



## **SEXUALITY STUDIES DEPARTMENT**

**San Francisco State University**

**Graduate Student Guide**

**Fall 2016**

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## Welcome

The Master of Arts (MA) Degree in Sexuality Studies at San Francisco State University (SF State) provides students with comprehensive knowledge about psychosocial, behavioral, and health processes related to sexual development, sexual health, sexuality education, and the formation of sexual cultures, identities, and their implications for policy and social justice in the United States and internationally. Our multi-disciplinary program in sexuality studies prepares students to enter advanced graduate research programs in a range of disciplines and fields and to contribute to community development, policy, and services in California and elsewhere.

Our department was an early leader in university-based education in sexuality. We began in 1970 to offer undergraduate classes across the arts, sciences, and humanities. We began offering an MA in Sexuality Studies in 2001. Ours was one of the first graduate-level degree programs in the United States specifically dedicated to "sexuality studies" and housed in a public accredited university.

The MA degree is currently housed in Sociology and Sexuality Studies, a department that offers, in addition to the MA in Sexuality Studies, a BA in Sociology, and three minors in Sociology; Sexuality Studies; and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Studies. We do not offer an MA in Sociology—only an MA in Sexuality Studies.

Our core Sexuality Studies faculty includes over a dozen tenured and tenure-track professors and nearly twenty interdisciplinary faculty members from other departments and colleges on campus. A dozen part-time lecturers contribute to the department's undergraduate teaching. The mission of Sexuality Studies at SF State is to advance multidisciplinary teaching, research, and advocacy in sexuality studies, sexual literacy, well-being and social justice. We provide students with knowledge about processes and variations in sexual cultures, sexual identity and gender role formation, and the social, cultural, historical, and ethical foundations of sexuality, intimate relationships, and sexual health. The department has a long commitment to building collaborative relationships with community members and organizations. Across all of our research and education efforts, we focus on issues of social justice and sexual rights for all, considering sexual well-being and sexual health across the lifespan. Toward these ends, the aims and commitments listed above guide our work together.

### **SF State Sexuality Studies Aims and Commitments**

- Educate the next generation of leaders in research and dissemination of knowledge
- Excel in teaching graduate and undergraduate students
- Advance quality research on sexuality, gender, and social justice
- Integrate analyses of race, racism, heterosexism, homophobia, able-ism, poverty, and culture into all aspects of our department
- Advocate for social policy on sexuality, sexual health, sexuality education, and human rights, shaped by social justice and diversity and, through these efforts, shape sexuality studies in the 21<sup>st</sup> century

## Advising and Mentorship

Your relationships with Sexuality Studies students and faculty will be central to your experience at SF State. Seminars, workshops, and informal gatherings will provide opportunities to get to know other students and to meet and work with faculty members. Faculty members are also available during office hours and by appointment to meet with you. We encourage you to meet with all members of faculty to introduce yourself and to learn more about their interests.

Students provide one another important peer mentorship. Second-year students, students with prior exposure to theory and methodology in sexuality studies, and students with relevant work experience will help you make your way through the degree program toward your goals. Department alumni and other students will also help you get to know San Francisco and the Bay Area, connect with local organizations, and learn more about job opportunities.

### Faculty Mentors and Thesis Advisors

#### *Faculty Mentors*

Faculty mentors provide information about research and teaching internships, scholarship information, opportunities to participate in professional meetings, career advising, and research and writing mentorships.

This summer, we assigned you a faculty graduate mentor; you should have received an email with notice of this assignment. The mentor assignments reflect the availability of faculty mentors and our initial understanding, gleaned from your applications for admission, of your research interests. Make a point of contacting your faculty mentors early in your first semester. They expect to hear from you.

This mentor assignment may be only an initial one. We encourage students to get to know many faculty members; and students are free to choose any available member of the core faculty as their primary mentor. Meet with your assigned mentor, visit with other faculty, and discuss with them their availability to act as your mentor. Once you decide whom you would like to mentor you—even if it is the initially assigned mentor—approach them to confirm their availability and discuss how you can best work together.

