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1. **Cognitive Sciences at UC Irvine**

The Department of Cognitive Sciences at UC Irvine has a tradition of excellence in quantitative approaches to understanding the brain, perception, cognition and behavior. The department maintains its historic strengths in mathematical psychology, and has seen them expand to include computational approaches to studying cognition. The department has also grown a strong and broad research program and graduate concentration in cognitive neuroscience, with expertise ranging from language and memory to brain-computer interfaces. The department continues to specialize in vision and auditory research, and has newer research areas in the language sciences, cognitive development, and cognitive robotics.

Our department has more than 1,000 undergraduates and 60 graduate students, and the cognitive psychology graduate program is ranked 13th in the nation. The Department has a strong focus on research, with most of our 23 faculty holding one or more large extramural grants. Our faculty includes 4 members of the National Academy of Sciences, 9 fellows and 2 William James fellows of the American Psychological Society, 8 American Psychological Association fellows, and 5 fellows of the Society for Experimental Psychology.

Cognitive science is an inherently multi-disciplinary field, and the department has affiliations with other departments, institutes and centers on campus. These are in areas such as the biological sciences, machine learning and statistics, and include the Institute for Mathematical Behavioral Sciences, the Center for Cognitive Neuroscience, the Center for Neurobiology of Learning and Memory, the Institute for Memory Impairments and Neurological Disorders, and the Center for Hearing Research.

2. **Department Faculty (including Emeriti)**

Department faculty members listed below to advise graduate students in their research:

**Bill Batchelder**, Professor
*Mathematical models of learning and memory, mathematical psychology, and measurement*

**Bruce Berg**, Associate Professor
*Audition, auditory attention, psychophysics of complex sounds, computational hearing*

**Alyssa A. Brewer**, Assistant Professor
*Neuroimaging of visual perception, visual deficits, and neurological disorders*

**Charlie Chubb**, Professor
*Visual perception, mathematical modeling, histogram contrast analysis*

**Barbara Dosher**, Professor
*Human information processing, memory retrieval, attention, visual perception*

**Mike D’Zmura**, Professor
*Vision, hearing, language*

**Emily Grossman**, Associate Professor
*Visual perception and neuroimaging*

**Greg Hickok**, Professor
*Neuroanatomy of language, neural plasticity, neuroimaging, cognitive neuroscience*

**Don Hoffman**, Professor
*Machine and human vision, visual recognition, artificial intelligence, virtual reality, consciousness and cognition, shape from motion*

**Geoffrey Iverson**, Professor
*Mathematical psychology, psychophysics, statistics*

**Jeff Krichmar**, Associate Professor
*Computational Neuroscience, robotics*

**Michael Lee**, Professor
*Mathematical and computational models of stimulus representation, categorization, memory, decision-making and problem solving*
Virginia Mann, Professor
*Reading ability: phoneme awareness, developmental dyslexia, phonological skills, early intervention, precocious readers; speech perception: context effects, cross-linguistic comparisons*

Louis Narens, Professor
*Measurement, logic metacognition*

Lisa Pearl, Assistant Professor
*Linguistics, computational linguistics, language development, language change, Bayesian models*

Kourosh Saberi, Professor
*Signal detection, psychophysics, cortical neuroscience, sensory genetics*

Barbara Sarnecka, Assistant Professor
*Cognitive development, language development, number concepts, conceptual change parallels between individual cognitive development, the historical development of science & mathematics*

George Sperling, Distinguished Professor
*Empirical studies of human information processing: short-term visual memory systems, attention, visual perception, 3D object recognition; mathematical, computational, and neural models of visual processes: light adaptation, temporal sensitivity contrast, detection motion and texture, perception, stereopsis, and attention; Brain imaging: EEG, MEG, fMRI*

Jon Sprouse, Assistant Professor
*Linguistics, syntax, psycholinguistics*

Ramesh Srinivasan, Associate Professor
*Cognitive neuroscience, brain development, consciousness, perception, EEG, brain dynamics*

Mark Steyvers, Professor
*Semantic influences in recognition and recall, computational models for knowledge extraction, processing dynamic decision making models, causal reasoning, Bayesian networks*

Ted Wright, Associate Professor
*Cognitive psychology, human motor control, Fitts task, aimed movements, handwriting immersive, virtual reality, 1/f noise, quantitative models*

Emeriti Faculty:

