begin to collect data prior to the formal presentation of the proposal to the faculty, and students following path B should be aware that faculty may ask for adjustments to ongoing data collection associated with the unique research questions being asked in the thesis (see above).

In some cases, a student may be required to repeat the proposal presentation session. This would happen if the student's project was insufficiently developed or poorly presented. If, after the second proposal presentation, the committee still deems the project insufficient, or believes that the student is ill-prepared to carry out the proposed work, the student may be withdrawn from the program for failure to make sufficient progress toward the degree.

**Students must present and gain final approval of the proposal before they can enroll in PSYC 699 and before they can apply for graduation or advancement to candidacy.** Therefore, if students hope to enroll in PSYC 699 in the second semester of their second year, they must plan to have the proposal ready to deliver to the faculty well before classes begin in the spring. Students must realize that faculty cannot necessarily be expected to convene for a proposal presentation during vacation periods or the semester break in January or on short notice. (**NOTE: students may not propose the thesis during the summer.**) Please understand that faculty are under NO obligation to quickly read a proposal or attend a session that has been squeezed in just before a deadline.

#### Final Thesis

Each student must submit and orally defend a final thesis manuscript. The manuscript must adhere to APA style or a style pertinent to the student's area of psychological research (with the consent of the committee). The student must submit the manuscript to the thesis committee and get approval to schedule the defense. The student is responsible, once committee approval is obtained, for arranging a time and place for the defense. Oral defense of the final thesis is open to all students and faculty, but attendance is required only of the student and her/his committee. The thesis may be defended in the summer if the committee is available and agrees. The student must post a notice of his/her defense date and time, along with the abstract, at least three days in advance of the defense. The final thesis will be approved when, by general consensus of the student's thesis committee, the thesis is deemed to have met or exceeded a satisfactory level of achievement. This may require one or more revisions of the thesis manuscript before a final version is approved.

There are university-wide guidelines and regulations for preparing the thesis for e-submission to the library. They can be found on both the library web page and on the Office of Graduate Studies and Research web page. In addition, every psychology graduate student must submit a printed copy of their final thesis along with a copy of the signed Thesis Signature Page to the Psychology Department for archiving and display.

#### Thesis Progress Chart

The following is a recommended timetable for full-time student progress on the thesis.

##### First Year

Fall	In regular consultation with the adviser, formulate tentative thesis idea
Spring	Confirmation of thesis committee Development of written thesis proposal
Summer	Finalize thesis proposal

Second Year

Fall	Presentation of thesis proposal Proposal approved (advanced to candidacy) Begin thesis data collection
Spring/Summer	Continued thesis data collection Oral defense of written thesis Approval of thesis

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Our program allows you to finish all of your course work in four semesters, and most of our students do so. However, progress toward the thesis varies a great deal across students. Although we faculty do our best to provide you the moral support and expertise you need to design, carry out, and write your thesis, we cannot supply you with the self-discipline and motivation you will need to complete your work. In the end, it is UP TO YOU to start your thesis, to keep it on track, and to bring it to final completion. Your progress is YOUR responsibility.

Theses always require more work than students expect. Typically, an idea must be refined and refined again--and again--over the course of several months before it is ready to be initiated. Almost always, multiple drafts of your written work will be necessary. Some frustration is inevitable, but it can be minimized by proper planning, realistic expectations, and a healthy attitude toward constructive criticism. One of the strengths of our graduate program is that we set high standards for our students. This means more effort and patience is required of you, but the result of your work will be a high quality thesis of which you can be proud.

