



University of California, Santa Barbara
Program Learning Outcomes

PhD in Psychological and Brain Sciences

Students graduating with a PhD in Psychological and Brain Sciences should be able to:

Core Knowledge

- Demonstrate general knowledge of psychological or brain research and theory consistent with that of a faculty member at a research institute.
- Demonstrate specialized knowledge of a sub-field of psychological or brain research and theory sufficient to carry out substantive independent research in the sub-field.

Research Methods and Analysis

- Identify and select the range of statistical and laboratory techniques typically used in psychological or brain research, understand their underlying epistemology, and critically read research that uses this range of methods.
- Design empirical research studies guided by theory and prior research.
- Design and implement studies using appropriate methods, measures, and techniques.
- Systematically analyze and critically evaluate data to produce appropriate findings and interpretations.
- Follow research ethics consistent with the discipline.

Independent Research

- Develop their own programs of theoretically and methodologically rigorous research.
- Write articles, chapters, and reviews that are comparable in scope and format to articles that appear in leading peer reviewed journals in the field of psychological and brain sciences.
- Supervise research assistants effectively.

Scholarly Communication

- Review and cogently synthesize relevant literature.
- Write a journal article in the format of scholarly publications in the field.
- Write a proposal for a program of research.
- Present their research, in short conference paper, poster, and longer colloquium formats.

Continued on Page 2

**University of California, Santa Barbara
Program Learning Outcomes, continued**

Pedagogy

- Communicate effectively to large and small groups in pedagogical settings in both lecture and discussion formats.
- Assess students effectively, including developing and using appropriate measures and rubrics.
- Be sensitive to diverse student needs.

Professionalism

- Make effective contributions to research teams and laboratory groups.
- Prepare compelling job applications.
- Select appropriate fellowship or grant opportunities and prepare competitive proposals for them.
- Make effective contributions to university, community, and professional service.