



Experimental Psychology MS Program

<http://shu.edu/go/psychology>

The primary goal of our program is to prepare students to be competitive for admittance into a Ph.D. program or for direct entry into research-intensives jobs.

WHY SETON HALL?

- Individualized one-on-one research training and mentoring.
- State-of-the-art research facilities, including animal and eye-tracking laboratories.
- Faculty expertise in behavioral neuroscience, developmental, cognitive, social, cultural, and clinical psychology. Find more information on faculty research here (and see below): <http://www.shu.edu/academics/artsci/psychology/faculty.cfm>
- Choose from three thesis concentrations(intended to prepare students for eventual Ph.D. study): Behavioral Neuroscience, Cognitive Neuroscience, Behavioral Sciences; or one of two non-thesis concentrations (intended to prepare students for direct entry into research intensive jobs): Data Visualization and Analysis, General.
- Optional specialist certificate in Data Visualization and Analysis <http://www.shu.edu/academics/artsci/certificate-data-visualization-graduate.cfm>

Program Overview

All students complete 36 hours of coursework, or 3 classes per semester, for two years. Our program is organized like most doctoral programs. We have a small number of graduate students who work one on one with faculty. All students begin working with a faculty member by the end of their first semester. Students pursuing a thesis degree develop a thesis proposal in their second semester, and collect data and defend their thesis by the end of their second year. Students pursuing the non-thesis degree work in one or more faculty laboratories as part of their research coursework, developing skills in data collection, data management and analysis. This work culminates either in a literature review or data visualization project at the end of their second year. The non-thesis option with the Data Visualization and Analysis concentration leads to conferral of the MS, plus the specialist certificate in Data Visualization and Analysis. See below for additional information for all options.

What Our Graduates Do

Recent graduates have been admitted to Ph.D. programs in Integrative Neuroscience, Behavioral Neuroscience, Cognitive Science, Perception and Cognition, Social Psychology, and Communication at schools such as Brandeis University, the University of Florida, Northwestern University, SUNY Stony Brook, Rutgers University, the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, New York University, American University, Temple University, University of California (Davis), University of California (Los Angeles), University of Oregon, Ohio State University and the University of Connecticut. Other recent graduates have used their Master's degree to pursue research positions in the pharmaceutical industry and to teach at the community college level. See below for additional information on our recent graduates.

Admissions

- Applications are evaluated on a rolling basis. Students wishing to receive maximal consideration for graduate assistantships should submit completed applications by April 15th. Space permitting, applications continue to be evaluated up to July 1. Apply online: <http://www.shu.edu/applying/graduate/apply.cfm>
- Admittance requirements:
 - Bachelor's degree with a minimum of 18 credits of Psychology coursework including Introduction to Psychology, Psychological Statistics, and Research Methods (by the time of enrollment). Students considering the Behavioral Neuroscience concentration must have completed a course in Biological Psychology or its equivalent.
 - Minimum 3.0 undergraduate GPA, official transcripts of all previous academic work, official scores from the Graduate Record Examination (GRE), three letters of recommendation from individuals familiar with the student's academic and research abilities, and a personal statement of 500 to 700 words that outlines the student's own academic achievements, research interests, and career goals. We also request a CV or resume.
 - We have no hard-and-fast minimums for GREs scores, but the average GRE scores of students enrolled in our programs in recent years has been in the 60th to 70th percentiles for Verbal and for Analytical Writing, and the 40th to 60th percentiles for Quantitative.

Funding

- At Seton Hall, funding decisions are made separately from admittance decisions. Once accepted into the MS program, all students submitting complete applications by April 15th are automatically given first-round consideration for a limited number of teaching and research assistantships offered by the Department of Psychology. These in-department assistantships cover half of the recipient's tuition and provide a modest stipend. Students who are funded in their first year are renewed the following year provided that they perform satisfactorily in their coursework and in their assistantship. Second-rounds of department funding decisions may be made at the end of May and beginning of July.
- All accepted students are encouraged to apply for assistantships offered in other units on the Seton Hall campus (some of these offer full tuition coverage and a larger stipend than the department is able to offer). These openings are posted on a rolling basis in the Seton Hall Assistantship database: <http://www.shu.edu/applying/graduate/grad-finaid.cfm>. Our department's MS students have a strong track record of successfully securing assistantships in Nursing, The Institute of NeuroImmunology and Pharmacology, and in Mathematics (to name a few).

