Dear Graduate Student,

Welcome! Thank you for deciding to continue your education at California State University, Los Angeles. The M.A. in Psychology and M.S. in Forensic Psychology Option are rigorous programs designed to develop research and conceptual skills for students whose primary interest is in continuing their education in a doctoral program. A key feature of each program is a close mentoring relationship with a faculty member who oversees the student’s progress toward his or her individual research goals.

This Handbook contains basic information on our graduate procedures helpful in guiding you to successfully realize your academic goals. We hope that your academic career at Cal State L.A. will offer you many new intellectual challenges and rewards in the pursuit of your personal goals.

In addition to a variety of formal academic experiences available in psychology classes, we encourage you to take part in the activities sponsored by Psi Chi, our chapter of the national psychology organization. You can find out about these opportunities and other department activities by inquiring at the Psychology office, King Hall, Room C3104 or visiting us at our webpage at http://www.calstatela.edu/academic/psych/.

The careful planning of your academic program is an important first step toward ensuring your success at California State University, Los Angeles. Be sure to meet with your mentor to help plan your academic program.

I wish for you a successful beginning.

Sincerely,

Senqi Hu, Ph.D.
Chair and Professor, Department of Psychology
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IMPORTANT CONTACTS AND OFFICES

Department of Psychology · KH C3104 · (323) 343-2250

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Natural and Social Sciences Dean’s Office · ASC, Wing B, Room 223 · (323) 343-2000

Amy Miller
Graduate Programs and Student Affairs Coordinator
AMiller@cslanet.calstatela.edu
(323) 343-5693

Nancy McQueen, Ph.D.
Associate Dean
NMcQuee@calstatela.edu
(323) 343-2000

Office of Graduate Studies & Research · Adm. 702 · (323) 343-3820
http://web.calstatela.edu/academic/aa/gsr/index.php
GS & R provides leadership and service to promote graduate studies and research, scholarship, and creative activities in departments, divisions, and schools throughout the University.

Graduate Resource Center · Library North A124 · (323) 343-3822
http://www.calstatela.edu/graduateresourcecenter
The Graduate Resource Center guides students through writing, editing, and formatting the thesis and dissertation and assist in preparing their work for publication; host workshops and presentations to support students’ academic and professional development.

Office of Research and Development · Golden Eagle, Room 314 · (323) 343-5366
http://www.calstatela.edu/academic/aa/orad/
ORAD provides information regarding student research scholarships and internships; policies, procedures and forms for student’s conducting research with human subjects and/or animals; plus information, deadlines, and applications for the Student Symposium on Research, Scholarly, and Creative Activity.
MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the CSULA Psychology Department is to provide students with the opportunity to excel academically and professionally by using a teacher-scholar mentoring model to teach psychology as a scientific discipline that accurately reflects the diversity of life and human experience. The department is committed to excellence in teaching, research, practice, and scholarship.

Faculty members are equally committed to fostering service that promotes social justice in our local and global communities and to incorporating cultural issues in curriculum, research, and mentoring. In support of these goals the department seeks to provide a supportive, open, culturally sensitive, and collegial academic environment to its faculty and students.
GENERAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS FOR THE \textbf{MASTER OF ARTS IN PSYCHOLOGY} (31-32 UNITS)

At least 50\% of the required 31-32 units must be 5000-level. A minimum of 9 units must come from courses other than PSY 5950, 5970, 5980, and 5990.

**Core Requirements (Total 13-14 units)**
Students must complete the following with a grade of B or higher:

In the First Semester (3 units):

- **PSY 4950** - Introduction to Graduate Study in Psychology (3)

Within the First Year (7 units):

- **PSY 5040** - Advanced Experimental Methods (3)
- **PSY 4910** - Multivariate Statistics (4)

One Other 5000-level Quantitative Course (3-4 units):

- **PSY 5150** - Advanced Statistical Methods (3)
- or -
- **PSY 5910** - Advanced Multivariate Statistics (4)

**Required Courses (3 units)**

- **PSY 5970** - Graduate Research (3)

**Electives in Psychology (12 units)**
Select 12 units of electives coursework to complete the 31-32 units required for the degree. 4000-level courses cannot comprise more than 50\% of the elective units.