We advise you to start thinking about your thesis project in the first semester you are here. Schedule regular meetings with your adviser to talk over ideas. Ask your adviser if s/he would be willing to set deadlines for you if you think it will help you to move ahead (but don't blame your adviser if you fail to meet the deadlines!). As a graduate student you can no longer afford to think of summers and intersessions (January) as "time off." Rather, those should be times in which you work especially hard on your thesis. We know that most of you must work if you are to pay your bills, but we strongly advise you to keep your work hours at a minimum and to set goals for yourself that include constant progress on your thesis. Let us reiterate: **we cannot supply you with the self-discipline and motivation you will need to complete your thesis. In the end, it is UP TO YOU to start your thesis, to keep it on track, and to bring it to completion.**

## **ETHICS AND PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR**

Students are expected to understand and comply with all ethical standards that apply to scientists in general and psychologists in particular. Violations of ethical standards will be dealt with seriously and in accordance with CSU San Marcos policy. As scientists, we are particularly obligated to avoid scientific misconduct in any form, including plagiarism, data tampering, and other major and minor violations of ethical behavior. Students may also wish to consult the American Psychological Association's "Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct," which can be accessed on the internet at <http://www.apa.org/ethics/code.html>. Also, we expect professional behavior: respectful relationships with faculty and mutually supportive relationships

with fellow graduate students, involvement in the department and university, maturity in class (e.g., arriving on time, keeping phones stowed at all times, proper and full preparation, etc.), thoughtful consideration of ideas, non-defensive reactions to criticism, etc.

## COMMUNICATION

One very important aspect of professional behavior is prompt communication. Faculty and office staff often need timely responses to emails, and, unlike the “old days” when checking email required you to be at a computer, your smart phones allow you to reply to emails immediately. In other words, there is *rarely* an excuse for delayed responses, and it should not be necessary to badger you to respond. Please get in the habit of checking your email daily. Always use your CSUSM email address for communication. Also, please check your mailbox (SBSB 3220) at least once each day you are on campus. **Respond to any and all professional communication promptly.**

## GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS and GRADER POSITIONS

Classes in the psychology curriculum that have lab components or are very large lecture sections are eligible for graduate assistants (GA) or graders (ISA). GA positions are 5 hours/week and consist of one or more activities: helping students during class, holding office hours, grading homework or papers, proctoring exams. Graders are limited to grading written assignments in very large lecture classes, and sometimes proctoring exams. GAs sign contracts and are paid 5hr/week (currently at about \$12/hour) automatically, in monthly pay checks.. Graders keep time sheets that are turned into the psychology office once a month. GAs and graders are assigned to fall courses over the summer, and to spring courses near the end of the fall semester. Graduate students are asked if they wish to have one or more assignments. It is very important to note that graduate students are not allowed to work more than 20 hours/week, total, in these or any other on-campus work settings.

GAs and graders need to take their responsibilities seriously, starting with timely introductions to the faculty members with whom you will be working. You should ask the faculty for specific instructions about what s/he expects of you. Faculty have been told that they cannot ask GAs for more than 5 hours/week of work from you, and that they cannot “bank” hours. In other words, they cannot ask you to work 10 hours one week because they have not given you any work to do for the preceding week, unless they get your specific agreement to do so. Graders, on the other hand, usually work few or no hours some weeks, and lots of hours on other weeks, when assignments have just been turned in and need to be graded. Graders should ask faculty to be very clear about when they will need your time, so that you can adjust your schedule in order to accommodate the grading. However, no faculty member should expect a student to spend more than 20 hours grading in any given week. That said, it is up to *you* to initiate questions about what expectations the professor has and/or any concerns you have about meeting those expectations.

We occasionally hear from a professor that a GA or grader is not fulfilling her/his obligations (e.g., cancelling office hours, doing a poor job of grading assignments, returning graded assignments late, or failing to respond in a timely fashion to communications). This is absolutely unacceptable. Your work as a GA or grader is a professional position that must not be taken lightly.

## FINANCIAL AID

Regulations regarding financial aid qualifications and disbursement can be confusing and change often. We in the Psychology Department do not know all of these regulations. Therefore, students should consult the Financial Aid Office regarding eligibility and any other questions having to do with loans, scholarship, grants, etc.