Mike Braunstein, Professor Emeritus
*Visual perception*

Jean-Claude Falmagne, Professor Emeritus
*Mathematical behavioral sciences*

Mary Louise Kean, Professor Emerita
*Cognitive neuropsychology, biological foundation of higher mental processes*

Duncan Luce, Distinguished Professor Emeritus
*Axiomatic measurement, decision theory, psychophysics, response times*

William Watt, Professor Emeritus
*Cognitive semiotics*

Jack Yellott, Professor Emeritus
*Mathematical psychology, visual perception*
3. **Affiliated Faculty**

Various faculty members of other departments are extended courtesy appointments in the Department of Cognitive Sciences. An affiliated faculty member can serve as an advisor, as long as there is a faculty member of our Department who can serve officially as your advisor. An affiliated faculty member cannot serve as an external member of a candidacy committee. Affiliated faculty members include:

**Larry Cahill,** Professor, Neurobiology & Behavior  
*Neural mechanisms of emotionally influenced memory*

**Charless Fowlkes,** Assistant Professor, Computer Science  
*Statistical approaches to perceptual organization in low and mid-level vision*

**Beth Loftus,** Distinguished Professor, Psychology and Social Behavior & Criminology, Law & Society  
*Human memory, memory and law, jury decision making*

**Gary Lynch,** Professor, Psychiatry & Human Behavior  
*Cellular mechanisms of regional vulnerability in brain aging process and aging-related neurodegeneration, mechanisms of synaptic plasticity: LTP, glutamate receptors and cell adhesion molecules*

**David Lyon,** Assistant Professor, Anatomy and Neurobiology  
*Visual cortex, pulvinar nucleus, orientation selectivity, neurophysiology and anatomy, optical imaging, modified rabies virus*

**Jim McGaugh,** Research Professor, Neurobiology & Behavior  
*Neurobiology of learning and memory*

**John Middlebrooks,** Professor, Otolaryngology  
*Psychophysics of spatial hearing, cortical processing of complex sounds, hearing impairment, auditory prostheses*

**Kim Romney,** Research Professor, Anthropology  
*Mathematical behavioral science, consensus analysis, quantitative anthropology*

**Arnold Starr,** Research Professor, Neurobiology & Behavior  
*Neurological disorders affecting cognition, sensation and motor behaviors*

**Hal Stern,** Professor, Statistics  
*Statistics, applications of statistics to biological and social sciences, sports and statistics*

**Jim Swanson,** Research Professor, Pediatrics  
*ADD, ADHD, child development*

**Fan-Gang Zeng,** Professor, Anatomy & Neurobiology  
*Cochlear implants, auditory neuroscience, psychophysics, speech perception, auditory neuropathy*

4. **Overview of Graduate Studies**

**Questions about graduate studies at UCI?**

UC Irvine has a number of policies concerning graduate studies. These can be found in the UC Irvine 2010-11 General Catalogue, which is available as a printed document or on the web in HTML [www.editor.uci.edu/catalogue](http://www.editor.uci.edu/catalogue) or PDF format [http://www.editor.uci.edu/catalogue/10-11Catalogue.pdf](http://www.editor.uci.edu/catalogue/10-11Catalogue.pdf). The Office of Graduate Studies describes Campus-wide graduate program policies in the Catalogue at [http://www.editor.uci.edu/catalogue/intro/intro.21.htm](http://www.editor.uci.edu/catalogue/intro/intro.21.htm).

The School of Social Sciences – of which the Department of Cognitive Sciences is a member department – houses a number of departments and research centers including the Institute for Mathematical Behavioral Sciences and the Center for Cognitive Neuroscience. In addition to the campus Office of Graduate Studies, the school has its own Graduate Office (http://www.socsci.uci.edu/gradoffice/) which manages many important administrative functions concerning graduate study in this department.

The department has two graduate program directors:
1. Professor Geoff Iverson, SBSG 2322, (949) 824-4053, [giverson@uci.edu](mailto:giverson@uci.edu); and
2. Professor Kourosh Saberi, SBSG 2306, (949) 824-6310, saberi@uci.edu

Professor Iverson is the director of graduate studies for the department. Professor Saberi is the graduate director for the Concentration in Cognitive Neuroscience.

Beyond your advisor, they are perhaps the most valuable faculty member to graduate students. If any question comes up that your advisor cannot handle, contact either of them. Note, Cognitive Neuroscience students should contact Professor Saberi directly.