Location, Location, Location!

One of our favorite things about Seton Hall University is that it is located in the Village of South Orange, 14 miles west of New York City. This location uniquely affords the chance to take advantage of all the things that the city has to offer, while also providing proximity to beach communities, mountains and parks.

Find Out More About Us

If you are in the area and would like to come for an informal visit on your own, we'd love to meet you. An interview is not required, but members of the faculty would be happy to meet with you to talk about our program, as would some of our current grad students. You are welcome to sit in on a graduate class, and tour the campus. However, if you don't have the time to come in person, faculty members are available to speak with you over the phone or communicate via e-mail.

If you have more questions, please contact the Director of Graduate Studies, Dr. Kelly Goedert, at kelly.goedert@shu.edu or 973-275-2703.

Our Faculty

Faculty members and their research interests are listed below. For more information, see links to faculty profiles at: <http://www.shu.edu/academics/artsci/psychology/faculty.cfm>

Welcoming **Dr. Fanli Jia**, starting Fall 2016, Cultural/Developmental Psychology, jjafanli@gmail.com
cross-cultural differences and multiculturalism among Easterners, Westerners and immigrants
with regard to their identity development and bilingualism <http://jjaf.weebly.com/>

Dr. Janine P. Buckner, Developmental Psychology, janine.buckner@shu.edu
autobiographical memory, identity formation, gender

Dr. Paige H. Fisher, Clinical Psychology, paige.fisher@shu.edu
mental health and college adjustment, preschool social and academic
development

Dr. Kelly M. Goedert, Cognitive Psychology, kelly.goedert@shu.edu, [lab website](#)
causal learning, visuomotor learning, spatial attention, embodied thinking

Dr. Amy S. Hunter, Behavioral Neuroscience, amy.hunter@shu.edu
REM sleep and learning, spatial memory

Dr. Amy S. Joh, Developmental Psychology, amy.joh@shu.edu, [lab website](#)
cognitive, perceptual, and motor development in children and adults

Dr. Jeffrey C. Levy, Learning, jeffrey.levy@shu.edu
learning and behavior modification

Dr. Marianne E. Lloyd, Cognitive Psychology, marianne.lloyd@shu.edu
memory and memory errors, development of memory, mindfulness

Dr. Susan A. Nolan, Clinical Psychology, susan.nolan@shu.edu
President of the Eastern Psychological Association, international psychology,
perceptions of individuals with mental illness, gender and STEM fields

Dr. Andrew Simon, Organizational Psychology, andrew.simon@shu.edu
sports psychology, organizational dynamics

Dr. Susan Teague, Social Psychology, susan.teague@shu.edu
helping behavior, attitude formation and change, interpersonal conflict

Dr. Michael Vigorito, Behavioral Neuroscience, michael.vigorito@shu.edu
influence of immune activation on learning and motivation, learning in HIV

Psychology faculty collaborate with these colleagues in other departments and in the community:

Dr. Sulie Chang, [Institute of NeuroImmune Pharmacology](#), Seton Hall University

Dr. A.M. Barrett and **Dr. Peggy Chen**, [Stroke Research](#), Kessler Foundation, West Orange, NJ