## FACULTY RESEARCH INTERESTS

**Daniel R. Berry Ph.D.** (Virginia Commonwealth University) ([drberry@csusm.edu](mailto:drberry@csusm.edu)) (<https://faculty.csusm.edu/drberry/>) Social psychology; social and affective neuroscience; prosocial emotions and behaviors; mindfulness and its training; intergroup processes and relations; stress resiliency.

Berry, D. R., Cairo, A. H., Goodman, R. J., Quaglia, J. T., Green, J. D., & Brown, K. W. (2018). Mindfulness increases prosocial responses toward ostracized strangers through empathic concern. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*, 147(1), 93-112.

Berry, D. R., & Brown, K. W. (2017). Reducing separateness with presence: How mindfulness catalyzes intergroup prosociality. In J. Karremans & E. Papies (Eds.), *Mindfulness in Social Psychology*. New York: Routledge.

**Nancy G. Caine, Ph.D.** (University of California, Davis) ([ncaine@csusm.edu](mailto:ncaine@csusm.edu)) Comparative psychology; evolutionary basis of behavior; behavior of nonhuman primates; antipredator and sensory adaptations in mammals.

Wombolt, J.R., & Caine, N.G. (2016). Patterns on serpentine shapes elicit visual attention in marmosets (*Callithrix jacchus*). *American Journal of Primatology*, 78, 928-936.

Mulholland, M.M., Olivas, V., & Caine, N.G. (2018). The nose may not know: Dogs' reactions to snake odours. *Applied Animal Behaviour Science*, 204, 108-112.

**Dustin P. Calvillo, Ph.D.** (University of California, Santa Barbara) ([dcalvill@csusm.edu](mailto:dcalvill@csusm.edu), <http://faculty.csusm.edu/dcalvill>) Higher order cognition; false memory; eyewitness memory; judgment and decision making; reasoning; visual attention; applied cognitive psychology.

Calvillo, D. P., Vasquez, A. N., & Pesavento, A. (2019). Imagination inflation effects are unrelated across two imagination inflation tasks. *Psychology of Consciousness: Theory, Research, and Practice*, 6, 90-98.

Calvillo, D. P., & Mills, N. V. (2019). Bilingual witnesses are more susceptible to the misinformation effect in their less proficient language. *Current Psychology*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12144-018-9787-9>

**Nate C. Carnes, Ph.D.** (University of Massachusetts, Amherst) ([ncarnes@csusm.edu](mailto:ncarnes@csusm.edu)) ([www.carnes-medlab.com](http://www.carnes-medlab.com)) Social and moral psychology using experimental economic methodologies; topics include study of economic inequality, violent conflict, political polarization, and the adaptive function of morality for group life. Quantitative psychology; topics includes the teaching of introductory statistics and advanced statistical modeling.

Carnes, N. C., Lickel, B., & Janoff-Bulman, R. (2015). Shared perceptions: Morality is embedded in social contexts. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 41(3), 351-362.

Carnes, N. C., & Lickel, B. (2018). Moral binding: How emotions, convictions, and identity fusion shape progroup behavior. *Self and Identity*, 17(5), 549-573.

**Kimberly L. D'Anna-Hernandez, Ph.D.** (University of Wisconsin Madison).

([kdanna@csusm.edu](mailto:kdanna@csusm.edu)). Cultural psychology and behavioral neuroscience; underlying neural mechanisms of maternal behavior and depression in human and mouse models; maternal defense and care behavior in mice, human maternal psychosocial and biological stress systems (cortisol) in pregnancy and the role of acculturation-related processes on mental health risk in the mother-infant dyad in Mexican-American women.