**Thesis (3 units)**

- **PSY 5990** - Thesis (3)
GENERAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MASTER OF SCIENCE, FORENSIC OPTION IN PSYCHOLOGY

GENERAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MASTER OF SCIENCE, FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY OPTION (33-34 UNITS)  All students begin the program in the fall semester and take several core courses together. Students will also take part in a 9-month practicum (PSY 5950) where they will receive hands-on training and on-site supervision.

Required Courses (21 units)
Students must complete the following with a grade of B or higher:

- PSY 4640 - Psychology and the Law (3)
- PSY 5100 - Seminar: Abnormal Psychology (3)
- PSY 5310 - Individual Testing and Case Study Techniques (3)
- PSY 5950 - Field Experience in Psychology (6)
- CRIM 5010 - Seminar: Administration of Justice (3)
  -or- CRIM 5300 - Theories and Perspectives in Criminal Justice (3)
- CRIM 5110 - Principles of Research (3)
  -or- CRIM 5620 - Courtroom and Legal Issues in Criminalistics (3)

One of the Following Quantitative Courses (3-4 units)
- PSY 4110 - Advanced Research Methods in Psychology (3)
- PSY 4140 - Analysis of Variance (3)
- PSY 4310 - Statistical Methods in Psychological Assessment (4)
- PSY 4910 - Multivariate Statistics (4)
- PSY 5040 - Advanced Experimental Methods (3)
- PSY 5150 - Advanced Statistical Methods (3)
- PSY 5910 - Advanced Multivariate Statistics (4)

Electives in Psychology/Criminal Justice (6 units)
Select 6 units from the following:
- PSY 4900 - Human Memory (3)
- PSY 5110 - Seminar: Developmental Psychology (3)
- PSY 5220 - Seminar: Social Psychology (3)
- PSY 5650 - Seminar in Multicultural and Cross-cultural Psychology (3)

Thesis (3 Units)
- PSY 5990 - Thesis (3)
THESIS AND GRADUATE RESEARCH

Students must have an Advancement to Candidacy form on file with the department before requesting to enroll in PSY 5970. To enroll in PSY 5990, students must also have filed their GS-12 form.

PSY 5970 Graduate Research*
Prerequisites: Advancement to candidacy, instructor consent to act as sponsor, departmental approval of topic prior to registration. Independence research under guidance of the faculty.

Note: If you are taking PSY 5970 for the first time, you must file your GS-12, Request for Thesis or Project Committee and Title, with the department office by the 12th week of the semester.

*Forensic students are not required to take PSY 5970

PSY 5990 Thesis
Upon approval of the research design by the thesis committee, the student will undertake the thesis, working under the guidance of the thesis chair. One year from the point of first enrollment in PSY 5990 is allowed to complete the thesis units. If the thesis is not completed after registering in all of the 5990 units on the program (maximum=3), the student must register for PSY 9000 (which carries no credit) in order to complete thesis requirements and graduate.

Progressively revised drafts of the thesis will be submitted to the chair of the thesis committee periodically for review and comment. The chair may, from time to time, require the student to submit copies to other members of the committee as well. The final draft must show clarity of purpose, competent critical analysis, tight organization, and originality. The presentation must be both accurate and complete. In style, it must follow the recommendations of the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (latest edition). It should include a separate title page and the following sections:

- **ABSTRACT**: A brief summary of both the problem and results.

- **INTRODUCTION**: Definition of the problem, development of the background, and statement of the study's purpose and rationale.

- **METHODOLOGY**: Information and subjects, apparatus, measures and procedures.
  (This section and the next may not apply to a non-experimental thesis.)

- **RESULTS**: A complete factual statement of the findings, including any tables, figures, and statistical analyses.

- **DISCUSSION**: This section should include a thoughtful and logical analysis of the implications of the findings as well as conclusions that can be drawn, and any limitations.

- **REFERENCES**: The references should reflect a thorough literature review of the salient literature dealing with the subject.
-APPENDICES: Copying of letters, forms, measures, or other written materials used in the study.

