

## M.A. in Research and Experimental Psychology (REx)

*Mastering Your Future in Psychology*

### Program Overview

The Masters of Arts degree program in Research and Experimental Psychology affords you an opportunity for advanced study of psychological theory and research. For our students, obtaining a graduate-level degree in psychology often represents a critical step in their progression toward a variety of career objectives.

### Purpose and Goals of the MA Program

#### *To ultimately earn a Ph.D. in Psychology*

The coursework and experience obtained in the REx M.A. Program is designed to enhance students' credentials when applying to highly competitive doctoral programs.

#### *To succeed in industry or a research setting*

The REx M.A.'s emphasis on the mastery of statistical and methodological procedures, research experience, and critical thinking produces graduates well-suited for careers in business, government, and research settings. Many of our students work in Silicon Valley tech companies after graduation.

### Research Programs and Interests

The research interests of the REx M.A. faculty are diverse and span many domains of Psychology. These active research programs have resulted in hundreds of publications and substantial support from national granting agencies such as: National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), National Science Foundation (NSF), and the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Additionally, some of our professors perform contract work with Silicon Valley tech companies that can provide valuable hands-on experience for our students.

### Research Areas with Sample Topics

#### COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY

Attention, decision making, psycholinguistics, memory (including effects of aging), multiple object tracking, and visual search.

#### BIOLOGICAL-BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE PSYCHOLOGY

Stress and cognition, psychopharmacology, and biological factors influencing memory.

#### DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY

Reasoning in young children, teaching and learning across the lifespan, cross-cultural comparisons, and socialization of emotion, ethnic identity, and gender.

#### HUMAN FACTORS

Cybersecurity, user experience testing, gamification, health care, web page perception, autonomous vehicles, and virtual environments.

#### SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

Social cognition, affect, culturalization, stereotyping, prejudice, intergroup relations, and the self.

#### PERSONALITY PSYCHOLOGY

The influence of personality on creative achievement, scientific thinking, linguistic style, interpersonal relations, and prejudice.



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## Specific Course Requirements

Program of Study	Course	Units Req.
<b>Core Domain (12 units)</b>		
General Seminar	PSYC 280	3
Advanced Statistics	STAT 245	3
Experimental Psychology	PSYC 220	3
Multivariate Analysis	STAT 235	3
<b>Breadth Domain (12 units)</b>		
Cognition	PSYC 235	3
Developmental	PSYC 204	3
Learning	PSYC 255	3
Perception	PSYC 256	3
Personality	PSYC 200	3
Physiological	PSYC 230	3
Social	PSYC 254	3
<b>Applied Domain (6 units)</b>		
Elective*	100- or 200-level	3
Thesis	PSYC 299	3
<b>Total Graduate Units Req.</b>		<b>30</b>

\* Other courses (100 level or 200 level), either within or outside the psychology department, may be approved upon consultation with the MA Program Coordinator.

## General Departmental Degree Requirement

Your combined total of approved graduate work must be 30 units from the M.A. Degree Program.

You must complete at least 30 approved graduate units, 21 within the Psychology Department.

Upon consultation with the M.A. Coordinator, selected upper-division undergraduate courses may be taken to fulfill M.A. Degree requirements.

You must complete and defend an acceptable thesis. This thesis will be an empirical investigation of some originality and be of publication caliber.

Finally, all graduate students are required to demonstrate their competency in technical writing.



## How to Apply

Applications are submitted through Cal State Apply and must include answers to REx-specific questions. Applications are only accepted for the Fall semester and are available between October and February of each year. Deadline for applying is February 1st.

**For extensive information as a prospective graduate student:**

<http://www.sjsu.edu/graduateadmissions/>

**To apply to the University:** <https://www2.calstate.edu/apply>

**REx MA Application Instructions:**

[http://www.sjsu.edu/psych/Graduates/experimentalpsych/MA\\_Psychology\\_Application\\_Instructions.pdf](http://www.sjsu.edu/psych/Graduates/experimentalpsych/MA_Psychology_Application_Instructions.pdf)

**To be eligible, you must:**

Submit a university graduate application and meet the University Graduate Studies admissions requirements

(<http://www.sjsu.edu/graduateadmissions/admission-requirements/index.html>)

Have the equivalent of a U.S. baccalaureate degree and a minimum of 30 semester units in psychology.

Have a minimum GPA of 3.0 in the last 60 semester units (or 90 quarter units) of all college and/or university coursework and a minimum GPA of 3.0 in all college and/or university psychology courses.

Submit three letters of recommendation.

Submit all application material to the Psychology Department and the University by posted deadlines.

## Why San José State University?

One of the 200 top research universities in the nation, SJSU offers rigorous course work and research opportunities to more than 34,000 undergraduate and graduate students in seven colleges.

San Jose State University's location in the Silicon Valley makes it an exceptionally rewarding learning environment for students.

Silicon Valley firms and agencies seek SJSU students for internships, summer work programs and for assistance with research and development projects.

Silicon Valley firms employ more graduates from SJSU than from any other university in the nation.

Dr. Evan M. Palmer

Program Director,

M.A. in Research and Experimental Psychology

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