Luis Sanchez, B.E., Urbina, E., & D'Anna-Hernandez, K.L. (2019) Sociocultural stressors across the perinatal period and risk for postpartum depressive symptoms in women of Mexican descent. *Cultural Diversity and Ethnic Minority Psychology*, Epub ahead of print. DOI: [10.1037/cdp0000278](https://doi.org/10.1037/cdp0000278) PMID:31021137

D'Anna, K.L., & Gammie, S.C. (2009). Activation of corticotropin-releasing factor receptor 2 in lateral septum negatively regulates maternal defense. *Behavioral Neuroscience*, 123(2), 356-368.

**Haylee K. DeLuca Bishop, Ph.D.** (Kent State University) ([hdelucab@csusm.edu](mailto:hdelucab@csusm.edu)) Developmental psychology; peer, romantic, and sexual relationships in adolescence and young adulthood; the impact of family transitions and dissolutions on adolescent and young adult outcomes; measurement and methodology for developmental and dyadic data.

DeLuca, H. K., Claxton, S. E., Baker, E. A., & van Dulmen, M. H. (2015). I get by with a little help from my friends: Examining the peer context of satisfaction with casual sexual relationships and experiences. *European Journal of Developmental Psychology*, 12(5), 565-578.

DeLuca, H. K., Claxton, S. E., & van Dulmen, M. H. (2018). The peer relationships of those who have experienced adoption or foster care: A meta-analysis. *Journal of Research on Adolescence*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jora.12421>

**Maureen Fitzpatrick, Ph.D.** (University of California Irvine) ([mjfitzpa@csusm.edu](mailto:mjfitzpa@csusm.edu)) Lifespan developmental psychology; socioemotional development of infants and young children; emotional competence; parent-child interactions, including grandparent- grandchild relationships; gender development.

Fitzpatrick, M. J., & Hamill, S. B. (2011). Elder abuse: Factors related to perceptions of severity and likelihood of reporting. *Journal of Elder Abuse and Neglect*, 23, 1-16.

Fitzpatrick, M. J., & McPherson, B. J. (2010) Coloring within the lines: Gender stereotypes in contemporary coloring books. *Sex Roles*, 62, 127-137.

**Gerardo M. González, Ph.D.** (California School of Professional Psychology, Fresno) ([ggonz@csusm.edu](mailto:ggonz@csusm.edu)) Clinical psychology; multicultural mental health issues, computer-assisted psychological assessment, prevention/treatment of depression, and computer- assisted teaching tools.

González, G.M. (Under review). Engaging college students with digital animation video: An evaluation of a redesigned course. *International Journal of Educational Technology in Higher Education*.

Muñoz, R.F., González, G.M., et al. (2016). Depression prevention and treatment interventions: Evolution of the San Francisco Latino Mental Health Research Program. In N. Zane, G. Bernal & F.T.L. Leong (Eds.), Evidence-based psychological practice with ethnic minorities: Culturally informed research and clinical strategies. American Psychological Association. Washington, D.C.

**Elisa J. Grant-Vallone, Ph.D.** (Claremont Graduate University) ([evallone@csusm.edu](mailto:evallone@csusm.edu))  
Organizational psychology; work and family issues; work environments and employee health and well-being; faculty development.

Grant-Vallone, E.J. & Ensher, E.A. (2017). 2017. Re-crafting careers for mid-career faculty: A qualitative study. *Journal of Higher Education Theory and Practice*, 17(5), 10-24.

Grant-Vallone, E.J. & Ensher, E.A. (2011). "Opting in between": Strategies used by professional women with children to balance work and family. *Journal of Career Development*, 38(4), 331-349.

**Sharon B. Hamill, Ph.D.** (University of California Irvine) ([shamill@csusm.edu](mailto:shamill@csusm.edu)) Developmental psychology; the impact of Alzheimer's Disease on the family; multigenerational family relationships among middle-aged adults and adolescent children (i.e., the "sandwich" generation); the development of personal responsibility in adolescents and emerging adults; palliative care.

Pulvers, K., Ridenour, C., Woodcock, A., Savin, M., Holguin, G., Hamill, S., & Romero, D. (2018). Marijuana use among adolescent multiple tobacco product users and unique risks of dual tobacco and marijuana use. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, 189, 80-89.