After the draft has been approved by the thesis committee, a date is fixed for the final oral defense of the thesis. An abstract and copy of the thesis should be submitted to committee members at least two weeks before the oral defense. The student is required to prepare and bring to the oral defense the following materials for committee signature: The Title Approval Page (Form GS-13). The oral defense is open to any who wish to attend. After a successful oral defense, the student must return the form to the psychology office to obtain the Department Chair’s signature. Final thesis corrections are made and a final thesis copy is prepared for electronic upload. Students are advised to consult with the thesis advisor in the Library at an early date, in order to conform to the Library requirements and to meet all Library deadlines.
ADDITIONAL UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS FOR MASTERS DEGREES

In addition to the departmental program requirements listed above, all candidates for master’s degrees at Cal State L.A. must also fulfill the following requirements.

Writing Proficiency Examination (WPE)
Every graduate student who enters a degree program must satisfy the Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement by passing UNIV 4000, the Writing Proficiency Examination (WPE), within the first three semesters of their enrollment or prior to the completion of 12 units, whichever comes later.

This requirement is waived for graduate students who received their baccalaureate at Cal State L.A. or another CSU campus.

Graduate students who hold or have an earned master’s or doctorate degree from an accredited college or university where the primary language of instruction is English may substitute such a degree for passing the WPE.

Graduate students who have passed a writing proficiency examination or a graduation writing assessment examination in English at any accredited college or university where the primary language of instruction is English may petition to substitute such a result for passing the WPE at Cal State LA.

Conditional, Classified, and Advancement to Candidacy Status
Students are initially coded into one of the following levels depending on their admission status:

G1 – Conditional. Students who have not completed all program prerequisites at the time of admission are classified into this level. Students qualify for limited financial aid with this classification. Upon completion of all prerequisite courses with a GPA of 3.0 or higher, conditional students have their status changed to classified by the graduate assistant.

G2 – Classified. Students who are admitted unconditionally (i.e., with no prerequisites required to complete) are automatically coded into Classified status by Admissions.

MA students: Upon satisfactory completion of the WPE Exam, PSY 4950, one additional core requirement and 6 additional units (12 units in total), students will be advanced to candidacy

Forensic students: Upon satisfactory completion of the WPE Exam and 12 units, students will be advanced to candidacy.

Being Advanced to Candidacy (level G3) is a graduation requirement.

Only students who have been advanced to candidacy may enroll in PSY 5970 Graduate Research and/or PSY 5990 Thesis.
**Unit Requirement**
MA students: Completion of at least 31-32 semester units in approved courses, of which at least half (16) must be graduate (5000-level) courses.

Forensic students: Completion of at least 33-34 semester units in approved courses, of which at least half (17) must be graduate (5000-level) courses.

**Grade Point Average Requirement**
Achievement of a minimum B (3.0) grade point average in all courses on the approved degree program. A grade of C is allowed on the program; however, any grade below C, including C-, requires that the course be repeated with both grades computed in the grade point average. There is no academic renewal for graduate students.

*Note: The MA and MS (Forensic Option) require a passing grade of B (3.0) in the Core Requirements.*

Following is a breakdown of the grading system.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Residence Requirement**
At least 21 semester units for the master’s degree must be completed in residence at Cal State L.A.

**Culminating Experience Requirement**
All MA and MS students are required to complete a thesis. The department does not offer a comprehensive examination or a project option in lieu of a thesis.
ACADEMIC POLICIES

For a more complete list of policies and other student services, you can refer to the University’s Graduate Student Handbook: http://www.calstatela.edu/sites/default/files/users/u50136/jan_2016_grad_student_handbook.pdf

University Catalog

Graduate students are governed by University policies and regulations as stated in the University Catalog in effect at the time they achieve classified standing, provided that they maintain continuous attendance for registration purposes. The E-Catalog is available for purchase at the campus bookstore or can be accessed online at: http://ecatalog.calstatela.edu/

Listed below you will find some excerpts from material in the Catalog.

Registration and Continuing Status

Continuing students at California State University, Los Angeles receive information regarding their registration appointment dates by logging into GET (Golden Eagle Territory). Additional information about registration procedures is provided in the Schedule of Classes, available online each semester before the registration period. Web registration (GET) is available to all eligible continuing students.

