



DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY  
GRADUATE PROGRAM

2009-10 GRADUATE BROCHURE

# PROGRAM INTRODUCTION

- ✦ Awarded the Department of the Year Award in 2003 by the American Psychological Association of Graduate Students & I/O Program Ranked 8th in the Nation by U.S. News and World Report's Top Graduate Schools for 2010.

## WELCOME TO THE USF GRADUATE PSYCHOLOGY PROGRAM

### Mission Statement

The Department of Psychology is dedicated to furthering the science of psychology through research and teaching at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Our faculty and students study, among other things behavior, cognition, emotion, health, motivation, and personality in both humans and nonhumans. Successful graduates will function as independent scientists who effectively apply scientific principles and methods to contribute to the body of knowledge and to solutions that will enhance the human condition. This goal is achieved by helping students acquire knowledge and application of psychological theories, research findings, methodology, ethics, and appropriate professional practices. The Department prides itself on the diversity of its graduates who are recruited from many countries around the world.

### Accreditation

The name of our regional accrediting body is the Southern Association for Colleges and Schools. The program in Clinical Psychology is accredited by the American Psychological Association and is also a member of the Academy of Psychological Clinical Sciences.

### Degree Program

The Ph.D. degree is offered in Clinical, Cognition/Neuroscience/Social and Industrial/Organizational Psychology. You may not enter the program with the intention of obtaining only a master's degree.

### Program Emphases

The doctoral programs in psychology at the University of South Florida share a common goal: to train graduate students as independent scholars as they affiliate with one or more of the broad spectrum of research programs carried out by our faculty. By emphasizing the importance of research, teaching, and other scholarly endeavors, we hope to instill in our graduates a firm commitment to the pursuit of knowledge as well as a strong determination to find solutions for pressing human problems. To facilitate this goal, our program is divided into three areas:

- Clinical
- Cognition, Neuroscience, & Social
- Industrial/Organizational

Although we encourage students to work with faculty members from other areas, we require all students to apply to one of the three programs. Please visit our department's website (<http://psychology.usf.edu/>) for more information.

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# CLINICAL PROGRAM

The Ph.D. Program in Clinical Psychology is fully accredited by the American Psychological Association, and is a member of the Academy of Psychological Clinical Sciences. Our program is firmly committed to training students to advance scientific knowledge and foster the application of evidence-based procedures to human psychological problems. Adopting a clinical scientist model of training, students receive vigorous academic and research preparation plus extensive training in a wide range of clinical assessments and interventions. Students are carefully selected from a large pool of applicants based on their promise as future leaders and innovators in the evolving field of clinical psychology. Students work closely with a major advisor in a

research apprentice training model. Major advisors and students are matched at the time an offer of admission is made based on shared research interests. However, these relationships may change if a student's interests change. In this training model, the majority of students graduate with publications and conference presentations co-authored with their major professors. Students must successfully complete a curriculum balanced with required clinical-core courses, courses in substantive areas of psychology outside the clinical area, and a selection of advanced seminars chosen from a variety of special topics (e.g., Health Psychology, Substance Use and Abuse, Mood Disorders, Cultural Diversity, Neuropsychology, and

New Paradigms in Psychology). In addition, students enroll in supervised clinical practica each semester beginning in their second year.

The training goals of the Clinical Psychology Program are:

- To provide a thorough grasp and understanding of the scientific foundations in general psychology.
- To insure a sound understanding of research methodology and the necessary skills of data analysis.
- To provide a broad spectrum of training in clinical and professional skills.

The Clinical Psychology Program is fortunate to have a unique cluster of campus and community training facilities available for student placement. These facilities provide opportunities for both clinical training and research experience. Besides the Departmental Psychological Services Center, other campus training sites include the Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute; the Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute; the USF Memory Disorders Clinic; the USF Counseling Center for Human Development, and USF Department of Pediatrics. Off campus training facilities include the Tampa V.A. Hospital, located across the street from the College of Medicine; Hillsborough County School System; and various agencies in the Tampa Bay area. It is worth noting that two of these sites (Tampa VA, University Counseling Center) also function as APA-approved internships. Another APA-approved internship site, the Bay Pines VA Hospital, is located about an hour's drive from campus.

The Clinical Program is a member of the Academy of Psychological Clinical Science, which is a coalition of doctoral training programs that share a common goal of producing and applying scientific knowledge to the assessment, understanding, and amelioration of human problems. Membership in the Academy is granted only after a thorough peer review process. Membership in the Academy reflects our Program's commitment to excellence in scientific training, and to using clinical science as the foundation for designing, implementing, and evaluating assessment and intervention procedures.



# CLINICAL PROGRAM

Although the field of clinical psychology has made major strides since 1896, many questions remain unanswered as we strive to help those who suffer from a wide array of human psychological problems. We believe that clinical psychologists have a unique role, obligation, and opportunity in this endeavor. Clinical psychologists are the only mental health professionals rigorously trained to apply scientific methods to the identification, understanding, and treatment of mental health problems. The world desperately needs highly trained professionals who can advance the field by generating new findings and by fostering the application of evidence-based knowledge to psychological problems. Our goal in accepting graduate students is to identify and recruit individuals who wish to join us as we strive to improve the psychological well-being of society by applying the tools of science.