#### *Culminating Experience Advisors*

The culminating experience will most often be a written thesis—an original contribution to existing understandings about sexuality. The contribution may take the form of, for example, an original review of the research literature, analysis of a relevant body of existing data, or an analysis of data—fieldnotes, interviews, focus groups, or survey responses—the student collects. Some students will choose a different Culminating Experience; see below for details about the creative project and research project options. Thus, you will want an advisor whose research interests and experience will be a resource to you in your thesis.

The Culminating Experience advisor is the student's *first reader*. Students will also select a Culminating Experience advisor from among the Sexuality Studies core faculty. The Culminating Experience advisor is usually, but not always, the same person the student selects to serve as faculty mentor. University and Department regulations require that the first reader of the Culminating Experience be a tenured or tenure-track faculty member of the SF State Sexuality Studies MA Core Faculty (see list below).

Your Culminating Experience committee will also include a *second reader* who must also be a tenure or tenure-track faculty member at SF State. Students may choose as their second readers faculty members from other departments in consultation with their thesis advisors. Core Faculty members may serve as second readers; members of the Graduate Faculty have also indicated their willingness to serve as second readers (again, see list below).

Other faculty members, including lecturers and adjunct faculty members may serve as *third readers* with the consent of the advisor and the Graduate Studies Coordinator. The University and Department does not require a third reader. However, once you name a third reader on university paperwork (see below), that person is formally a member of your committee and you must have their signature indicating approval of your Culminating Experience.

Make an appointment to meet with prospective advisors during the first semester as your research interests take shape. During the second semester, you should schedule a meeting with your prospective advisor to confirm that they will advise your Culminating Experience and serve as your first reader. You'll learn more in your second semester about how to approach those meetings in SXS 890, the Professional Development seminar. Please see the Graduate Studies Coordinator for help shaping a committee that meets your needs and meets university requirements.

### Faculty Availability

Faculty members are eager to get to know you and support your work. However, due to shifting faculty workloads, developing research programs, and sabbaticals, faculty members—core members as well as affiliates—will not always be available to serve as mentors and Culminating Experience advisors. In addition, faculty members work on a nine-month academic year and are likely not available to meet and work with you during the summer. Talk with your mentors and advisors about their availability.

### List of Sexuality Studies Faculty

SF State faculty members bring a range of disciplinary and interdisciplinary training and expertise to their work with graduate students. We encourage students to meet and make relationships with many members of our faculty.

#### *Core Faculty*

Core faculty members are formally appointed in the Department of Sociology and Sexuality Studies and teach courses in the graduate Sexuality Studies program. Core faculty serve as assigned mentors to MA students and can serve as advisors and first readers on MA theses.

***Darius Bost*** PhD in American Studies, University of Maryland at College Park. African American and African Diaspora literary and cultural studies, gender and sexuality studies, queer studies, and trauma studies.

***Christopher Carrington PhD*** in Sociology, University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Theories of human sexuality. lesbian and gay family life and relationships, family policy for LGBTQ families and relationships, scientific theories of sexual and gender orientation and sexual desire.

***Andreana Clay*** PhD in Sociology, University of California, Davis. Youth Culture and Identity, Queer of color theory and critique, popular culture, race/class/gender/sexuality, social movements and activism.

***Jessica Fields*** PhD in Sociology, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Sexuality and education, race and gender, queer theory, emotion and affect, feminist methods and methodology.

**Colleen Hoff** PhD in Clinical Psychology, California School of Professional Psychology. HIV/AIDS prevention among MSM couples, sexual health disparities, scale development, mixed methodological approaches to research and sex therapy.

**Karen Hossfeld** PhD in Sociology, University of California, Santa Cruz. Intersections of gender, race, class, and sexuality; social in/equality; labor and immigration studies; qualitative research on immigrant women workers and their families.

**Allen LeBlanc** PhD in Sociology, Pennsylvania State University. Sociology of health; social stress, psychosocial resources, and health among sexual minority persons.

**Alexis Martinez** PhD in Sociology, University of California, San Francisco. HIV prevention and policy, social geographies and health, drug use, quantitative methodologies and analysis.

**Rita Melendez** PhD in Sociology, Yale University. HIV prevention and treatment among Latino MSM, women and transgender individuals, qualitative and quantitative methodologies.