Sample Thesis Titles of Recent Graduates

<u>Student / Graduate Date</u>	<u>Thesis title</u>
Katherine Moen, MS 2014	Selective effects of selective attention.
Soniya Assudani, MS 2014	Effects of practice type and task difficulty on visuospatial performance.
Shannon Haas, MS 2014	Effects of repeated ketamine administration during adolescence on anxiety and depressive-like behaviors induced by a predator odor.
Michelle Rosenthal, MS 2014	Prism adaptation effects on the attentional window.
Nicole Ruser, MS 2014	The effects of tripartite self-construal on prosocial behavior.
Klaudia Kosiak, MS 2013	Sex differences in mother-infant interaction.
Marjorie Levinstein, MS 2013	Activation and suppression of the innate immune system: effects on alcohol intake.
Kimberly Ramos, MS 2013	Environmental and ethanol-induced effects on working and reference memory in the rat.
Chi Ngo, MS 2013	Associative recognition memory and context effects using objects on natural backgrounds.
Kevin Specter, MS 2013	Forging the link: The role of photographs and textual self-disclosure on forming Facebook friendships.
Christopher Cagna, MS 2013	The limited effects of REM sleep deprivation on the acquisition, extinction, and reinstatement of a methamphetamine-induced conditioned place preference.
Tracy Grogan, MS 2013	The interplay of personal traits and autobiographical memory.
Nicole Anastasides, MS 2012	Avoidance, escape, and approach behavior in individuals with high behavioral inhibition.
Romina Cupo, MS 2012	The effects of caffeine on spatial learning and memory.
Ashley Hartman, MS 2012	Selective attention during retrieval harms initial recognition memory performance but not subsequent retrieval events.
Christine Michaels, MS 2012	A comparison of different forms of methamphetamine on locomotor activity and sign tracking performance in rats.
Jennifer Noonan, MS 2012	The impact of education and gender on perception of borderline personality disorder.
Chelsea P. Reichert, MS 2012	Mental illness stigma: An examination of the effects of label and gender on college students perceptions of depression and alcohol abuse.
Daniela Sacchetti, MS 2012	Ipsilesional neglect: Its anatomical and behavioral correlates.

Placement of Graduates

<u>Student / Graduation Date</u>	<u>Where They are Now</u>
Soniya Assudani, MS 2014	PhD student, Perception, Action & Cognition, University of Connecticut
Christopher Cagna, MS 2013	Research assistant, Stroke Rehabilitation Research Laboratory, Kessler Foundation Research Center
Shannon Callahan, MS 2009	PhD student, Social Psychology, University of California, Davis, CA
Felicia Chu, MS 2010	PhD student, Developmental Psychology, University of Missouri
Brent Costleigh, MS 2007	Faculty member, Brookdale Community College
Gregory Cvasa, MS 2007	PhD student, Social Psychology, University of Montana
Lindsey Czarnecki, MS 2009	PhD student, Behavioral Neuroscience, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ
Gina DiFeo, MS 2011	PhD student, Behavioral Neuroscience, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ
Sharon Fernbach, MS 2011	PsyD student, Alliant International University, San Diego, CA
Katherine Moen, MS 2014	PhD student, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA
Marley Kass, MS 2009	PhD student, Behavioral Neuroscience, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ
Erica Knowles, MS 2009	PhD student, Communication, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL
Abigail Lashomb, MS 2007	Medical Editor, The Westfield Group
Marjorie Levinstein, MS 2013	Research scientist, Affective Disorders Laboratory, Columbia University Medical Center, New York State Psychiatric Institute
Justin Maxfield, MS 2011	PhD student, Cognitive Science, SUNY Stonybrook University, Stony Brook, NY
Junaid Merchant, MS 2010	PhD student, Developmental Social Neuroscience, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR
Christine Michaels, MS 2012	Program Coordinator, Integrity House, Newark, NJ
Chi Ngo, MS 2013	PhD student, Cognitive Psychology, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA
Jennifer Noonan, MS 2012	Social Development Lab Director, Monmouth University, West Long Branch, NJ
Shannon, Haas, MS 2014	Research assistant, Neuropsychology and Neuroscience Laboratory, Kessler Foundation Research Center
Chelsea Reichert, MS 2012	Research Support Assistant, Nathan Kline Institute for Psychiatric Research, Orangeburg, NY
Annette Resenhoef, MS 2011	Instructor, Brookdale Community College
David Root, MS 2006, PhD 2012	Postdoctoral fellow, National Institute of Drug Abuse
Daniela Sacchetti, MS 2012	Research Specialist, Laboratory for Cognition & Neural Stimulation, University of Pennsylvania