Students maintain their continuing student status for registration purposes only by attending at least one of the two semesters immediately preceding the semester in which they plan to enroll (excluding the summer term). Students who were admitted and enrolled in one of the last two semesters preceding the semester in which they plan to enroll will also maintain their continuing student status for registration purposes. Absence for more than one of any two consecutive semesters without an approved leave of absence will cancel continuing registration eligibility. See Leaves of Absence later in this chapter.

Attendance in University extension courses does not constitute continuous attendance. Students who attended another college or university during an absence from Cal State L.A., except for a summer session or extension program or approved visitor enrollment at another CSU campus, are required to file an application for admission as a returning student and have official transcripts of work taken sent to the Admissions Office. A nonrefundable application fee is charged. Such students will, if eligible, receive forms to register as returning students.

Leave of Absence

Students can avoid losing classified standing by submitting a Leave of Absence request, approved by the department chair, appropriate associate dean, and the University Registrar prior to the beginning of the effective semester.

Students may petition for a leave of absence for such reasons as professional or academic opportunities, like travel or study abroad; employment related to educational goals and major fields of study or participation in field study or research projects; medical reasons, including pregnancy, major surgery, and other health-related circumstances; and financial reasons, such as the necessity to work for a specified period to resume study with adequate resources.
Graduate students are granted a maximum of 4 semesters, subject to renewal. Continuing students allowed absence of 2 semesters is included in these maximums.

**Academic Probation for Graduate Students**

Graduate students are subject to academic probation if their grade point average falls below the levels specified below either in course work on their master's degree program or in all units completed after becoming classified, whether or not the course work is taken at Cal State L.A. The Office of the Chancellor has made provision whereby students may be placed on administrative-academic probation for any of the following reasons:

- Withdrawal from all or a substantial portion of courses for which they registered in two successive semesters or in any three semesters.
- Repeated failure to progress toward a stated degree or program objective when such failure is within their control.
- Failure to comply, after due notice, with a routine academic requirement or regulation.

Notice is given in writing of the conditions for removal from administrative-academic probation, as well as circumstances that would lead to disqualification should probation conditions not be rectified. Graduate students who are on academic probation and who do not meet the requirements of their probation are subject to disqualification in accordance with the following guidelines:

Classified and conditionally classified graduate students who are on academic probation are subject to disqualification from pursuing the master's degree program in which they were classified if after being placed on scholastic probation they do not raise their average to B (3.0) after completion of 16 units or two semesters in residence, whichever comes later.

Classified and conditionally classified graduate students whose grade point average falls more than nine grade points below B (3.0) will be disqualified from pursuing the master's degree program in which they were classified.

Students who are disqualified from a master's degree program may not reenter that program. They may be admitted to another program only on the recommendation of the new major department/division concerned and with the approval of the appropriate college graduate dean.

**Full-Time Study Load**

For full-time enrollment certification by the University, graduate students must carry a study load of 8 weighted units of approved prerequisite, co-requisite, or graduate program courses per semester. Graduate level courses (5000 level courses or higher) have a weighted factor of 1.5, therefore, two 3-unit 5000 level courses constitutes a full load (6 x 1.5 = 9). Students may be certified as full-time students with a study load of less than 8 weighted units in any of the following courses upon recommendation of their adviser and approval of the associate dean: 5960, 5970, 5980, 5990, 6990, and 9000. Note however that the student is still considered to be enrolled for 8 units toward the maximum allowable units for financial aid. The maximum load for graduate students is 12 units per semester.

**Seven-Year Rule**

No subject, unit, or grade credit will be granted for any course completed more than seven years before the date of completion of the master's degree. You cannot include courses that are more than seven years old at the time you complete all degree requirements on your Program Plan.
Students must retake or validate any courses that will be more than seven years old at the time the degree is awarded and that have been taken at Cal State L.A. An expired course taken at another institution may not be validated by examination. Permission to validate is granted only in very exceptional circumstances; it is not given automatically and not given for more than 12 units.