Our program is firmly committed to a clinical scientist training model. Students receive a thorough grounding in the scientific foundations of general psychology, are taught the most up-to-date concepts in research methodology and data analysis, and are trained comprehensively in clinical and professional skills. Clinical course work and practica emphasize the integration of scientific principles and the use of empirical evidence and validated theoretical models in guiding clinical practice.

The objective of our program is to provide comprehensive training in psychology as a basic mission, and broad-based training in clinical psychology as a specialty. We intend for our students to be sufficiently trained so that a variety of career options are possible for them. Beyond this basic objective, however, we hope to provide training that will enable our students to make an impact on the field in whatever specialty niche they pursue. The field of clinical psychology has been in flux since its inception. Merely training students in current practices does not sufficiently prepare them for changes that will occur in the field, nor does it prepare them to become innovators in the field. *Our training program's primary goal is to produce graduates who will participate in the discourse that occurs among scholars and practitioners at the highest levels of psychology throughout their careers and who will have a significant impact on the field.* To achieve this goal, students must receive balanced training in the science and the scientific practice of psychology. We believe that those individuals who have a firm appreciation for the problems encountered in clinical practice can make the most meaningful contributions to scientific knowledge; similarly we believe that it is only by gaining a true appreciation for the science of psychology that one can provide informed and competent service.



The field of clinical psychology is very young. It began a little more than 110 years ago, in 1896. At that time, Dr. Lightner Witmer established the first psychological clinic, named the field "clinical psychology," and created the first clinical psychology journal called the *Psychological Clinic*. At the dawn of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century the American Psychological Association, which began in 1892, had fewer than 100 members. The first doctoral programs in clinical psychology appeared in 1948, little more than 60 years ago.

## Clinical Faculty

Thomas Brandon	health psychology, addictive behaviors, smoking cessation
Cynthia Cimino	neuropsychology – emotion, attention, memory, degenerative disorders
Maria dePerczel-Goodwin	child and family, behavior analysis and therapy, child and adolescent suicide risk
Ellis Gesten	social problem-solving and communication skills in children and families, preventive intervention research, psychotherapy process and outcome
Mark Goldman	alcoholism, substance abuse, psychotherapy, neuropsychology
Paul Jacobsen	behavioral and psychosocial aspects of cancer
Marc Karver	child and adolescent mental health, treatment processes and outcomes, suicide prevention
Bill Kinder	psychological assessment, behavioral medicine/health psychology, human sexuality
Vicky Phares, Area Director	developmental psychopathology in the context of the father-child relationship, clinical assessment
Jonathan Rottenberg	emotion and its pathology, with emphasis on Major Depressive Disorder; temporal dynamics of emotion, emotion and social functioning, psychophysiology
William Sacco	psychosocial aspects of diabetes and other health problems; depression; social-cognition in interpersonal relationships involving people with psychological disorders
Charles Spielberger (Prof. Emeritus)	behavioral medicine and health psychology; effects of the experience, expression, and control of anger on cancer, hypertension, and cardiovascular disorders; theory and measurement of anxiety and curiosity; job stress and stress management; cross-cultural research on emotion; assessment and treatment of test anxiety; personality and learning
Kevin Thompson	body image, eating disorders

# COGNITION, NEUROSCIENCE, & SOCIAL PROGRAM

The Cognition, Neuroscience, & Social faculty provides an intensive and individually tailored Ph.D. program. Beginning in the first year, students choose and then work closely with a faculty advisor to develop a specific research focus based on shared research interests. Students create individually tailored programs to fit their interests and areas of specialization. Students may specialize within a variety of areas, including cognitive science, behavioral neuroscience, and social psychology. Interdisciplinary skills are emphasized. We also offer a unique interdisciplinary Ph.D. program (in collaboration with the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders) focusing on language, speech, and hearing sciences. Our faculty is congenial and many students have worked with several advisors.

The Department and University provide a wide range of research facilities to students. These include the University's computing services which offer Internet connections and e-mail, as well as departmental computers for lab use and word processing. Labs are available for image processing and video taping, modeling memory structures, psychophysics, and neuroanatomical and neurochemical work. The University operates child care centers that are available for research purposes. The University libraries are conveniently located and contain extensive collections of relevant journals and books.

The Ph.D. program usually takes four to six years of dedicated effort. Students are expected to conduct research actively throughout this period. Our Graduate Handbook lays out specific program requirements and other information about our graduate programs. Over the past 20 years, all students making good progress have been financially supported by means of teaching assistantships, research assistantships, or fellowships.

Our graduates are competitive - earning jobs in the academic world and in a variety of applied research settings. Our Ph.D.s' technical abilities and problem-solving skills are well regarded by potential employers.