Curriculum

The Department of Psychology offers the Master of Science (M.S.) degree in Experimental Psychology that is typically completed in two years of full-time enrollment (9 credits per semester). The program trains students in the scientific methods of psychology in preparation for entry into a Ph.D. program or for direct entry into research-intensive careers (e.g., pharmaceutical or market research, science writing, data analytics). The program offers five areas of concentration across two separate tracks for admission: 1) the MS in Experimental Psychology, which requires 36 credits of coursework and 2) the MS in Experimental Psychology-Thesis, which requires 36 credits of coursework plus completion of an empirical thesis. While students must indicate a track and concentration at the time of admission, students may move between concentrations within a track after speaking with their faculty advisor.

M.S. in Experimental Psychology

- A. Data Visualization and Analysis Concentration
- B. Psychological Science, General Concentration

M.S. in Experimental Psychology-Thesis

- A. Behavioral Neuroscience Concentration
- B. Cognitive Neuroscience Concentration
- C. Behavioral Sciences Concentration

MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN EXPERIMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY - THESIS

This program is particularly geared towards preparing students for admission to doctoral programs in the field of psychology, including all aspects of experimental psychology (biological, social, developmental, cognitive, perception) and neuroscience, as well as scientist/practitioner programs in clinical psychology. Degree conferral requires successful completion of 12 courses (36 total credits) and successful defense of an empirical thesis project. For the thesis, students design, execute, analyze, and write up an empirical study. The project culminates with an oral defense.

Students must select a concentration:

- A. Behavioral Neuroscience Concentration
- B. Cognitive Neuroscience Concentration
- C. Behavioral Sciences Concentration

Regardless of concentration, students complete the following two sets of requirements:

<u>Essentials of Research Requirement (9 credits)</u>		<u>Credits</u>
PSYC 7200	Graduate Seminar	3
PSYC 6100	Research Design and Analysis I	3
PSYC 6200	Research Design and Analysis II	3

<u>Thesis Research Requirement (9 credits)</u>		<u>Credits</u>
PSYC 7202	Independent Research II	3
PSYC 7203	Independent Research III	3
PSYC 8001	Thesis	3

The concentrations involve selections among sets of elective courses:

<u>Behavioral Neuroscience Concentration</u>	<u>Credits</u>
• Choose two of the following three courses (6 credits):	
PSYC 7102 Cognition	3
PSYC 7103 Perception	3
PSYC 7106 Cognitive Neuroscience	3
• Complete all of the following courses (9 credits):	
PSYC 7101 Conditioning and Behavior	3
PSYC 7104 Psychopharmacology	3
PSYC 7105 Behavioral Neuroscience	3
• Complete one elective course from the list of Experimental Psychology Electives below (3 credits).	

<u>Cognitive Neuroscience Concentration</u>	<u>Credits</u>
• Choose one of the following two courses (3 credits):	
PSYC 7101 Conditioning and Behavior	3

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|--|---|
| PSYC 7104 Psychopharmacology | 3 |
| • Complete all of the following courses (12 credits): | |
| PSYC 7102 Cognition | 3 |
| PSYC 7103 Perception | 3 |
| PSYC 7105 Behavioral Neuroscience | 3 |
| PSYC 7106 Cognitive Neuroscience | 3 |
| • Complete one elective course from the list of Experimental Psychology Electives below (3 credits). | |

Behavioral Sciences Concentration**Credits**

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|---|---|
| • Choose one of the following two courses (3 credits): | |
| PSYC 7102 Cognition | 3 |
| PSYC 7106 Cognitive Neuroscience | 3 |
| • Choose one of the following three courses (3 credits): | |
| CPSY 6102 Developmental | 3 |
| CPSY 6103 Abnormal | 3 |
| CPSY 7515 Social | 3 |
| • Complete four elective courses from the list of Experimental Psychology Electives below (12 credits). | |
| • A maximum of 9 CPSY credits may be applied towards the degree. | |

MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN EXPERIMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY

This program is particularly geared towards preparing students for direct entry into fields requiring strong data analysis and research skills. Degree conferral requires successful completion of 12 courses (36 total credits).