Who’s in what building?
Each arriving graduate student is assigned a faculty member as their graduate advisor. Most department faculty members have their offices in the new Social & Behavioral Sciences Gateway (SBSG) building, but some are housed in Social Science Plaza A (SSPA) or Social Science Plaza B (SSPB). Labs are located in SBSG, SSPA, or the Social Science Lab building (SSL).

Students who do not have office space within their graduate advisor’s lab may be assigned office space in Social Science Tower (SST) for holding teaching assistant office hours only – not for other use. First year graduate students are assigned office space in the large 679 room. The assignments are made prior to the start of the quarter by the Graduate Student Liaison.

The department administrative suite is located on the 2nd floor of the Social & Behavioral Sciences Gateway Building. A few of your first year courses will take place in the Seminar Room, SBSG 2200, just across the hall from this suite.

Where to find information about your courses?
The Course Catalogue provides the official description of the Cognitive Sciences graduate program on pages 477-484. The Department website also describes the program (http://www.cogsci.uci.edu/gradProgram.php). The requirements for you as a graduate student matriculating in academic year 2010-11 are stated in the 2010-11 Catalogue, not in catalogues for any other year. The reason is that requirements change from year to year.

5. First-Year Coursework

You are expected to take certain courses during your first year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2010-11 Requirements</th>
<th>First Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colloquium</td>
<td>201A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proseminar</td>
<td>202A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quantitative</td>
<td>203A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computing</td>
<td>205A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These courses are:

(1) Psych 201A-B-C (1.3, 1.3, 1.4 units): The Cognitive Sciences Research Seminar. You are expected to enroll in this series during all quarters in residence prior to passage of the advancement-to-candidacy (for the PhD) examination. This research seminar is known as “Cog Sci Colloquium” and is held on Mondays at 12:00 pm in SSPA 2112;
(2) Psych 202A (1 unit): Proseminar. This course will expose you to the work of the department faculty members;
(3) Psych 203A-B-C* (4, 4, 4 units): Quantitative Research Methods. A sequence that covers the areas of probability, statistics, and experimental design;
(4) Psych 205A and 205B or 205C (4, 4, 4 units): Computational Research Methods. A sequence that covers programming for experiments and data analysis; and
(5) Elective(s): Various. You may also choose to take one or more additional elective courses during your first year, particularly if it is immediately relevant to one’s research.

*Completion of the quantitative research methods sequence may be extended over two years if warranted by the background or needs of the student. Again, check with Graduate Director Iverson.

Suitable substitutes may be made with written approval of Graduate Directors Iverson or Saberi and the Professor responsible for the substituted course.

Be certain to enroll in your graduate courses via WebReg before the end of the second week of class. There is a financial penalty if you fail to register on time. http://www.reg.uci.edu/registrar/soc/webreg.html.
A number of first-year students – you may be one of them - are supported by a teaching assistantship. Be careful not to overload yourself the first year with too much difficult coursework and teaching assistant duties.

6. **Course Requirements BEFORE Advancing to Candidacy**

You must take at least seven (7) more courses, beyond those required in the first year, before advancing to candidacy for the PhD.

Four (4) of these must be drawn from the Core Elective module (Psychology 210-219):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Psych 211</td>
<td>Attention and Perception</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psych 212</td>
<td>Learning, Memory and Knowledge Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psych 213</td>
<td>Mind/Body Problem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psych 214</td>
<td>Decision-Making and Problem-Solving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psych 215</td>
<td>Language Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psych 216</td>
<td>Introduction to Cognitive Neuroscience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psych 217</td>
<td>Vision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psych 218</td>
<td>Hearing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psych 219</td>
<td>Cognitive Development</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Students must also take at least three (3) more electives that are normally selected from at least two of the following six modules:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>220-229</td>
<td>Human Cognition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>230-239</td>
<td>Methodologies and Models</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>240-249</td>
<td>Language Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>250-259</td>
<td>Human Performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>260-269</td>
<td>Cognitive Neuroscience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>270-289</td>
<td>Sensation and Perception</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional advanced course work in other fields relevant to your interests can supplement the required courses.

To focus best on your graduate research in your second and subsequent years of study, you should consider signing up for Psychology 290 (Dissertation Research) and/or Psychology 299 (Individual Study) with your graduate advisor.

7. **Second-Year Talk**

You are expected to carry out theoretical/empirical research during the first two years in the program. For many students, this research starts full tilt during the summer after the first year of study and continues through the second year. By the end of the second year, each student should have completed a research project of a scope and nature that is potentially publishable in a relevant journal. Every student is assigned a faculty advisor, and the advisor is responsible for assisting in the planning and in other facets of the project.