Our goal is to educate scientists who will successfully compete for academic and applied positions and who will contribute meaningful research in their chosen field. We strive to

- expose students to a variety of experimental methodologies and analytical techniques
- train students to apply sound experimental techniques to address basic and applied research problems
- foster knowledge of and an appreciation for the cognitive, neural, and social aspects of behavior



### Cognition, Neuroscience, and Social Faculty

Jennifer Bosson	self-threats, social role norms, and self-esteem and interpersonal functioning
Judy Bryant, Area Director	language development, language socialization
David Diamond	animal models of stress and memory, synaptic plasticity
Manny Donchin	executive control system, physiological neuroimaging, brain computer interfaces
Marcie Finkelstein	prosocial behavior, volunteerism, Organizational Citizenship Behavior
Jamie Goldenberg	social psychology, terror management theory, the body and sex, objectification of women, health applications
Cheryl Kirstein	behavioral neuroscience, neural substrate of addiction
Ken Malmberg	representations in memory, mathematical and computational modeling, aging and memory
Tiina Ojanen	social development during middle childhood, adolescence, and college years
Geoff Potts	neural mechanisms of emotion, motivation, and attention
Doug Rohrer	learning and memory
Kristen Salomon	social psychology, cardiovascular psychophysiology, health psychology, stress and coping
Tom Sanocki	vision and cognition, attention, cognitive engineering
Sandra Schneider	judgment and decision making, framing
Toru Shimizu	comparative neuroscience, visual information processing, evolution of brain and cognition
Joe Vandello	social psychology and cultural psychology, cultural influences on violence

# PROGRAM OVERVIEW & FACULTY

## INDUSTRIAL & ORGANIZATIONAL PROGRAM

The primary objective of the doctoral program in industrial/organizational psychology at USF is the development of highly capable behavioral scientists who are able to apply their psychological skills and knowledge effectively to the solution of human problems in complex organizations. Our program is based on standards developed by the Society for Industrial Organizational Psychology to train scientist/practitioners. Through a combination of research, coursework,

and internship experience, the program is designed to prepare students for careers in academic, research and applied settings. The Ph.D. is a research degree, thus research is an important and central focus of the program. All students are encouraged to develop an early and continuing commitment to research. The program emphasizes quantitative research methods as well as coursework in both industrial and organizational content areas.

USF I/O Program  
Ranked 8th in the Nation  
by U.S. News and World  
Report's Top Graduate  
Schools for 2010.

### OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY (OHP) CONCENTRATION

A training concentration is offered in occupational health psychology (OHP) to all department students as well as students outside of psychology. This is an interdisciplinary curriculum consisting of two seminars from Psychology and two minor courses from Public Health. Additional activities, such as a colloquium series, are also available. For I/O students, the OHP coursework fits within program requirements as electives.

### OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY (OHP) TRAINEESHIPS

The I/O program has been awarded a National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health training grant to provide in depth interdisciplinary training in OHP that goes beyond the OHP concentration. This training consists of the same coursework as the OHP concentration plus 3 additional courses in the College of Public Health. A number of nonclassroom training experiences/opportunities also are available through this program to enhance knowledge and skills in the OHP area. Requirements for the traineeship fit within the I/O requirements. The grant can provide paid traineeships and travel funds for students who are in the program.



The I/O program currently has about 40 students, and we average about 6-8 new students each year. Our students are a very diverse group, having done their undergraduate work at a variety of universities around the U.S. and the world. Approximately 15% of our students are internationals, e.g., we have students from Barbados, China, India, Lebanon, and Turkey. Students choose a variety of careers after graduation in academia, research, and practice. Admission is competitive with about 10% to 15% of applicants accepted in a typical year.

### Industrial/Organizational Faculty

Tammy Allen	career development, mentoring relationships, work-family conflict, work-family issues, occupational health psychology
Walter Borman	organizational citizenship, job performance, personnel selection, person perception, assessment centers
Michael Brannick	team performance, team measurement, team process, Meta-analysis, research methods, data analysis
Michael D. Coovert	human factors, team collaboration, team process decay, critical thinking, computer mediated communication
Russ Johnson	motivation, leadership, self-identity, justice, attitudes, affect, personality
Edward L. Levine	joint impact of emotion and power, measurement of emotions in organizations, control systems, and HR staffing and selection
Carnot Nelson (Prof. Emeritus)	program evaluation, parent child interaction, adaptation, adaptation of innovation
Paul Spector, Area Director	counterproductive work behavior, cross-cultural/national issues, occupational health psychology, occupational stress, personality, methodology
Stephen Stark	Personality assessment, computerized adaptive testing, measurement in industry, item response theory

# TUITION, FEES, & FINANCIAL SUPPORT

## Tuition & Fees (as of August 2009)

The following are 2009-2010 fees per credit hour for graduate students. All fees are subject to change. In addition to the per hour tuition charge, all graduate students are assessed a one time \$35.00 comprehensive graduate student orientation program fee (<http://www.gpsso.usf.edu>) in their first semester of entry, \$37 flat fee each semester, technology fee, and various other fees (\$10 bank card, library fee, etc.).

<b>Tampa Campus - Cost Per Credit Hour</b>		
<b>Course Level</b>	<b>Resident</b>	<b>Non-Resident</b>
Thesis & Dissertation	\$331.79	\$818.66

## Departmental Assistantships

Under normal circumstances, students admitted to our doctoral programs receive financial support. Most of our students receive departmental assistantships. Assistantships involve part-time teaching, research, or other departmental work. For the 2009-2010 9-month academic year (fall and spring semesters), the support package for departmental assistants includes a stipend of \$13,500 and a partial tuition waiver. In Summer semesters the stipend is \$4,500; however, fewer courses and assistantships are offered and are not guaranteed. Summer registration is not required for pre-candidates without tuition waivers. We normally provide financial support for students in good standing throughout their graduate careers.



## Tuition Waivers

As of July 1, 2009 all non-resident graduate students must have established residency in Florida for 12 consecutive months prior to initial enrollment in an institution of higher learning to be eligible for in-state tuition rates. In order to be considered for Florida Residency upon entry please complete the Florida Residency Classification page of the online Graduate Application.