Madani, C., Yi, C., Hamill, S., & Edmonds, K. (2018). WGYLM?™ Strategies to encourage Advance Care Planning of healthcare providers. *Journal of Pain and Symptom Management*, 55(2), 709-710.

**Sasha Y. Kimel, Ph.D.** (University of Michigan) ([skimel@csusm.edu](mailto:skimel@csusm.edu)) [www.kimellab.com](http://www.kimellab.com)  
Social and cultural psychology; understanding conflict between groups (e.g. national, racial/ethnic, religious) and how to reduce it; how our diverse cultures shape our thoughts, feelings, and behaviors.

Kimel, S. Y., Mischkowsky, D., Kitayama, S., & Uchida, Y. (2017). Culture, emotions, and the cold shoulder: Cultural differences in the anger and sadness response to ostracism. *Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology*, 48(9), 1307-1319.

Kimel, S. Y., Huesmann, R., Kunst, J. R., & Halperin, E. (2016). Living in a genetic world: How learning about interethnic genetic similarities and differences affects peace and conflict. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 42(5), 688-700.

**Aleksandria Perez Grabow, Ph.D.** (University of Oregon)  
([agrabow@csusm.edu](mailto:agrabow@csusm.edu)). Clinical/counseling psychology; developmental psychology; understanding the long-term outcomes of trauma and violence exposure through an ecological framework.

Perez Grabow, A., Khurana, A., Natsuaki, M. N., Neiderhiser, J. M., Harold, G. T., Shaw, D. S., Ganiban, J. M., Reiss, D., & Leve, L. D. (2017). Using an adoption–biological family design to examine associations between maternal trauma, maternal depressive symptoms, and child internalizing and externalizing behaviors. *Development and Psychopathology*, 29(5), 1707-1720.

**Janice N. Phung, Ph.D.** (University of California, Irvine) ([jphung@csusm.edu](mailto:jphung@csusm.edu)) Developmental psychology; developmental processes in children and adolescents with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD); challenges in ASD (e.g., executive functioning, sleep quality, social deficits, etc.) on the family/community systems; optimal development and well-being outcomes in individuals with ASD.

Phung, J. N., & Goldberg, W. A. (2019). Promoting executive functioning in children with Autism Spectrum Disorder through community-based mixed martial arts training. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disabilities*.

Phung, J. N., Abdullah, M. M., & Goldberg, W. A. (2018). Poor sleep quality among adolescents with Autism Spectrum Disorder is associated with depressive symptoms, problem behaviors, and conflicted family relationships. *Focus on Autism and Other Developmental Disabilities*, 1-10.

**Kim Pulvers, Ph.D., MPH** (University of Kansas) ([kpulvers@csusm.edu](mailto:kpulvers@csusm.edu), <http://pulverslab.weebly.com/>) Clinical health psychology with a focus on tobacco and marijuana use; emerging products such as electronic nicotine delivery systems; smoke and tobacco free policies; and health disparities

Pulvers, K., Emami, A. S., Nollen, N. L., Romero, D. R., Strong, D. R., Benowitz, N. L., & Ahluwalia, J. S. (2016). Tobacco consumption and harm exposure of cigarette smokers using electronic cigarettes. *Nicotine & Tobacco Research*. doi: 10.1093/ntr/ntw333. [Epub ahead of print]

Pulvers, K., Ridenour, C., Woodcock, A., Savin, M., Holguin, G., Hamill, S., & Romero, D. (2018). Marijuana use among adolescent multiple tobacco product users and unique risks of dual tobacco and marijuana use. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, 189, 80-89.

**Wesley Schultz, Ph.D.** (Claremont Graduate University) ([wschultz@csusm.edu](mailto:wschultz@csusm.edu)) Social psychology; applied social psychology; conservation and environmental psychology; issues of underrepresentation, stereotyping, and identity.