**Transfer Courses**

Students may transfer up to 9 semester units of previously taken coursework toward a 30-unit master’s degree program, with adviser approval. These may include continuing education courses, transfer courses, courses completed before the filing date for the program, or a combination thereof. For programs exceeding 30 units, thirty percent of the course work may be transferred with approval of an adviser. Transfer courses must be equivalent to 4000- or 5000-level course work at Cal State L.A. and must be acceptable for graduate credit in an advanced degree program at the institution where they were taken. Advisers verify the validity of transfer work by submitting a “Request for Transfer Course Level Evaluation” (GS-1) to the Office of University Admissions.

Courses are not automatically transferred into a program. The GS-1 form must be forwarded by your mentor to Admissions. Please note that the request will not be reviewed if you do not have official transcripts on file in Admissions. The GS-1 form is available through the department office or online.

No master’s degree credit is allowed for directed teaching, 7000- or 8000-level courses, courses numbered below 4000, and courses taken at another accredited institution that would not be accepted toward a master’s degree at that institution.

Nine semester units of 5000-level or other graduate courses taken through extension are eligible for master’s degree credit.

**Work Taken before Approval of Program**

No more than 9 semester units of acceptable coursework completed before approval by the principal graduate adviser, major department/division, and college graduate dean may be included on a master’s degree program. This includes acceptable transfer work.

Credit for thesis (i.e., 5990), research (i.e., 5970), and comprehensive examinations (i.e., 5960) is not transferable. All other coursework included on the master’s degree program must be completed after approval by the principal graduate adviser, major department/division, and college graduate dean.

**Credit for Extension Courses**

Do not enroll for courses through Continuing Education (also called Extension) if you have been accepted as a student at Cal State L.A., with the exception of the self-support summer session. Matriculated students at Cal State L.A. may not enroll in courses through Continuing Education and you will not be able to use these courses on your Program. Also, no graduate credit will be allowed for extension courses that would not be accepted toward a master’s degree at the offering institution (e.g., University of California extension courses in the X3000 or X4000 series) unless specifically approved in advance by the major department/division and college concerned.

**Course Substitutions**
It may be necessary to change an Academic Study Plan based upon special circumstances. *Course substitutions are processed once your faculty mentor notifies the graduate assistant, via email, with the approved course(s) to be substituted. In some instances, approval must also be granted by the department chair and the college graduate dean.*

A course may not be added to or deleted from a master’s degree Study Plan after it has been taken. When such a change has been approved and processed, it becomes part of the Study Plan. Students are able to view any changes made to their Study Plan by logging on to GET and generating an Academic Requirements report.

**Student Use of Human Subjects or Animals**
Students, like all others in the University community, must follow established University and federal guidelines when using human subjects or animals either in research or as part of a course activity.

Prior approval by the relevant campus committee must be obtained when necessary. For further information, contact the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, (323) 343-5366, or visit their website at [http://www.calstatela.edu/orad](http://www.calstatela.edu/orad).

**Maintaining Enrollment for Thesis/Project**
Students must be advanced to candidacy and must obtain the approval of the associate dean before registering for research and thesis/project units. When all units for 5970 and 5990 classes have been completed, a student must maintain continuous enrollment by registering for thesis or research units using the 9000 course number each semester until completion of the thesis/project. Furthermore, students must be officially enrolled during the semester they expect to graduate and defend their thesis.

Unless there is a very exceptional circumstance that prevents a student from completing a thesis, students are not permitted to change from a thesis/project option to a comprehensive examination after they have completed any 5990 units.

**Incomplete Grades**
Students who do not complete the work for a particular course may be granted an Incomplete grade with the instructor’s permission. Students have up to but no longer than ONE calendar year to make up the incomplete regardless of breaks in attendance, a leave of absence, etc. The official policy states that the single year may be extended prior to the expiration of the one year period by the College Graduate Dean, “…for contingencies such as, but not limited to, military service and health problems or an incapacitating nature verified by a physician’s statement”.

Incomplete grades that are not made up become graded IC (Incomplete Charged) and are factored into the overall GPA as a grade of F.