Graduate students who obtain a university graduate assistantship appointment of at least .25 FTE are eligible for a partial tuition waiver (which is approximately an 83% waiver). You will be required to pay the in-state balance of tuition (approximately 17%), and various fees (a one-time \$35 orientation fee upon semester of admission, \$37 flat fee each semester for all students, others may include \$10 bank card fee, library fee, technology fee, etc.). The OASIS student account system can provide you with information on the amount you owe the University after the tuition waiver.

Students with assistantships and University-sponsored fellowships will be required to take between 9 to 12 graduate credit hours each fall and spring semester (summer semester 6 credit hours) to remain eligible for the tuition waiver.

For more information on the out-of-state fees and tuition per credit, see <http://usfweb.usf.edu/controller/cashaccounting/tuition> or call (813) 974-4749 or (813) 974-3853 (for Registration related questions). Also, check with the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences or the Registrar's Office if you have specific questions regarding your tuition status.

## Students without Assistantships or Fellowships

Students who do not obtain a graduate assistantship or fellowship during any semester are not eligible for a tuition waiver or a stipend during that semester. They will be fee liable for the full amount of tuition costs (\$331.79 per credit hour for residents or \$818.66 for non-residents), plus tax and fees.

Students not on an assistantship or fellowship will only be required to enroll in the minimum amount of credit hours. Please check each program area curriculum for information on the number of credits required each year.

## TUITION, FEES, & FINANCIAL SUPPORT

### Estimated Cost of Attendance

Tuition has a set charge per credit hour. All other expenses vary according to your personal preferences (for example, whether you choose to live on or off campus).

#### Graduate Students with Graduate Assistantships of at least .25FTE\*

	Fall/Spring 9 Credits	Fall/Spring 12 Credits	Summer *** 6 Credits
<b>Full Amount of Tuition</b>	\$2,986.11	\$3,981.48	\$1,990.74
<b>Amount of Tuition Waivers*</b> (if eligible)	-2,396.16	-3,391.53	-1,597.44
<b>ESTIMATED COSTS FOR ONE SEMESTER**</b>	\$ 589.95 **	\$ 589.95 **	\$ 393.30 **

Credit hours shown are per semester. Amounts based on 2009-2010 rates (do not include fees, insurance, or taxes if applicable).

\* Graduate students who obtain a university graduate assistantship appointment of at least .25 FTE are eligible for a partial tuition waiver. Students who do not obtain a graduate assistantship or fellowship during any semester are not eligible for a tuition waiver or a stipend during that semester. They will be fee liable for the full amount of tuition costs (\$331.79 per credit hour for residents or \$818.66 for non-residents), plus tax and fees.

\*\*Not included in above costs, in addition to the per hour tuition charge, all students are assessed various fees. Flat fees of \$37 are charged one time per semester for all students, regardless of the number of hours of enrollment. A one-time \$35 orientation fee incurs only upon initial semester of admission. Other fees may include \$10 bank card fee, library fee, technology fee, etc.

\*\*\*In Summer semesters, fewer courses and assistantships are offered; however, registration is not required for pre-candidates without tuition waivers.

**tuition waivers + assistantship stipend= affordable USF graduate psychology program**



### Employer Contribution for Health Insurance

One benefit of being a Graduate Assistant is eligibility to receive a subsidy from the University to help offset part of the cost of health insurance and make it more affordable for GA's who participate in the USF Student Health Insurance Plan. The University of South Florida will pay a subsidy of \$1,385 per year of the health insurance premium for individual coverage for those GA's with a .50 FTE (20 hours per week) appointment who enroll in the USF Student Health Insurance Plan, and a subsidy of \$923 per year of the health insurance premium for individual coverage for those GA's with at least a .25 FTE (10 hours per week) appointment. The University's contribution is paid directly to the insurance company. The GA is responsible for paying the balance of the premium. GA's must enroll in the Plan during the Open Enrollment period to be eligible and insurable for the semester of employment, and must maintain eligibility throughout the semester.

For more information please visit <http://shsweb.shs.usf.edu/ins/insurance.html> and [http://www.grad.usf.edu/newsite/ga/health\\_insurance.asp](http://www.grad.usf.edu/newsite/ga/health_insurance.asp).

## TUITION, FEES, & FINANCIAL SUPPORT

### Fellowships and Scholarships

During the admissions process, the department will automatically nominate all eligible students for fellowships, scholarships, and similar awards. Students who receive such awards receive the same support package as other students but have less work obligation. Exceptions to this policy are noted below.

Among the fellowships and scholarships our students often receive are the following:

International Student Scholarship

University Graduate Fellowship

Diverse Student Success Fellowship

*This fellowship provides a \$12,000 annual stipend for 3 years.*

Dean's Award for Excellence

*This award provides a higher stipend for some Graduate Teaching Assistants (\$15,000)*

Presidential Graduate Fellowship or Foundation Graduate Fellowship

*These fellowships provide a higher stipend with full tuition coverage and enable recipients to concentrate on research with less work obligations (\$22,500)*

Listed below are sources of financial support for which you may apply. Some of these sources may limit their funding to those fulfilling certain criteria, such as a specific type of research or a certain disciplinary area. However, most students should be eligible for one or more of the following sources of support.

