

ADVISORS HONORS THESIS RESEARCH REQUIREMENTS
Academic Year 2025/26

Advisors Requirements

Listed below are the research interests (in italics) and requirements psychology faculty have specified for students who wish to complete thesis research with professors. Also noted is whether professors will be accepting thesis students.

Accepting Thesis Students:

Professor Hilary Barth

Cognition and development

- PSYC220 Cognitive Psychology, PSYC230 Developmental Psychology, or a different course with Professor Barth.
- Research experience with Professor Barth by first semester of junior year.
- Contact Professor Barth to discuss your request to consider a thesis project at the beginning of the second semester of junior year, at the latest. Earlier is best for theses with child research participants, because they usually require full-time summer data collection.
- Accepting thesis students.

Professor Sarah Carney

Law and psychology

- PSYC277 Psychology and the Law and/or PSYC213 Research Methods in Social Psychology or a different course with Professor Carney with a minimum grade of B.
- Please contact Professor Carney to discuss your thesis ideas and to request thesis advising no later than your second semester of your junior year.
- Thesis proposal (if applicable) must be completed prior to the start of the senior year.
- Accepting thesis students.

Professor Lucy De Souza

Social identity; applied social psychology (organizational contexts); intergroup contact; allyship.

- Coursework in statistics and quantitative research methods.
- Coursework or research lab experience with Professor De Souza.
- Discussion of thesis with Professor De Souza by mid-junior year.
- Accepting thesis students: must have met on thesis idea(s) and submitted thesis proposal draft by spring break (spring semester, junior year)

Professor Royette Dubar

Sleep; adolescent and emerging adulthood development; psychosocial functioning; technology use

- PSYC214 Research Methods in Sleep Research **or** PSYC386 Advanced Research in Sleep
- Statistics course completed prior to junior year.
- Previous lab experience in the Sleep and Psychosocial Adjustment Lab. In the absence of previous lab experience, I will consider students who have completed PSYC248 Adolescence and Emerging Adulthood or PSYC343 Sleep and Psychosocial Functioning in Youth.
- Not accepting thesis students.

Professor Lisa Dierker

Design, delivery, and evaluation of project-based learning

- Taken PSYC385 and either PSYC200, QAC201 or ECON300.
- Accepting thesis students.

Professor Andrea Patalano

Cognitive psychology of judgment, decision making, and reasoning

- Coursework in cognitive psychology and/or decision making.
- Coursework in statistics and quantitative research methods.
- Prior research lab experience with Professor Patalano.
- Discussion of request with professor by mid junior year.
- Accepting thesis students.

Professor Michael Perez

Cultural psychological and Critical Race Theory perspectives on intergroup peace and violence; intergroup apologies; intergroup forgiveness; protest.

- Statistics course in either psychology or another department equivalent.
- One course or previous research experience in Prof. Perez's lab.
- Accepting thesis students.

Professor Emeritus Karl Scheibe

"I taught in Wesleyan's Psychology Department from 1963-2005, and since then directed the Wasch Center for Retired Faculty, until 2016. My interests are in the connections between psychology and theater, in addictive disorder, and in the Narrative Approach to Psychological Theory and Practice. I have special interests in William James, Erving Goffman, George Orwell, Jose' Ortega y Gasset among others. I am a licensed clinical psychologist and maintain a modest private practice. "

Professor Steven Stemler

Educational Psychology, Testing and measurement, creativity, cultural competence, and intelligence.

- PSYC245 Psychological Measurement, PSYC253 Educational Psychology or research with Professor Stemler for at least one semester.
- Accepting thesis students.

Professor Emerita Ruth Weissman

Eating disorders

- PSYC200 Statistics or PSYC211 Research Methods in Clinical Psychology
- PSYC211 Research Methods in Clinical Psychology or QAC201 Applied Data Analysis.
- Accepting thesis students.

Not Accepting Thesis Students:**Professor Barbara Juhasz**

Reading in adults, general visual cognition

- Research with Professor Juhasz prior to senior year.
- Statistics prior to senior year.
- Not accepting thesis students.

