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 Royette Dubar
Sleep, psychosocial adjustment, technology use, and wellbeing
- Statistics and research methods courses in psychology (completed by first semester of junior year).
- PSYC 214 (Research methods in Sleep Research) OR PSYC 386 (Advanced Research in Sleep)
- Previous lab experience in the S.P.A Lab. In the absence of previous lab experience, I will consider students who completed either PSYC 248 or PSYC 343 with me.
- Accepting thesis students.

Professor Youssef Ezzyat
Memory organization; electrophysiology of learning; computational modeling
- PSYC225 or PSYC240/NS&B213, minimum grade B+
- PSYC200 or equivalent prior to senior year
- Research experience with Professor Ezzyat prior to senior year
- 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.
- Accepting thesis students

Professor Alexis May
Etiology, trajectory, and prevention of suicidal thoughts and behaviors, nonsuicidal self-injury, intervention development
- Statistics and quantitative research methods courses completed by end of the first semester of the junior year.
- Research with Professor May prior to the end of the junior year.
- PSYC251 Psychopathology completed by the end of the junior year.
- Draft of a thesis proposal (2-4 pages) due by mid-semester break of spring semester of junior year for consideration.
- Possibly accepting a thesis student. Contact Prof May in August 2022

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 Charles Sanislow
Psychopathology mechanisms, transdiagnostic constructs, and clinical and affective neuroscience
- PSYC251 Psychopathology completed by the end of the junior year (earlier is better, but not required).
- Advanced Research Methods with Professor Sanislow by the end of the junior year.
- Draft of a thesis proposal (2-5 pages) due by mid-semester break of spring semester during junior year.
- 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.
- 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 Gassett among others. I am a licensed clinical psychologist and maintain a modest private practice. “

Not Accepting Thesis Students:

Professor Hilary Barth
Cognition and development
- PSYC220 Cognitive Psychology, PSYC230 Developmental Psychology, or a different course with Professor Barth, minimum grade of B+.
- Research experience with Professor Barth prior to senior year.
- Contact Professor Barth to discuss your request for thesis advising at the beginning of the second semester of junior year, or earlier.
- Not 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.
- Not Accepting thesis students.

Professor Lisa Dierker
Development of substance abuse and dependence
- PSYC200 Statistics or PSYC211 Research Methods in Clinical Psychology with Professor Dierker or QAC201 Applied Data Analysis.
- 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, factors affecting memory processes; the role of “self” and “emotion” in cognition
- PSYC220 Cognitive Psychology, or another course with Professor Kim, minimum grade of B+.
- Research experience with Professor Kim prior to senior year.
- Contact Professor Kim with request for thesis advising no later than February of junior year.
• Draft of thesis prospectus (2-4 pages) due by mid-semester break of spring semester of junior year for consideration
• Accepting thesis students

Professor Jill Morawski
History of psychology, social psychology, psychology of gender, science studies, feminist studies
• Course with Professor Morawski.
• Contact Professor Morawski with request for thesis advising no later than March of junior year.
• Not Accepting thesis students.

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.

Professor Patricia Rodriguez Mosquera
Culture, ethnicity, gender; emotions; insult and devaluation; honor; social-image
• PSYC265 Cultural Psychology, PSYC208 Research Methods on Emotion, PSYC365 Seminar on Emotions, or PSYC396 Advanced Research on Culture and Emotion with Prof. Rodriguez Mosquera.
• Statistics and research methods courses in psychology.
• Prior research with Professor Rodriguez Mosquera (for work study, as a volunteer, or as an individual tutorial for credit).
• Not Accepting thesis students.

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.

Professor Steven Stemler
Intelligence, psychometrics, educational psychology, conflict resolution
• PSYC245 Psychological Measurement, PSYC253 Educational Psychology or research with Professor Stemler for at least one semester.
• Not Accepting thesis students.