**Graduation**
Application for graduation (degree check) is made on a form that is available in the department office or in Administration 409 beginning five days prior to the application filing period. Students must submit completed application and required fee to Cashier’s. The original, paid application must be submitted to the graduate assistant.

Students are required to file an application by the deadline announced in the *Schedule of Classes*. Students who are enrolled the semester they expect to graduate but do not meet the degree
requirements will have their graduation application transferred to the next semester. Students who do not complete requirements during the next semester must file a new application by the deadline announced in the *Schedule of Classes*.

**Commencement Exercises**
Commencement exercises are held annually at the end of the spring semester. Students who have completed their degree requirements the previous summer, fall, or winter terms are eligible to participate in the ceremony along with those who complete their work in the spring semester. During the Commencement exercises, the President of the University confers degrees on the candidates. Although each candidate receives a diploma cover during the program, the actual diploma is sent several months later. Within a few weeks after graduation, eligible candidates receive a letter of congratulations in the mail, and degrees are posted to their permanent academic record on GET.
PERMITS

All 5000-level Psychology courses are restricted and registration is by permission only.

Seminars
The program directors, Dr. Jessica Dennis (MA) and Dr. Mitchell Eisen (Forensic), will email your cohort a list of the seminars recommended each semester and for which you should enroll. The department graduate assistant will then automatically issue permits for those seminars which are next in your sequence of classes.

PSY 5970, PSY 5990, PSY 9000
Students must fill out a Permit Request Slip available in the department office. All requests must have the approval of the student’s mentor. Students can register for no more than the maximum number of 5970 or 5990 units listed on their Study Plans.

PSY 5950 (Forensic students only)
Students must fill out a Permit Request Slip available in the department office. All requests must have the approval of the student’s mentor. Students can register for no more than 6 units of PSY 5950.

The department urges all students to register for classes as early as possible to avoid having them canceled by University administrators. Canceled classes will have an adverse impact on the quality and timely completion of your degree.
FINANCING YOUR EDUCATION

Graduate Equity Fellowship Program
This program is designed to increase the number of master’s degrees awarded to economically disadvantaged CSU students, especially those students from groups that are underrepresented among graduate degree recipients in their area and those who are disabled. Grant stipends may be up to $1500 per semester. Students must be eligible for Financial Aid and be enrolled full-time. The academic portion of the application is available from the Graduate Studies and Research Office, Administration 710. The financial portion of the application is the FAFSA, available in the Center for Student Financial Aid, Student Affairs 124. Please see either office for deadlines, procedures, and other questions.

Minority Opportunities in Research Programs: MBRS-RISE
The MBRS-RISE M.S.-to-Ph.D. Program is a rigorous research-based two-year preparation for graduate work at the Ph.D. level. Each year, the program trains a group of 20 minority students pursuing the M.S. degree at Cal State LA, and involves them in a program designed to enhance their academic achievement; integrate them into the broader Southern California biomedical research community while still in their M.S. program; expose them to a broad range of biomedical sciences and scientists; enhance their transfer rate to Ph.D. programs; and establish the foundation for their successful research careers in the biomedical sciences.

The MBRS-RISE M.S. to Ph.D. is part of the Minority Biomedical Research Support Program sponsored by a generous grant from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). A salary of up to $17,000 per year and full time tuition is provided for students in the M.S. component. Additional funds are available for research supplies and for travel to present research results at professional meetings.

For more information:
Phone: (323) 343-2395
Email: morepro@calstatela.edu
Website: http://www.calstatela.edu/centers/moreprograms/

Sally Casanova Pre-Doctoral Scholars Program
The California Pre-Doctoral Program is designed to increase the pool of potential faculty by supporting the doctoral aspirations of California State University (CSU) students who have experienced economic and educational disadvantages. Junior, senior, and graduate students in the CSU, especially those from environments where university teaching is not a common career goal, have unique opportunities to explore and prepare to succeed in doctoral programs. Working one-on-one with faculty members from both CSU and doctoral-granting institutions, students receive funding for activities such as: participation in a summer research internship program at a doctoral-granting institution to receive exposure to the world of research in their chosen field; visits to doctoral-granting institutions to explore opportunities for doctoral study; travel to a national symposium or professional meeting in their chosen field; other related activities such as membership in professional organizations and journal subscriptions; graduate school application and test fees.