At the end of your second year, you are required to present a talk at the Cognitive Sciences Research Seminar (the Colloquium) based on your research project. If you don’t know how to use Microsoft PowerPoint, learn it.

This talk is scheduled towards the end of the spring quarter of your second full year in the graduate program. Another forum for the second-year talk may be substituted with prior written approval from Graduate Director Iverson in consultation with your advisor.

If your talk is not already written up in paper form by the time you present it at the Colloquium, you should write it up immediately afterwards. By the end of the fall quarter following the second-year talk, you are required to write, submit and have approved a paper based on your research project. The paper must be approved by your advisor and the Director of Graduate Studies.

8. **Master’s Degree**

Although the Department does not have an M.A. program, you may earn an M.A. degree in Psychology as part of the Ph.D. program.

Requirements are:
1. Complete the required course work as outlined above;
2. Present a talk and submit an approved paper, both based on empirical/theoretical research, as described above; and
3. Fulfill a computer-programming language requirement by completing satisfactorily the computational research methods sequence Psychology 205A and 205B or 205C, or by demonstrating proficiency in use of a programming language for cognitive sciences research as assessed by two faculty members and approved by the Graduate Director.

In order to be granted the Master’s Degree, you need to complete the Advancement to Candidacy/Final Degree Report – Master’s Degree Comp Exam form available on the Office of Graduate Studies website at: http://www.grad.uci.edu/forms/.

**Why should you do it?** If you want to get some teaching experience at UCI during the summer and want to teach an upper-division course, you’ll need this degree in addition to advancing to candidacy for the PhD – see below. Coordinate with Graduate Directors Iversen or Saberi and with Graduate Office Manager John Sommerhauser to get your Master’s degree application underway when the time comes AND make sure to provide a copy of the signed form to the department office.

**9. Advancing to Candidacy**

There are three requirements for advancement to candidacy:

1. Meet the requirements listed above for the M.A. degree;
2. Form a five-member faculty committee selected according to Graduate Studies policy (http://www.rgs.uci.edu/grad/students/masters_req.htm).
3. Advance to candidacy by the end of the fall quarter of your third year in the program.

When forming your committee, keep in mind that one of the faculty members must be an external member (i.e., have no formal affiliation with our department).

The committee will examine your knowledge of a topic which is determined in consultation with the committee. A written document describing your work on this topic must be submitted to the committee, in a timely fashion, prior to advancement.

You must demonstrate an understanding of the background and issues for the research topic and show sufficient preparation and creativity to undertake planning for a dissertation project (e.g., by describing a possible experimental design or outline a possible theoretical development).

The form for Advancing to Candidacy is PhD Form I which can be downloaded at: http://www.rgs.uci.edu/grad/students/forms.htm.

**10. Ph.D. Degree**

The requirements for the Ph.D. degree are:

1. Formally present and defend a written dissertation proposal to a committee of at least three members selected according to Graduate Studies requirements. The dissertation proposal presentation may take place as part of the examination for Advancement to Candidacy, in which case, that five-member committee will approve the dissertation proposal;
2. Have the proposal approved prior to the final dissertation defense (usually three months before the final defense) to provide enough time for candidate to incorporate suggestions and changes required by the committee;
3. Defend the dissertation in a public colloquium (announced with at least one week’s notice) prior to the approval of the final dissertation version; and
4. You must have fulfilled all requirements for the Ph.D. degree within three years after advancement to candidacy.

The form to obtain your Ph.D. degree is PhD Form II at: http://www.rgs.uci.edu/grad/students/forms.htm.

The normal time for advancement to candidacy is three years. The normal time for completion of the Ph.D. is five years, and the maximum time permitted is six years.

**11. Concentration in Cognitive Neuroscience**

Students can also pursue a Ph.D. in Psychology with a concentration in Cognitive Neuroscience. This is an interdisciplinary field which studies the relation between mind and brain. With the development of non-invasive functional brain imaging techniques during the last two decades, the integration of cognitive and neural models of information processing has become a major focus in the field, and a major growth area within the Department’s academic plan.