### Awards

Clinical Alumni Award for Citizenship

Eve Levine Graduate Teaching Award

Richard LaBarba Memorial Scholarship

### Research Funding

I/O Alumni Conference Committee Fund

The Clinical Psychology Association

Stephanie Gilbert Endowed Scholarship in Psychology

Richard F. Pride Fellowship: This award is made to minority students pursuing doctorates. See [isis2.admin.usf.edu/ibl.pride.htm](http://isis2.admin.usf.edu/ibl.pride.htm)

The Valerie Reed Memorial Book Scholarship

The Thomas Tighe Graduate Student Research Fund

USF Women's Club Grace Allen Graduate Scholarship: This scholarship supports USF graduate students who have completed all coursework and are working on their dissertations. See [www.grad.usf.edu/fellowship.asp](http://www.grad.usf.edu/fellowship.asp)

### Travel

Herbert H. Meyer Fellowship

Travel Grants: USF's Graduate and Professional Student Organization, Conference Presentation Grant Program, [www.gpso.usf.edu](http://www.gpso.usf.edu)

The College of Arts and Sciences Graduate Travel Award

Clinical psychology graduate students may be eligible for small awards for travel to professional meetings and conferences at which they make presentations.

The American Psychological Association offers travel grants to support attendance at the annual convention ([www.apa.org](http://www.apa.org)).

### Associations

Honor Society Fellowships: The local chapter of Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society has a fellowship for a USF graduate student, [www.cas.usf.edu/lis/gen/phikappaphischolar.html](http://www.cas.usf.edu/lis/gen/phikappaphischolar.html).

Sigma Xi's funding program, Grants in Aid of Research Program, see [www.sigmaxi.org/programs/giar/guides.html](http://www.sigmaxi.org/programs/giar/guides.html)

American Psychological Association, American Psychological Society, and National Science Foundation: APA, APS, and NSF research fellowships and scholarships to graduate students. See [www.apa.org](http://www.apa.org), [www.psychologicalscience.org](http://www.psychologicalscience.org), and [www.nsf.gov](http://www.nsf.gov).

Foundation Awards: The Ford Foundation Predoctoral and Dissertation Fellowships for Underrepresented Minorities program awards fellowships, see [www.nationalacademies.org/fellowships](http://www.nationalacademies.org/fellowships)

The Spencer Foundation's Dissertation Fellowship Program, see [www.spencer.org](http://www.spencer.org)

The American Associate of University Women Educational Foundation provides American Fellowships [www.aauw.org/fqa/fellowships\\_grants/american.cfm](http://www.aauw.org/fqa/fellowships_grants/american.cfm)

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Check List (Please put your full name on all materials. Please send all materials together.)

1. **USF Graduate Admissions Application:** Complete the FACTS application on-line at <http://www.grad.usf.edu/graduate-admissions.asp>. PLEASE NOTE: Graduate Admissions does not accept paper applications. If you are a McNair Scholar applicant, please submit the Application Fee Waiver Verification Request form BEFORE submitting the online application: ([http://www.grad.usf.edu/newsite/forms/admissions/Application\\_Fee\\_Waiver\\_Verification\\_Form.pdf](http://www.grad.usf.edu/newsite/forms/admissions/Application_Fee_Waiver_Verification_Form.pdf))

International Applicants are also required to submit the Financial Statement form, Confirmation of Financial Support form, Visa Transfer form (if applicable), and a copy of your passport. International applicants should refer to the following Graduate Admissions International website for procedures and forms: <http://www.grad.usf.edu/graduate-admissions-international.asp>

### Application and Concentrations Codes:

AS: College Code (College of Arts & Sciences)

PhD: Degree Code (PhD program)

PSY: Major Code (Psychology)

5828: Institution Code (ETS GRE Scores)

2001: Department Code (ETS GRE Scores)

Note that you can apply to only ONE area of concentration.

PSC: Clinical Psychology

PCN: Cognition, Neuroscience, and Social Psychology

PSI: Industrial/Organizational Psychology

2. **Application Fee:** The application fee is \$30 for all applicants. The fee is required with your application, even if you previously attended USF. When you apply online through FACTS.org you can either pay with a credit card (Visa, MasterCard, Discover) or by E-Check. If you encounter any problems with the on-line submission, please contact Graduate Admissions by email [admissions@grad.usf.edu](mailto:admissions@grad.usf.edu) or call 1-866-974-8800 toll free in U.S. only, or (813) 974-8800. If you are a McNair Scholar applicant, please submit the Application Fee Waiver Verification Request form ([http://www.grad.usf.edu/newsite/forms/admissions/Application\\_Fee\\_Waiver\\_Verification\\_Form.pdf](http://www.grad.usf.edu/newsite/forms/admissions/Application_Fee_Waiver_Verification_Form.pdf)) BEFORE submitting the online application.

3. **Residency Classification Form:** As of July 1, 2009 all non-resident graduate students must have established residency in Florida for 12 consecutive months prior to initial enrollment in an institution of higher learning to be eligible for in-state tuition rates. Applicants desiring classification as a Florida resident for tuition paying purposes must complete the Florida Residency Classification page of the online Graduate Application. Applicants with incomplete forms will be classified as non-Florida residents. Please see the Tuition Waivers section of this brochure, and policies and procedures on the Graduate Admissions and Registrar websites at [http://www.registrar.usf.edu/Residency/General\\_Procedures.php](http://www.registrar.usf.edu/Residency/General_Procedures.php).