Visit http://www.calstate.edu/PreDoc/ for more information on the Pre-Doctoral Program.
International Graduate Student Tuition Waiver Program
The International Graduate Student Tuition Waiver provides tuition waivers for selected international graduate students, for up to 24 units per academic year. The support enables an international student to waive the nonresident portion of their fees for a maximum of 12 units for the Fall, Winter and/or Spring Semesters.

Student’s applications are reviewed by a committee and are selected on the basis of their academic record, letters of recommendation and an essay which outlines their goals and objectives and the need for financial assistance. Applications for the program are available during the Winter Semester from the Associate Dean’s Office in the NSS Dean’s Office.

Graduate Assistants / Teaching Associates / Research Assistantships
The Department of Psychology typically makes available a few Graduate Assistant positions each semester. At the moment, the department does not offer any Teaching Associate positions. In general, graduate assistants work from five to twenty hours a week, assisting professors in laboratory classes or as graders in large classes. Research assistantships as well as graduate traineeships may also be available to graduate students and information of their availability can be obtained by consulting the department or professors who are currently conducting on-going research.

Federal / State Financial Aid Programs
Graduate students may apply for federal and state financial aid programs but you must realize that most of the grant programs (Pell Grant, Cal Grant, etc.) that might have been available to you as an undergraduate are no longer available to graduate students.

The financial aid application, called the FAFSA, becomes available every January 1 for aid in the subsequent Summer Semester or beyond. The earlier you apply, the better. Approximately four to six weeks after your financial aid file is complete you will receive a letter from the Center for Student Financial Aid indicating your eligibility or ineligibility. In addition to being financially eligible, you must be making "satisfactory academic progress" in your graduate program in order to continue to receive assistance. Graduate students who are funded as full-time students must complete a minimum of 36 units per academic year. Graduate level courses, numbered 500 and above, have a weighted unit factor of 1.5. Completed grades are considered to be A, B, C, D, CR, RD, and SP. Unacceptable grades that do not count toward courses completed are: F, I, NC, U, and W. No further financial aid is available to students who have attempted 75 or more graduate units.

Fellowships and Scholarships
The Financial Aid Office maintains listings of scholarships and fellowships sponsored by off-campus agencies, organizations, and associations.

Cal State L.A. has over 250 different scholarships that are awarded to more than 650 students per year. A small number of these scholarships are open to graduate students. The average scholarship award is $600.

In order to be considered for on-campus scholarships, you must establish a complete file with the Financial Aid Office, which is comprised of a current application and one letter of recommendation, and other materials. The office will then ensure that you are considered for all institutional scholarships for which you qualify. Applications, deadlines, and more information can be obtained from the Financial Aid Office.
FACULTY MEMBERS AND THEIR AREAS OF INTEREST

Desdemona Cardoza (dcardoz@calstatela.edu) Teaches courses in women’s issues in Psychology. Research focuses on symbolic racism, psychosocial predictors of achievement among Latino college students, and issues related to sexual harassment.

Jessica Dennis (jdennis@calstatela.edu) Teaches courses on methodology, multicultural psychology, and developmental psychology. Research interests focus on cultural issues in family, educational, and personal development during adolescence and early adulthood.

Ramani Durvasula (rdurvas@calstatela.edu) Teaching interests include abnormal, clinical and health psychology. Research interests have focused on psychopathology, substance use and sexual risk in persons living with HIV and AIDS.

Mitchell Eisen (meisen@calstatela.edu) Teaching interests include introductory psychology, personality psychology, psychopathology, learning and memory, personality assessment and family therapy. Research focuses on impact of trauma and stress on abused children, memory and suggestibility and coping strategies of maltreated children.

Joel Ellwanger (jellwan@calstatela.edu) Teaches undergraduate and graduate level courses in physiological psychology and statistics. Research interests include cognitive neuroscience, including the study of attention and memory through the use of physiological indices of cognition.