The program concentration will be administered by the Department of Cognitive Sciences and coordinated by the graduate director in concert with the Cognitive Neuroscience program advisor. Commensurate with the multidisciplinary nature of cognitive neuroscience we
expect to admit students with a variety of undergraduate educational backgrounds. These include, but are not necessarily limited to, undergraduate degrees in psychology/cognitive science, neuroscience, biology, computer science, mathematics, and engineering. Students will have the opportunity to work closely with faculty from the Center for Cognitive Neuroscience (www.ccns.uci.edu).

Requirements:

Course Work:
Students must complete twelve (12) courses distributed as follows.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cognitive Neuroscience core course</th>
<th>Psych 216</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Two (2) quantitative courses drawn from:</td>
<td>Psych 203A and either 203B or 203C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One (1) computational course drawn from:</td>
<td>Psych 205A, 205B, 205C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two (2) neuroscience methods courses drawn from:</td>
<td>Psych 236, 265A, 265B, 268A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two (2) cognitive sciences courses drawn from:</td>
<td>Psych 210-219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two (2) neuroscience courses drawn from:</td>
<td>Psych 261-269 module</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two (2) electives</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students must fulfill the Ph.D. program’s computer-programming language by completing satisfactorily the computational research methods sequence, Psychology 205A and 205B or 205C, or by demonstrating proficiency in use of a programming language for cognitive sciences research as assessed by two faculty members and approved by the Graduate Director.

Enrollment in the following courses are also required prior to passage of the advancement to candidacy examination:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Psych 201A-B-C</th>
<th>Cog Sci Colloquium</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Psych 260</td>
<td>Cognitive Neuroscience Research Seminar</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Concentration Exam:
At the beginning of the Fall quarter of your second year, students will be required to take a written concentration exam. The exam will involve (1) a critical review of work in the student’s area of research interest, and (2) written responses to specific questions provided by the student’s committee members.

Advancement Exam:
The advancement exam consists of a written research proposal in NIH NRSA Predoctoral Fellowship format, and an oral defense of the proposed research. The advancement committee will be comprised of the student’s advisor plus 4 additional faculty members, one of whom will be from outside the program.

The proposal must include the following items:
- Specific Aims section (1 page max);
- Research Strategy (6 pages max) with subsections:
  a) Significance
  b) Innovation
  c) Approach

The idea is to have these documents ready for submission to NIH immediately after advancement (if the student and advisor choose to do so). The NIH-NRSA predoctoral fellowship application format can be found at: [http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/424/index.htm](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/424/index.htm). Click on the link (Word or PDF) for: Individual Fellowship Application Guide SF424 (R&R).

Students are encouraged to advance by the end of their second year, and must advance by the end of the first quarter of their third year.

Dissertation:
Students must submit a dissertation describing original publishable research and present a public defense of the dissertation as the final requirement of the Ph.D. Program.

12. **Useful Information**

**Keys:** Keys to SBSG, SSPA, SSPB, SSL, SST and your office and lab space can be obtained from Mario Nunez, Facilities Assistant, in SSPA 1185. There is a $10 deposit for each key which will be refunded when you return your keys.
**Scantron Machines:** Craig Stone, Instructional Support Center Manager, maintains the School of Social Sciences scantron machines, located next to SSPA 3167, which is often used for TA duties.

**Computers:** Most faculty advisors provide some computing resources in their labs for research use. A computer lab for Social Sciences Graduate Students is also available on the 6th floor of SST (Room 604). These computers have SPSS statistics software which will be necessary for some first year coursework. OIT (http://www.oit.uci.edu) maintains the campus computer network.

On their website, you will find a number of resources including software, email information, and policies. UCI has wireless internet access covering most of the campus called UCNets Mobile Access. To use this network (or connect by wire), you must first register your computer’s MAC address. Do this on the NACS website. Computers in the School of Social Sciences are maintained by Social Sciences Computing Services (http://www.soscsci.uci.edu/sscs/) located in SST 165.

**Mailboxes:** Each graduate student has a mailbox located in SSPA room 3151 – the room next to the copy machines. Graduate mailboxes – like the faculty and staff mailboxes – are listed by last name. Please speak with Craig Stone (cestone@uci.edu, 949-824-7179) if you cannot locate your mailbox.

**Libraries:** UCI has two main libraries, Langston Library and the Science Library. Your UCI student ID card serves as your library card but must be activated by visiting a library. You can access online journal subscriptions and databases through the library website. You must be using a computer with a campus IP address to access these resources. When you are off campus, you can access subscription journals by using Virtual Private Network (VPN) software attainable via the NACS website.

