

SJU M.S. in Psychology

Welcome to the graduate program in Psychology at Saint Joseph's University. Our program is a rigorous one where equal emphasis is placed on both coursework and empirical research. The main objective of the program is to train our graduates to independently design and conduct psychological studies, analyze and interpret data, and professionally communicate the findings of these studies. Graduates are prepared to secure positions in many areas of research or industry or pursue further studies in doctoral programs in experimental or clinical psychology.

Our goal is to provide students with the skills that they need to become top-notch researchers in the field of psychology.

—Jodi A. Mindell, Ph.D.
Director, Graduate Psychology



Saint Joseph's University is a member of the Alpha Epsilon Lambda honor society: the nation's only graduate interdisciplinary honor society. Saint Joseph's Omega Chapter was chartered in 1996 and has a proud history of graduates acknowledged for their academic accomplishments and leadership skills. A minimum of a 3.85 GPA and recommendation by the Program Director is required for membership consideration.



The Department of Psychology at Saint Joseph's University grants a Master of Science degree in Psychology. The program is offered in two formats, as either a traditional two-year program or as a combined 5-year B.S./M.S. program.

Philosophy

The Saint Joseph's University graduate program in psychology offers students a general curriculum of study emphasizing experimental psychology. The program is designed to complement the strengths and interests of the present psychology faculty and facilities and reflects the current state of the discipline of psychology. It consists of a traditional and academically oriented forty-eight credit curriculum and requires the successful completion of a qualifying comprehensive examination and an empirical thesis project. The program is designed for successful completion over two academic years.

Degree Requirements (48 credits)

Requirements for the Master of Science degree are divided into four major components: 1) core and content courses; 2) research, which includes independent research and attendance at departmental colloquia; 3) a comprehensive examination to be taken during the fourth semester; and 4) a Master's Thesis.

Courses

I. Common core (8 credits)

All students are required to take Advanced Research Methods, Advanced Statistical Methods, and Advanced Statistical Methods II.

II. Content courses (24 credits)

Students elect to take an additional six content courses. These courses include offerings in Abnormal Psychology (child), Abnormal Psychology (adult), Animal Learning and Behavior, Behavioral Neuroscience, Cognitive Psychology, Developmental Psychology, Emotion, Health Psychology (child), Health Psychology (adult), Neuropsychology, and Social Psychology.

III. Research component (16 credits)

The research component is comprised of two directed studies in which students work closely with their faculty mentor on their area of research interest and two master's thesis courses.

Comprehensive Examination and Master's Thesis

Completion of a comprehensive examination is required of second-year students and all students conduct an empirically based master's thesis. All students work closely with their mentor and become immersed in a specialty area. The comprehensive exam and thesis facilitate the transition for those students interested in pursuing doctoral-level education.

M.S. in Psychology

Application Requirements

By March 1 applicants should submit to the Office of Graduate Operations the following:

- A completed Saint Joseph's University graduate application, which can be found online at www.sju.edu/higherknowledge.
- Official sealed transcript(s) of undergraduate/graduate coursework. If you are an SJU graduate the Office of Graduate Operations will obtain your SJU transcripts for you.
- Two letters of recommendation appraising the candidate's promise and capacity for graduate study, reflecting, from a professional's point of view, the candidate's ability to pursue a rigorous, independent course of study at the graduate level.
- A current résumé and/or CV.
- A personal statement outlining the candidate's professional goals and educational objectives for the program, including the applicant's rationale for program choice and professional study.
- \$35 application fee; waived if attended an Open House or are an SJU grad.
- Official copies of Graduate Records Examination (GRE) scores.
- A completed Psychology Application Insert, which can be found online at www.sju.edu/psychology, along with an essay describing the candidate's interest and goals of graduate education in psychology.

International applicants should visit www.sju.edu/higherknowledge for admission information. Submit Applications to Office of Graduate Operations: Saint Joseph's University, 5600 City Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19131
Email: graduate@sju.edu Phone: 610-660-1101 or 1-888-SJU-GRAD

Graduate Assistantships

Competitively-based graduate assistantships, which include tuition benefits and stipends, are awarded to second year students on the basis of merit, with support available for first-year students given funding opportunities. Students who are awarded assistantships are required to work 20 hours per week. Additional employment outside the university is not permitted while the student holds an assistantship. Money is available for research support and conference participation for all graduate students.

Financial Assistance

Students applying for financial aid administered by Saint Joseph's University must file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). In order to be eligible for federal financial assistance, the applicant must be enrolled on a half-time basis (at least 6 credits per semester) and be a citizen of the United States or have permanent resident status. For more information go to www.sju.edu/finaid.



"With a wide array of research specialties and a strong focus on statistics and methodology, the program in experimental psychology prepares students to pursue a multitude of career interests or to enter a doctoral program upon graduation. As a pediatric psychologist on staff at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, I can attest to the stellar training that I received through Saint Joseph's graduate program in psychology. The foundation that I received in the program has allowed me to develop a career in pediatric psychology that joins scientific research with clinical practice."

Chanelle Tiffani Bishop, Psy.D., M.S.
The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Contact information:

PROGRAM INFORMATION

Jodi Mindell, Ph.D.
Director, Graduate Psychology
Phone: 610-660-1806
Email: JMindell@sju.edu
Web: www.psychology.sju.edu



SAINT JOSEPH'S UNIVERSITY

Graduate Studies

College of Arts and Sciences