4. **GPA Worksheet:** A GPA Calculator Worksheet is available at this link (<http://download.grad.usf.edu/admissions/gpa.pdf>) and is required with your application packet to the Psychology Department. Use only the courses completed after the term during which you earned 60 semester hours (or 90 quarter hours) or after the term during which you completed an Associates of Arts degree (AA). That is, the undergraduate GPA should be calculated only on your upper-level coursework. Please be sure to also enter your calculated upper-level GPA on the online USF application itself. International applicants are exempt from this if their institution uses an incalculable grading system.

5. **Transcripts:** Two (2) official transcripts from each post-secondary institution attended are required with your application packet. Transcripts should be sent directly to you. Submit both copies of the transcripts in the Registrar's sealed envelopes. Certificates, diplomas and transcripts in a language other than English must be accompanied by a certified, complete and literal English translation. You do not need to request transcripts from USF if your bachelor degree work was completed at USF. If you have one or two semesters before you obtain your bachelor's degree, you may apply as long as your upper-level GPA remains at least 3.0. You will need to request additional official transcripts showing that your bachelor's degree was awarded before being officially accepted by the university.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

### Check List (cont.)

6. **GRE Scores:** Only the General GRE test (Verbal, Quantitative and Analytical writing) is required. Of the three scores, the verbal and quantitative are generally the most important. The subject exam is optional. Allow no less than 6 weeks before the program deadlines to complete the electronic exams. Allow 10-12 weeks before the program deadlines for the written exams. Enter your GRE scores on the USF application. The Psychology Department does not waive the GRE exam for our applicants

a. **Electronic ETS Scores:** Request that Educational Testing Services <http://www.ets.org/gre> (or P. O. Box 6000, Princeton, NJ 08541-6000) send your scores electronically to USF. The institution code for USF is 5828.

b. **GRE Score Report:** A hard copy of your official GRE Score Report is required along with the other application packet documents mailed to the Psychology Department. The score report will be sent to you in the mail by ETS. The department needs the copy to show exams percentiles and optional subject scores which are not available electronically.

Although we have no formal cutoffs for GPA or GRE scores we have a strong preference for GRE V and Q scores each above the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile. Here are the average GPA and GRE scores of 2009's entering class to use as a guideline: class as a whole 3.77 and 1302 (V 588, Q 714), in Clinical 3.79 and 1298 (V 607, Q 691), in CNS 3.73 and 1273 (V 558, Q 715), and in I/O 3.76 and 1331 (V 581, Q 750). Many students admitted into our program have scores lower and higher than these scores, and these are not the sole criteria for admission.

7. **Personal Statement:** Please provide a brief statement (2-3 pages) indicating your past and current interests and activities relevant to a doctoral program in Psychology. Feel free to list the faculty in our department whose research interests you believe match your own. Also, comment on your career goals. This statement is required with your application packet. (CNS applicants: Please describe your research experiences, explaining the purpose of the studies in which you were involved, your contributions to this research, and the skills you gained. Connect these and other experiences to your current research interests and to your future career goals. In your statement, explicitly state the concentration to which you are applying (Cognition & Cognitive Neuroscience, Behavioral Neuroscience, Social Psychology, Interdisciplinary Program in Speech/Language/Hearing) and the CNS faculty member(s) with whom you wish to work.)

8. **Three (3) Letters of Recommendation:** At least three (3) letters of recommendation are required with your application packet (max 5). Letter writers should sign across the sealed flap of their letterhead envelope and send the envelope to you. The USF confidentiality statement is not required, but is recommended ([http://psychology.usf.edu/policies/forms/Letter\\_of\\_Recommendation.pdf](http://psychology.usf.edu/policies/forms/Letter_of_Recommendation.pdf)). The three letters must remain sealed in their signed letterhead envelopes and be mailed to the department with your application packet.

9. Any other **supporting materials** (e.g., vita, Psychology Subject Test score, writing samples): Do not miss the deadline dates waiting for your Subject exam score, if you choose to take that section. Submit the required General GRE test scores by the deadline, and then later you may supplement your completed packet with the optional subject score when it becomes available.

10. **Submission:** The Psychology Department is a direct-receipt program. This means that you must send all application materials directly to the department. Therefore, it is important that you carefully follow all of the instructions listed by the Psychology Department. The admissions policies can vary from year to year, so please carefully review the policies and forms during preparation, and re-check them before you submit your application packet, to ensure you are following the most up-to-date instructions. You will receive via the email address listed on your application notification of receipt of your application packet and decision. Due to the heavy volume of applications, please remain patient and do not call the department.

Please send ALL of your materials in one packet directly to:

Department of Psychology  
University of South Florida  
4202 East Fowler Avenue, PCD4118G  
Attn: Graduate Admissions Coordinator  
Tampa, Florida 33620-7200

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

### How to Apply

The Psychology Department at the University of South Florida is a direct receipt program, which means that all application materials should be sent directly to the department (not to the Graduate Admissions office). We only process applications for the fall term of entry beginning in August.

ONLY COMPLETED APPLICATIONS RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE THE DEADLINES WILL BE REVIEWED. MATERIALS POSTMARKED ON THE DUE DATE WILL BE CONSIDERED LATE.