**Teaching Assistantships:** Teaching assistant assignments are coordinated by Graduate Office Manager John Sommerhauser (SSPA 5149, jdsommer@uci.edu). An e-mail announcement is sent out, and applications are submitted online. TAships are assigned school-wide thus you might be assigned a TAship outside the department. When you apply, you will specify which courses you are interested in TAing. Please note that faculty members can also request specific TAs, so if you are particularly interested in a certain course, it is wise to contact the instructor ahead of time. Bear in mind, not all requests can be accommodated.

**Payroll and Financial Issues:** Stipend checks are issued on the first of the month and delivered to the Social Sciences Graduate Office (located on the 5th floor of SSPA) unless you have direct deposit. If a stipend check is requested for any time other than the first of the month, and you do not have direct deposit, the check must be picked up in Financial Services, 101 Aldrich Hall. If you have questions, Graduate Office Manager, John Sommerhauser handles most issues relating to TA and fellowship stipends.

**On Campus Housing:** If you are interested in living on-campus Graduate Housing, you can find information on the Graduate Housing website: http://www.housing.uci.edu/graduate/.

**Graduate Liaison:** Brent Miller (brentm@uci.edu) and Derrik Asher (dasher@uci.edu), students in our graduate program, are the departmental graduate liaisons. If you have any issues that you believe should be made known to the department office but feel uncertain about conveying them directly, talk to them. Brent and Derrik also help to arrange graduate student lunches with visiting colloquium speakers and to organize grad students for the late-February visits by potential grad students.

13. **Reminders**

**TA Quarter Limits:**
Many of you will serve as a TA during your graduate studies. You get a total of eighteen (18) quarters of TA support as long as you advance to candidacy for the PhD. Here’s how it breaks down:
- You can TA up to a maximum of twelve (12) quarters prior to advancing for the Ph.D.
  - If you hit this number and have not advanced, you cannot TA any additional quarters.
  - The only exception that can be made is for a student to TA one (1) additional quarter – 13th quarter – as long as they’re advancing during the same quarter;
- You can TA for six (6) more quarters once you advance for the Ph.D.

In case you’re wondering: If you advance earlier than the 12th quarter, you still get eighteen (18) total quarters of support. For example, you can TA for eight (8) quarters, advance, and still have ten (10) quarters left of TA support. You’re not penalized for advancing earlier.

**Normal Time to Degree:**
The normal time to obtain one’s doctorate in this program is five years. Excellent performance is required throughout this period. Four years - amazing. Six is fine. Seven is not. Best of luck!
Other Reminders:
Success in the graduate program depends on refining your knowledge of the English language including reading, writing and speaking. Your specific research area often requires the high development of more specific skills like math, statistics, programming, software use and experimental design. You must develop these skills while acquiring expert knowledge of your research domain.

Among those most knowledgeable about the graduate program are other graduate students.

If you are thinking of an academic career, bear in mind that “publish or perish” starts now.

Presenting work at a conference will help you gain visibility among potential future employers. The School and the Department can provide some financial support when you present your work at a conference.

The School has a web page which describes sources of funding for graduate students in Cognitive Sciences: [http://www.socsci.uci.edu/gradoffice/gradextras/index.html](http://www.socsci.uci.edu/gradoffice/gradextras/index.html). Draw your advisor’s attention to any funding opportunity that you believe may be appropriate for you.

Hard work is expected. You are often expected to work on things without being asked or told: develop independence.

14. Non-Discrimination Policy

The University of California, in accordance with applicable Federal and State law and University Policy, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, age, medical condition (cancer-related), ancestry, marital status, citizenship, sexual orientation, or status as a Vietnam-era veteran or special disabled veteran. The University also prohibits sexual harassment. This nondiscrimination policy covers admission, access, and treatment in University programs and activities, including the graduate program administered by the Department of Cognitive Sciences at the University of California, Irvine.

15. Contact Information

Department of Cognitive Sciences

Professor Michael Lee  
Chair  
(949) 824-2969  
mdlee@uci.edu  
SBSG 2209

Clara Schultheiss  
Department Administrator  
(949) 824-7569  
ciara@uci.edu  
SBSG 2203

Adam Cook  
Department Analyst  
(949) 824-6692  
arcook@uci.edu  
SBSG 2205

Professor Geoffrey Iverson  
Director of Graduate Studies  
(949) 824-4053  
giverson@uci.edu  
SBSG 2322

Professor Kourosh Saberi  
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