Professor Kyungmi Kim*Memory processes; the role of "self" and "emotion" in cognition*

- Coursework in cognitive psychology.
- Coursework in quantitative research methods and statistics.
- Research experience with Professor Kim prior to senior year.
- Contact Professor Kim to discuss your request for thesis advising no later than March of junior year.
- Not accepting thesis students.

Professor Matthew Kurtz*Identification and treatment of neuropsychological deficits in schizophrenia*

- Statistics course in psychology or in another department.
- Research with Professor Kurtz by first semester of junior year.
- PSYC225 or PSYC 228 or PSYC240/NS&B213.
- Not accepting thesis students.

Professor Alexis May*Etiology, trajectory, and prevention of suicidal thoughts and behaviors, nonsuicidal self-injury, intervention development*

1. Completed a quantitative research methods course.
2. Research or advanced course (PSYC 347 or PSYC 397) with Professor May prior to the 2nd semester junior year.
3. PSYC251 Psychopathology completed by the end of the junior year.
4. Not accepting thesis students.

Professor Jill Morawski*History of psychology, social psychology, science studies, feminist studies*

- Course or research work with Professor Morawski.
- Contact Professor Morawski with request for thesis advising by Feb. of junior year.
- Not Accepting any new thesis requests; accepting requests that have already been agreed on.

Professor Andrea Negrete*Adolescent development; immigration; ethnic-racial identity; sociopolitical development; intergenerational relationships.*

- Statistics prior to senior year.
- Research methods (quantitative or qualitative) prior to senior year.
- Research experience with Professor Negrete prior to the end of junior year.
- Thesis proposal due spring semester of junior year.
- Not Accepting thesis students.

Professor Scott Plous*Prejudice and discrimination, ethical issues relating to animals and the environment, the development of mobile and web-based psychology.*

- Psychological Statistics.
- One course with Professor Plous.
- Not Accepting thesis students.

Prof. Patricia M. Rodriguez Mosquera

Cultural and social influences on affective and emotional processes; cultural diversity in social-image concerns (e.g., honor cultures); cultural, ethnic, religious minority groups' perspectives on prejudice, discrimination, and other forms of unfair treatment; multi-method approaches to the study of culture, affect, and emotion; psychological measurement across languages and cultures.

- PSYC265 *Cultural Psychology*, PSYC208 *Research Methods on Emotion*, PSYC365 *Seminar on Emotion*, PSYC380 *Advanced Research Seminar on Ethnic Minority Psychology*, or PSYC396 *Advanced Research Seminar on Culture and Emotion* with Professor Rodriguez Mosquera.
- Statistics course in psychology or in another department.
- Research with Professor Rodriguez Mosquera in the first semester of junior year.
- Not accepting thesis students.

Professor Charles Sanislow

Clinical Science: Diagnosis and Assessment, Psychopathology Mechanisms, Transdiagnostic Constructs, and Clinical Neuroscience.

- Quantitative-based 200-Level Research Methods Course.
- PSYC251 *Psychopathology* completed by the end of the junior year (earlier is recommended, if possible).
- *Advanced Research Methods* with Professor Sanislow by the end of the junior year (advanced coursework or lab experience with Professor Sanislow may qualify).
- Draft of a thesis proposal (2-5 pages) due by mid-semester break of spring semester during junior year.
- Proposed Research design for thesis project completed by the end of spring semester of junior year (ideal) or by the end of summer before senior year.
- Not Accepting thesis students but anticipate accepting for research.

Professor Anna Shusterman

Language and conceptual development, language and thought, spatial and numerical reasoning.

- Recommended: Research methods, statistics, & PSYC230 *Development Psychology*.
- Required: one course with Prof. Shusterman.
- Thesis projects are usually reserved for students who begin joint work with Prof. Shusterman before the fall of senior year.
- Not Accepting any new thesis requests; accepting requests that have already been agreed on.