<b>Domestic Applicants *</b>	<b>Deadline for receipt of application</b>
Clinical	December 15 (Note will change to December 1 effective December 1, 2010 for the Fall 2011 application cycle.)
Cognition, Neuroscience, & Social	January 15
Industrial/Organizational	January 15
<b>International Applicants</b>	<b>Deadline for receipt of application</b>
Clinical	December 15 (Note will change to December 1 effective December 1, 2010 for the Fall 2011 application cycle.)
Cognition, Neuroscience, & Social	January 2
Industrial/Organizational	January 2



### Late Receipt

Application packets received after the deadline dates will NOT be considered for the current year's term of entry. You may contact the Psychology Department's graduate admissions coordinator in writing before the next year's deadline and request that your previous year's application materials be considered for the next year's term of entry. You will have to submit another application and fee. The General GRE scores remain valid for a five-year period from the date of administration. A new personal goals statement is recommended to update the faculty on your activities during the year. The three previous letters of recommendation can be considered if they are no more than one year old. You may submit more current letters with your written request if desired.

### Contacts

Because of the high volume of applications we receive, we request that you not call the department to confirm that your application has been received or the status. Communication and decision from the department's Graduate Admissions Coordinator and from the Graduate Admissions Staff will be via the email address listed on the application. We also advise that you visit our departmental website (<http://psychology.usf.edu/>).

Psychology Department  
Main Phone: 813-974-2492  
Website: <http://psychology.usf.edu/>

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### Admission Questions

#### **What can I do to improve my chances of being selected for your program?**

Nearly all entering students have worked as research assistants. Many clinical applicants have also had experience in applied settings, usually as a volunteer. However, for all areas (Clinical, I/O and CNS) research experience is most important. Many entering students have presented their research at a conference and some have published their research. Only a small percentage of applicants are selected for the Clinical and I/O programs. Therefore it is recommended that applicants apply to several universities (10 or more would not be unreasonable for Clinical applicants). Following this strategy will increase your chances of acceptance into at least one graduate program. The APA website Students section <<http://www.apa.org/students/>> contains resources for applying to graduate schools.

#### **Can I apply if I just want a Master's degree?**

No. You may not enter the program with the intention of obtaining only a master's degree. If you cannot commit to the Ph.D. program, you should investigate the large number of schools that offer a terminal master's program in Psychology.

#### **Can I apply if I'm not scheduled to take the GRE before the deadline?**

No. Your application cannot be processed without GRE scores and a hard copy of the GRE Score Report, which you should submit to the Psychology Department with your application packet. The GRE computer adaptive exam should be taken no later than the beginning of November or December. Scores from the written GRE exam take approximately six weeks to reach USF. If you take the written GRE exam, please plan your examination date for September or before. GREs taken after October will not reach the office by our deadlines of December 15th (Clinical --Note will change to December 1 effective December 1, 2010 for the Fall 2011 application cycle) or January 15th (CNS and I/O).

#### **Can I apply if I won't receive my bachelor's degree until after the deadline?**

Yes. If you have one or two semesters before obtaining your bachelor's degree, you may apply as long as your upper-level GPA remains at least a 3.0. You will need to request additional official transcripts showing that your bachelor's degree was awarded before being officially accepted by the university.

#### **Can I apply if my bachelor's degree is not in Psychology?**

Yes. While most applicants have an undergraduate degree in Psychology, applicants who are particularly strong in related areas (e.g., research experiences, natural sciences, business for I/O applicants) are eligible for admission. Regardless, it is highly desirable for applicants to have at least a minimal background in Psychology and in research methods (e.g., Introductory Psychology, Experimental Design, Statistics).

#### **Do I need to take the Psychology Subject section of the GRE test?**

No, only the General GRE tests (Verbal, Quantitative and Analytical writing) are required. Of the three scores, the verbal and quantitative are generally the most important.

#### **A person writing one of my recommendation letters will be away from the office and may not be able to send me the letter in time to include with my application packet. Can she/he send the letter directly to you?**

We first suggest asking another person to provide a letter of recommendation. However, as long as all other application documents are received together in one packet before the deadline, we will accept one letter sent separately and received before the deadline if it is in a sealed, official letterhead envelope signed across the back flap.

#### **Is there a university form that needs to accompany letters of recommendation?**

The form is not required, but is preferred. The forms are available for your use at [http://download.grad.usf.edu/admissions/Letter\\_of\\_Recommendation.pdf](http://download.grad.usf.edu/admissions/Letter_of_Recommendation.pdf). Some faculty prefer that you sign the confidentiality waiver before they write your letter. We require that letters be sealed, that the recommenders use official letterhead, and that they sign across the back flap.

#### **Is the Immunization form required with my application packet by the deadline?**

No, the Immunization form is to alert you of the policy and is required only if admitted before registration.

#### **Is there a form, other than the graduate application form, that I need to submit for USF fellowships or assistantships from the program?**

No, the department will automatically nominate applicants meeting eligibility requirements for the various assistantships, USF fellowships and scholarships offered at the university for incoming students.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### Program Questions

#### **In what areas of research is your faculty currently involved?**

You can find summaries of faculty members' work at our website: <http://psychology.usf.edu/>. If you want to learn even more about particular faculty members, you may email them at the address listed on their internet web pages.

#### **What is the average number of years to complete the program?**

The entire Ph.D. program usually takes approximately five to six years to complete. Clinical students must also complete a one-year internship. I/O students must complete the program in six years.