**Clare Sears** PhD in Sociology, University of California, Santa Cruz. Critical criminology, queer theory, transgender studies, critical legal studies, California history.

**Amy Sueyoshi** PhD in History, University of California, Los Angeles. Twentieth-century U.S. history, Asian American studies, ethnic studies, queers studies, gender studies, romantic friendship, and representation.

### *Graduate Faculty*

Members of the graduate faculty are appointed outside the Department of Sociology and Sexuality Studies. Some occasionally teach in the graduate Sexuality Studies program; many teach graduate courses in their home departments of interest to Sexuality Studies MA students. Graduate faculty can serve as second and third readers on MA theses. They may also be important mentors to MA students.

Please note this list is a dynamic one. We regularly seek relationships with other faculty whose expertise and interests will strengthen the department's offerings, and we expect to add names to this list in 2015-16. In addition, the Graduate Faculty listed below have indicated to us that they would like to meet and work with Sexuality Studies students, but their obligations to their home departments and students have to take priority.

**Rabab Ibrahim Abdulhadi** PhD, Yale University; SF State appointment in Race and Resistance Studies.

**Tomas Almaguer** PhD in Sociology, UC Berkeley; teaches undergraduate courses at SF State for Latina/Latino Studies Department, History Department, Women & Gender Studies Department, Sociology Department, and graduate courses for Ethnic Studies MA Program and Sexuality Studies MA Program.

**Nan Alamilla Boyd** PhD in American Civilization, Brown University; SF State appointment in Women and Gender Studies. US LGBTQ history; queer cultural studies; oral history methods; and neoliberalism and urban gentrification.

**Deborah Cohler** PhD in English Literature, Brown University; SF State appointment in Women and Gender Studies. Transnational feminist theories of war and militarism. Queer theory and intersectional cultural studies. Foci on mass culture, print media, television, film, literature.

**Brian de Vries** PhD in Developmental Psychology, University of British Columbia; SF State appointment in Gerontology. Social and psychological well-being of midlife and older LGBT persons; friendships and social relationships across adult life course; end-of-life issues and bereavement.

**John P. Elia** PhD in Education with emphases in history and philosophy of American education and socio-cultural foundations, UC Davis; SF State appointment in Health Education. School-based sexuality education in the US, LGBT and queer studies, and bisexuality and school culture.

**Mickey Eliason**, PhD Psychology from the University of Iowa; SFSU Department of Health Education. Formerly Chair of Sexuality Studies at University of Iowa. U.S. LGBTQ health issues; older sexual minority women, substance abuse, mental health, healthcare provider attitudes

**Dawn-Elissa Fischer** PhD in Anthropology, University of Florida; SF State appointment in Africana Studies. Womanist theory; Hip-hop's gender and sexuality politics; LGBTQI inclusion in Hip-hop transnational social movement organizations; critical race theory in visual ethnography and other forms of Black visual media.

**Javon Johnson** PhD in Performance Studies, Northwestern University; SF State appointment in Communication Studies. Performance; performance of Blackness and Black masculinity; performance of race, gender, and sexuality; slam and spoken word poetry; pop culture.

**Andrew Jolivet** PhD in Sociology, University of California, Santa Cruz; SF State appointment in American Indian Studies with affiliations in Race & Resistance Studies and Educational Leadership. American Indian identities; two-spirit/queer/sexuality studies; public health, ethnic and culturally specific mental health; mixed-race identity, colonialism, gender, and indigenous decolonization.

**Laura Mamo** PhD in Sociology, University of California at San Francisco; SF State appointment in Health Education and Health Equity Institute. Health equity and inequities; gender, sexuality and biomedicine; social and cultural dimensions of health, health care, and medical technologies in U.S.; co-production of knowledge and social inequalities.

**Martha Kenney** PhD in the History of Consciousness, UC Santa Cruz; SF State appointment in Women and Gender Studies. Feminist science and technology studies; politics of knowledge; feminist theory; and speculative fiction.

**James Martel** PhD in Political Science, University of California at Berkeley; SF State appointment in Political Science. American and European political theory, American politics, and gender studies and political economy.