Students must select a concentration:

- A. Data Visualization and Analysis Concentration
- B. Psychological Science, General Concentration

Concentration: Data Visualization and Analysis (DAVA)

By fulfilling this concentration, students satisfy the requirements for the DAVA certificate

Essentials of Research Requirement (12 credits)**Credits**

PSYC 7200	Graduate Seminar	3
PSYC 6100	Research Design and Analysis I	3
PSYC 6200	Research Design and Analysis II	3
PSYC 7111	Independent Laboratory Research I	3

Data Visualization and Analysis Requirements (9 credits)**Credits**

DAVA 6010	Data Mining	3
DAVA 7000	Data Visualization	3
PSYC 7214	Cognition for Visualization*	3

**PSYC 7103 Perception may be substituted for PSYC 7214 for students admitted to the MS program with an undergraduate survey course in cognitive psychology.*

Choose One Presentation Course (3 credits)**Credits**

COGR 6323	Presentation Graphics	3
COST 7220	Effective Presentations	3

Choose One Scientific Writing Course (3 credits)**Credits**

GMHS 7503	Scientific Writing	3
GMHS 7507	Scientific Inquiry	3
ENGL 6414	Scientific and Technical Writing	3

Choose One DAVA Experiential Requirement (3 credits)**Credits**

DAVA 8011	Intern in Visual Analytics	3
DAVA 8021	Project in Visual Analytics	3

Choose Two Electives from the Experimental Psychology Electives Listed Below (6 credits)
At least one of these electives must be a PSYC course.

Concentration: Psychological Science, General

<u>Essentials of Research Requirement (12 credits)</u>		<u>Credits</u>
PSYC 7200	Graduate Seminar	3
PSYC 6100	Research Design and Analysis I	3
PSYC 6200	Research Design and Analysis II	3
PSYC 8002	Literature Review Writing	3

<u>Research and Writing Requirement (6 credits)</u>		<u>Credits</u>
Choose Option A or Option B for fulfilling this requirement:		

Option A: Choose Two Research Courses

PSYC 7111	Independent Laboratory Research I	3
PSYC 7112	Independent Laboratory Research II	3
PSYC 7202	Independent Research II	3
PSYC 7203	Independent Research III	3

Option B: Complete One Research Course and One Writing Course

Research Courses

PSYC 7111	Independent Laboratory Research I	3
PSYC 7112	Independent Laboratory Research II	3
PSYC 7202	Independent Research II	3
PSYC 7203	Independent Research III	3

Writing Courses

GMHS 7503	Scientific Writing	3
GMHS 7507	Scientific Inquiry	3
ENGL 6414	Scientific and Technical Writing	3

Choose Six Electives from the Experimental Psychology Electives List Below (6 credits)
A maximum of 9 CPSY credits may be applied towards the degree.

<u>EXPERIMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY ELECTIVES</u>		<u>CREDITS</u>
CPSY 6001	Tests and Measurement	3
CPSY 6101	Personality Theory	3
CPSY 6102	Developmental Psychology	3
CPSY 6103	Abnormal Psychology	3
CPSY 7515	Social Psychology	3
CPSY 8521	Foundations of Neuropsychology	3
DAVA 6010	Data Mining	3
DAVA 7000	Data Visualization	3
DAVA 8011	Intern in Visual Analytics	3
DAVA 8021	Project in Visual Analytics	3
PSYC 6211/CPSY 6505	Principles of Learning and Behavior Modification	3
PSYC 7101	Conditioning and Behavior	3
PSYC 7102	Cognition	3
PSYC 7103	Perception	3
PSYC 7104	Psychopharmacology	3
PSYC 7105	Behavioral Neuroscience	3
or CPSY 6105	Biological Bases of Behavior	3
PSYC 7106	Cognitive Neuroscience	3
PSYC 7214	Cognition for Visualization	3

**Students may apply either PSYC 7105 or CPSY 6105 to their degree, but not both. Choice of which one to take should be made in consultation with the student's advisor.*