#### **Would I be able to continue working full-time at my current job if I enter your program?**

No.

#### **I have already received a Master's degree from another institution. Would I be able to have it transferred towards the Ph.D. degree in your program?**

Many students already have an M.A. and, understandably, would like to obtain full credit for their degree. It is sometimes possible to transfer credit for courses that are virtually identical to those offered by our department; however, no final decision about such courses can be made prior to your acceptance into the program. Each individual case must be evaluated by the program area after admission. Likewise, it is sometimes possible to obtain credit for a completed master's thesis if it is judged equivalent in quality to theses conducted by students in our program. After acceptance into the program, a faculty committee will review your thesis to determine whether it can be transferred.

#### **What kind of housing is available for your graduate students?**

The cost of living in Tampa is affordable compared with many large cities. Most one-bedroom apartments rent for approximately \$600-700/month, and most two-bedroom apartments rent for \$750-900/month. There are many nice apartment complexes close to campus and there is a campus shuttle (the Bull Runner) that services this area. There is also a graduate dorm on campus called Magnolia Housing, which is very close to the Psychology building ([http://www.housing.usf.edu/hallsindex\\_magnolia.html](http://www.housing.usf.edu/hallsindex_magnolia.html)).

#### **Do you offer your program courses on-line?**

No. Our courses are conducted in on-campus classrooms and labs.

#### **Do you allow part-time students?**

No. Students admitted to the graduate program are required to pursue their studies full time.

#### **Do you offer a program in Forensic Psychology?**

No. Although courses may include forensic psychology content, we do not have a specific concentration in forensic psychology. Please contact the Department of Mental Health Law & Policy, Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute of USF (<http://mhlp.fmhi.usf.edu>).

#### **Are there other programs at USF that offer a Master's degree in Psychology and related disciplines?**

At USF there are excellent programs in:

- School Psychology (<http://www.coedu.usf.edu/schoolpsych>, 813-974-9472)
- Social Work ([http://www.cas.usf.edu/social\\_work](http://www.cas.usf.edu/social_work), 813-974-2063)
- Public Health and Social Work (<http://publichealth.usf.edu/dualphsw.html>, 813-974-6669)
- Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling ([http://www.cas.usf.edu/rehab\\_counseling](http://www.cas.usf.edu/rehab_counseling), 813-974-2855)
- Counselor Education (<http://www.coedu.usf.edu/deptpsysoc/ce/ce.htm>, 813-974-3515)
- Aging Studies (<http://agingstudies.usf.edu>, 813-974-2414)
- Applied Behavior Analysis (<http://aba.grad.usf.edu/>, 813-974-3096)

Other universities offer additional programs at the master's and doctoral levels.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### Course Questions

#### **Is it possible to take just a course or two at the graduate level, and how could I do that?**

Perhaps, if the instructor permits you to do so as a non-degree seeking student. Our graduate-level courses are specifically designed for students already in our doctoral program. If you are a non-degree seeking student or in another graduate program, you must contact the instructor of the course and receive his/her permission. Then you must submit the online departmental Permission to Register form [https://web1.cas.usf.edu/psy/class\\_permit/](https://web1.cas.usf.edu/psy/class_permit/) and an appropriate department staff member will enter a permit into the USF system then contact you. You would also need to apply as a Non-Degree Seeking student through the Admission's Office and then register for the course (<http://www.usf.edu/Admission/non-degree-seeking.asp>).

#### **What courses are you offering this semester?**

You can search the university's online schedule of courses through the USF OASIS website <http://www.registrar.usf.edu/ssearch/search.php>

### **OASIS** Online Access Student Information System

- This is a real-time search providing the most up-to-date information.
- Results are sorted by Department, Subject, Course and Section.

### Degree Questions

#### **What career, job, and salary options will be available to me after receiving a B.A./B.S., M.A. or Ph.D. degree?**

Research resources are available at The Salary and Labor Market Trends section of the USF Career Center website <http://www.career.usf.edu>. The American Psychological Association (APA) Research website also contains information at <http://research.apa.org/> and <http://www.apa.org/students/>.

#### **What is the difference between a Ph.D. and a Psy.D.?**

In Clinical Psychology, the two most common doctoral degrees are the Ph.D. degree and the Psy.D. degree. The Ph.D. is the oldest doctorate and is generally regarded as a research degree. Though many professional psychology programs award it, they typically emphasize research training and the integration of research with applied or practical training. The Psy.D. degree, first awarded in the late 1960's and increasingly popular among professional schools, is a professional degree in psychology (similar to the M.D. in medicine). Programs awarding the Psy.D. degree place major emphasis on preparing their graduates for professional practice as practitioner-scholars and less emphasis on research training. Presently about 75% of the doctoral degree programs in Clinical Psychology award the Ph.D. degree.

#### **Do I need a license to practice psychology?**

Requirements for license to practice in the mental health field are not standardized across states. In most states, however, you need some type of license or certificate to practice psychology. The Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB) has a website that provides information at [www.asppb.org](http://www.asppb.org). The Florida Board of Psychology website provides licensure information at [http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/psychology/psy\\_lic\\_req.html](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/psychology/psy_lic_req.html), and licensure exam information at [www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/Exam/home.htm](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/Exam/home.htm). To search the Florida Statutes and Constitution for job licensure requirements, go to <http://www.flsenate.gov./Statutes>.