Hernandez, P., Woodcock, A., Estrada, M., & Schultz, P. W. (2018). Undergraduate research experiences broaden diversity in the scientific workforce. *BioScience*, 68, 204-211. Available online at: <https://academic.oup.com/bioscience/advance-article/doi/10.1093/bioselec/bsy011>

DeDominicis, S., Sokoloski, R., Jaeger, C., & Schultz, P.W. (2019). Making the smart meter social promotes long-term energy conservation. *Palgrave Communications*, 5, 1-8. Available online at: <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41599-019-0254-5>

**Keith A. Trujillo, Ph.D.** (University of California Irvine) ([keith@csusm.edu](mailto:keith@csusm.edu)) Pharmacology and toxicology; behavioral neuroscience and psychopharmacology in animal models, with a focus on drugs of abuse, adolescents, opioids, stimulants, dissociatives, and antidepressants. Also very involved in the preparation of students for graduate study and increasing diversity in the biomedical and behavioral sciences.

Trujillo, K.A. (2019). Basic information on psychotropic drugs, receptor systems and the brain. In S.M. Evans & Kenneth M. Carpenter (Eds), *APA Handbook of Psychopharmacology*. American Psychological Association.

Bates, M.L.S., & Trujillo, K.A. (2019). Long-lasting effects of repeated ketamine administration in adult and adolescent rats. *Behavioural Brain Research*. doi.org/10.1016/j.bbr.2019.111928 [Epub ahead of print]

**Kimberly E. Vanderbilt, Ph.D.** (University of California, San Diego)

([kvanderbilt@csusm.edu](mailto:kvanderbilt@csusm.edu), [faculty.csusm.edu/kvanderbilt](http://faculty.csusm.edu/kvanderbilt)) Social cognitive development, developmental psychology, the development of skepticism in children, children's understanding of other people's thoughts and intentions, children's understanding of deception from other people and advertisements, children's understanding of sharing and fairness, moral development, sociocultural influences on development.

Vanderbilt, K. E., Liu, D., & Heyman, G. D. (2011). The development of distrust. *Child Development*, 82, 1372-1380.

Vanderbilt, K. E., Ochoa, K. D., & Heilbrun, J. (2018). Consider the source: Children link the accuracy of text-based sources to the accuracy of the author. *British Journal of Developmental Psychology*, 36(4), 634-65.

**Carrick Williams, Ph.D.** (Michigan State University) ([cawilliams@csusm.edu](mailto:cawilliams@csusm.edu);

<http://faculty.csusm.edu/cawilliams>). Cognitive psychology; visual search; attention; memory; eye movements; scene and object perception.

Antonelli, K. B., & Williams, C. C. (2017). Task relevant perceptual features can define categories in visual memory too. *Memory & Cognition*, 45(8), 1295-1305.

Williams, C. C., & Burkle, K. A. (2017). The case of the missing visual details: Occlusion and long-term visual memory. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, & Cognition*, 43(10), 1567-1580.

## Appendix A

### **CSUSM Psychology Department Protocol for Administering the Graduate Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR)**

PSYCH 600, Contemporary Issues in Psychology, is a course in which all new graduate students must enroll in their first semester. The students write a 12-20 page literature review for this course, and we will use this paper to conduct our writing assessment using the GWAR. The students will be assessed by the instructor of PSYC 600 and the member of the faculty who serves as the student's adviser, or, if those are the same person, another member of the faculty will be selected to do the assessment along with the PSYC 600 instructor. If there is considerable disagreement between the judges a third member of the faculty will read the paper. Faculty may meet to reach consensus on final scores.

The papers will be scored using the approved rubric. In accordance with University policy, the score on each section must be at least 2.5.

