

Psychology Virtual Gator Day Q&A (2020)

1. What is the goal of the Psychology Department? What makes the Department unique? We invite you to read our [Mission Statement](#). Department faculty represent seven different sub-disciplines in Psychology which provides a wide range of courses for students. Faculty are actively involved in research, but many have experience as practitioners as well. Our broad focus and balance between science and community involvement is a unique selling point.
2. Will the Fall 2020 semester be online? We don't know at this point. We have been asked to prepare for the possibility for online instruction. Although no final decision has been made, we expect one shortly.
3. Is the Psychology major impacted? Yes. There are more students who want to be Psychology majors than our resources can handle, so we control the number of students in the major and who can take our classes. For majors, this is a positive because it means that classes are easier to get. If you are not a Psychology major but wish to apply, applications are accepted each fall.
4. What are the next steps for new students? Please refer to this helpful link: [New Student Next Steps](#).
5. When will I register for classes? During orientation you will receive advising and will register for classes. We strongly encourage you to sign up for [New Student Orientation](#) as soon as possible.
6. Do new students have priority registration? No. That is why it is so important to sign up for New Student Orientation as soon as possible.
7. How do I choose classes for Fall 2020 and future semesters? Here are easy to follow roadmaps for [First Time Freshman](#) and [Transfer Students](#). In addition to advising you'll receive during orientation, we encourage you to seek advising throughout your time at SFSU from the following resources:
 - a. The [CoSE Student Success Center](#)
 - b. The [Undergraduate Advising Center](#)
 - c. Psychology Department [Peer Advising](#)
 - d. Psychology [Faculty Advising](#)
8. Where do I find information on specific courses? First, review the course description in the [SFSU Bulletin](#). For more detailed information, e-mail the instructor and ask for a syllabus. Instructors are listed next to each course in the online class schedule, and their e-mails can be found in our [Faculty & Staff Directory](#).



9. Do Psychology courses I took at another school count for courses in the major? If you are transferring from community college, the only course that satisfies a major requirement is Introductory Psychology, which counts for PSY 200. If you took Psychology courses at a four-year institution, please reach out to a Psychology Department faculty advisor to have them review your courses.
10. Does the Department offer online classes? Yes. Although the majority of our classes are in-person, there are online and hybrid options. Most winter and summer session courses are also online.
11. Are there specific classes I should take if I want to go to graduate school or have a specific career in mind? Psychology is a very broad field that provides a wide range of career opportunities. Many students also major in Psychology with plans to enter other fields like medicine, law, and education. All Psychology majors must take PSY 303 (Psychology: The Major & Profession) in their first semester of major coursework. This course requires students to meet with a faculty advisor to discuss a personal course roadmap based on their interests.
12. How do I choose a career path or decide whether I want to go to graduate school? PSY 690 (Future Directions for Psychology Majors) is a required course for all Psychology majors. It focuses on career development, resume building, interview skills, graduate school options, etc. In addition, we encourage you to meet with faculty advisors frequently during your time at SFSU to discuss careers in Psychology and take advantage of the [Career Services and Leadership Development Center](#) at SFSU.
13. Are there clubs related to Psychology? Psi Chi, the national honor society in Psychology, has a chapter on campus. Eligible students can join, but Psi Chi offers activities for all Psychology students. For example, Psi Chi has hosted Career Panels with SFSU alums so current students can learn about careers in the field.
14. How else can I get involved? All full-time faculty have active [Research Labs](#). It's never too early to seek research opportunities. You can earn credit toward your major as a lab research assistant. In addition, you can earn credit as a peer advisor or teaching assistant. Our department also has an [Honors Program](#) for students interested in completing an undergraduate thesis project and a [Study Abroad Program](#) for those interested in applying what they've learned with pre-kindergarten through 12th grade students in China.
15. Can I earn credit for internships? Yes. Students can enroll in PSY 558/559 (Field Services Seminar) to earn credit toward the major for participating in community service and internship projects.
16. Can I minor in Psychology? We do not offer a minor at the present time.



17. Can I declare a second major? Yes. A dual major requires that you meet with advisors and obtain approval from both departments: [Petition for Second Major](#).
18. Are there work study opportunities? Yes. There are many employment opportunities on campus. Learn more here: [On-Campus Jobs](#).
19. Does the Psychology Department have a graduate program? Yes. The Department has three [Graduate Programs](#).
- 1) Master of Arts Program with concentrations in:
 - a. Developmental Psychology
 - b. Mind, Brain & Behavior Psychology
 - c. Social, Personality, and Affective Science Psychology
 - 2) Master of Science Program with concentrations in:
 - a. Clinical Psychology
 - b. School Psychology
 - 3) Master of Science Program in Industrial/Organizational Psychology
20. Can I defer my admission to SFSU? The campus does not offer deferred admission. If you do not register for the semester for which you were admitted, you will have to re-apply to the university.
21. Is Psychology a STEM major? Although we are in the College of Science and Engineering, the Psychology major is not officially recognized as STEM for visa or other purposes.
22. Are the current courses for the Psychology major guaranteed to be graduation requirements while you are at SFSU? Yes. Requirements for all incoming students are based on the SFSU bulletin from the year of admission. So, even if requirements change, the changes will apply to future students, not you.
23. How do I contact the Psychology Department?

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