Gaithri Fernando (gfernan2@calstatela.edu) Teaching interests include abnormal psychology and clinical psychology, personality, and developmental psychopathology, as well as clinical and neuropsychological assessment. Primary interests are in posttraumatic stress in the context of war and extreme traumas such as torture, bomb blasts, and assassination attempts.

Steven Frenda (sfrenda@calstatela.edu) Teaches courses on social psychology, cognitive psychology, and research methods. Research interests include memory and suggestibility in legal contexts.

Senqi Hu (shu6@calstatela.edu) Teaching interests include introductory psychology, biological psychology, and health psychology. Research has centered around the physiological index of motion sickness and psychophysiological responses of emotion.

Robert Kenninson (rkennin@exchange.calstatela.edu) Teaches cognitive psychology. Kimberly King (kking3@calstatela.edu) Teaches courses in clinical, abnormal psychology, introductory psychology, psychopathology of prejudice, and other special topics in psychology related to ethnicity, class and gender. Research centers on individual and environmental differences that influence how people perceive and cope with discrimination.

Kimberly King (kking3@calstatela.edu) Teaches courses in clinical and abnormal psychology, psychology of prejudice, ethnicity, and gender.

Eric Kohatsu (ekohats@calstatela.edu) Teaches courses in research methods, clinical/counseling, human sexuality, cross-cultural psychology. Asian American psychology and cultural issues in mental health. Research focuses on racial identity issues, race relations, and the psychosocial effects of racism.
Brigitte Matthies (bmatthi@calstatela.edu) Teaches individual therapy, family therapy and abnormal psychology, and supervises MFT students in the psychology clinic. Research interests include phobias, acceptance of models of psychotherapy, diversity in interpersonal relationships, child and adolescent fitness, and assessment of personality and mood disorders.

Pamela Regan (pregan@calstatela.edu) Teaches social psychology and univariate and multivariate statistics. Research focuses on interpersonal attraction, gender, and sexuality.

Heidi R. Riggio (hriggio@exchange.calstatela.edu) Teaches social psychology, statistics and Theories of personality.

Gloria Romero (gromero@calstatela.edu) Teaches social psychology and sex and gender.

Henry Schlinger (hshclin@calstatela.edu) Teaches courses related to the M. S. degree in Psychology, Applied Behavior Analysis option, as well as Introductory Psychology and History and Systems of Psychology. His research interests include basic learning processes, schedules of reinforcement, conceptual issues in behavior analysis and psychology, rule-governed behavior, and verbal behavior.

Munyi Shea (mshea@exchange.calstatela.edu) Teaches courses related to multicultural psychology, social psychology, counseling and psychotherapy. Her research interests are organized around (1) examining sociocultural influences on behaviors and psychological experiences of undeserved groups; (2) developing and conducting outcome research on culturally appropriate interventions.

Ji Son (json2@calstatela.edu) Teaches courses in development psychology, cognitive development, and research methods. Research focuses on the development of abstract, intelligent, and flexible thinking, and how children learn through the process of generalization.

Doug Stenstrom (dstenst@exchange.calstatela.edu) Teaches courses related to social psychology, psychology and the law, violence and aggression, forensic psychology and statistics and research methods.

Kaveri Subrahmanyan (ksubrah@calstatela.edu) Teaches courses in introductory psychology, life span development, developmental psychology, cognitive development, adolescent development, and intro statistics. Research focuses on youth and digital media such as the Internet (e.g., MySpace, Facebook), and Spanish-speakers' learning of English.
FORMS AND PETITIONS

Graduate Studies Forms
These forms can be found online through the NSS Dean’s Office webpage or are available in the department office:

- GS-1A Transfer course level evaluation
- GS-12 Request for Thesis or Project Committee
- GS-13 Approval Page for Graduate Thesis
- Application – Travel Support for Students attending Conferences
- Request to Validate Expired Course(s) on a Graduate Program
- Petition to Substitute Alternate Criteria for the WPE
- Recommended Timeline and Checklist for MA Thesis

University Petitions
Most forms are now available online through the University Registrar’s Office. They are also available in the department office:

- Leave of Absence Petition
- Course Overload
- General Academic Petition for GRADUATE Requirements
- Request for Graduate Credit for Undergraduate Work
- Graduation Application