A student who fails to pass the GWAR on the first attempt will be assessed again at the end of the spring of her/his first year. The assessment will be based on the term paper required in the graduate seminar (which all first year students must take) offered in that semester. The instructor of the seminar and the student's adviser will conduct the assessment, or, if they are the same person, another member of the department will be selected to do the assessment along with the seminar instructor. Should the student fail again, the student's term paper from the next seminar (the fall semester of the student's second year) will be used for evaluation, as described above.

If the student fails to pass the GWAR after the third attempt, s/he will be dropped from the program. Failure to reach a minimum level of proficiency in writing by the second year suggests that the student will not be successful in writing her/his thesis proposal or thesis. In addition, a student must pass the GWAR before his/her thesis proposal is presented to the faculty.

**Appendix B**  
**GWAR RUBRIC**

Student's name \_\_\_\_\_

Total score \_\_\_\_\_

**Graduate Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR)**

The minimal acceptable combined score from all of the four (I-IV) sections is 10 points, with no scores of "1" on any section, resulting in a minimum of a 2.5 average for all sections. A master's program may establish a higher minimum average score for passing.

<b>I. Use of APA Style and Appropriate Discipline-Specific Language</b>	
4	The paper consistently models the language and conventions used in the scholarly literature in Psychology. The manuscript would meet the guidelines for submission for publication in an APA journal.
3	With some exceptions, the paper demonstrates competence in documenting sources. The reference section is almost free from errors in APA style. Correct discipline-specific language is used.
2	There are more than occasional lapses and/or errors in the use of APA style, and/or in the use of discipline-specific language.
1	The paper does not consistently follow APA style for crediting and/or providing full citations of sources and/ or fails to demonstrate familiarity with discipline-specific language.
<b>Comments</b>	

<b>II. Grammar, Mechanics, and Transitions</b>	
4	The paper is nearly error-free in terms of mechanics. Writing flows smoothly from one idea to another. Transitions and subheadings aid the reader in following the writer's logic.
3	While there are minor errors, the paper follows normal conventions of spelling and grammar throughout. Errors do not significantly interfere with comprehensibility. Transitions and organizational structures, such as subheadings, are effectively used and help the reader move from one point to another.
2	Grammatical conventions are generally used, but there are notable inconsistencies and errors. There may be poor or improper use of headings and related features to keep the reader on track within the topic. Transitions are sometimes awkward.
1	Frequent errors in spelling, grammar, sentence structure, and/or other writing conventions make reading difficult and interfere with comprehensibility. Writing does not flow smoothly from point to point. Weak transitions or logical gaps occur between topics.
<b>Comments</b>	

<b>III. Breadth of Content</b>	
<b>4</b>	In addition to meeting the requirements for a "3," the paper raises some important issues or ideas that go beyond those discussed in the literature that was cited.
<b>3</b>	The topic is focused while also being appropriately comprehensive. The paper is the appropriate length and has an adequate number of sources.
<b>2</b>	Major issues related to the topic are ignored or inadequately explored. There may be use of or over-reliance on less suitable sources (non-peer reviewed literature, web information, older sources when newer publications are available, etc.)
<b>1</b>	The paper lacks thematic coherence. Weakness is evident in the coverage of the field.
<b>Comments</b>	

<b>IV. How the Content is Discussed: Integration and Analysis</b>	
<b>4</b>	In addition to meeting the requirement of a "3," the paper presents the topic in an unusually sophisticated way. Various, and possibly conflicting, opinions/results are identified and woven together.
<b>3</b>	The student provides appropriate assessments and analysis. Major topics are expanded upon and integrated in a logical manner. The paper is interesting and holds the reader's attention.
<b>2</b>	Linkages among topics may not be clearly drawn and there is limited analysis of the literature beyond the obvious. There is relatively little expansion of main points. Important lapses in necessary explanation are apparent.
<b>1</b>	The paper is primarily limited to simply listing, categorizing, and summarizing topics and relies mostly on paraphrasing from the sources it cites.
<b>Comments</b>	