**Christopher Moffatt** PhD in Psychology, John Hopkins University; SF State appointment in Biology. Regulation of reproduction by chemosensory stimuli, particularly reproductively-inhibiting pheromones.

**Lisa Moore** DrPH in Community Health Education, University of California, Berkeley; SF State Appointment in Health Education. Social inequity and health; social production of disease, with focus on War on Drugs and consumerism as behavioral and social drivers; reduction of drug related harms.

**Evren Savci** PhD in Sociology and Gender Studies, University of Southern California. SFSU appointment in Women and Gender Studies. Queer, feminist, and social theory; globalization and transnationality; epistemology; cultural sociology; ethnography.

**Marc Stein** PhD in History, University of Pennsylvania; SF State appointment in History. US LGBTQ history; history of gender and sexuality; constitutional law; social movements; urban history.

**Charlotte Tate** PhD in Psychology, University of Oregon, Eugene; SF State appointment in Psychology. Studies identity development for gender groups (incl. cis and trans\* profiles), sexual orientation groups, and ethnicity groups in U.S., intersections among identities, and sources of prejudice and discrimination toward those groups.

**Mary Ann A. van Dam** RN, PNP, PhD in Nursing, University of California, San Francisco; SF State appointment in Nursing. Discrimination as it affects health; measurement of disclosure of lesbian and gay identities; how degree of disclosure, along with mediators and moderators, affects health and well-being.

**Gust A. Yep** PhD in Communication Studies, University of Southern California; SF State appointment in Communication Studies. Communication at intersections of culture, race, class, gender, sexuality, and nation; communication in HIV/AIDS programs in communities of color; and queer and trans studies in communication.



# Sexuality Studies Masters Curriculum

## Degree Requirements

Below we outline the courses required to complete the SF State MA in Sexuality Studies (SXS).

Core Requirements		units
Theory		
SXS 800	Socio-Cultural Foundations of Human Sexuality	3
SXS 801	Biological and Psychological Foundations of Human Sexuality	3
Research Methodology		
SXS 881	Research Methods in Human Sexuality Studies	3
<i>advanced methods</i>	SXS 882, SXS 883, SXS 884, or other approved advanced methods course	3
SXS 890	Professional Development	3
Elective Courses		
Required Elective (choose 1)		
SXS 701 or SXS 702	Sexual Cultures, Sexual Identities or Sexuality in Historical Perspectives	3
Additional Electives		
3 SXS courses selected in consultation with mentor; with approval of faculty Graduate Studies Coordinator, students may take courses from other SF State departments		9
Culminating Experience (choose 1)		
SXS 894	Creative Work Project	3
SXS 895	Research Project	
SXS 898	Master's Thesis	
<b>Required for degree</b>		<b>30</b>

## Elective Courses for Sexuality Studies Graduate Students

To satisfy their elective requirements, students choose from an array of Sexuality Studies courses. Graduate students generally enroll in electives at the 600 level and above, although students can, in consultation with their advisor, choose any course at level 300 and above to complete the required 9 elective units. Consult the online class schedule (<http://www.sfsu.edu/online/clssch.htm>) for each semester's offerings.

In addition to the seminars faculty offer in Sexuality Studies and other departments, students may enroll in one of three courses that afford opportunities to work closely with a faculty member as a teaching or research intern, on a directed reading, or other independent project. As described in the Bulletin, SXS 899: Independent Study involves work "planned, developed, and completed under the direction of a member of the program faculty. The course is open only to graduate students who have demonstrated the ability to do independent work." Students may also enroll in SXS 723: Teaching Internship in Sexuality Studies or SXS 724: Research Internship in Sexuality Studies. Like independent studies, students enrolled in internship courses work under the direction and with the permission of faculty. If these options appeal to you, talk with the Graduate Studies Coordinator and your mentor to get more information.

## Academic Load

Full-time SF State graduate students register for 8-12 units each semester; and financial aid packages routinely require full-time attendance—a minimum of 8 units. Most Sexuality Studies students register for 9

units (3 courses) each semester. Before registering for more than 12 units, students must discuss their workload with their mentor and Culminating Experience advisor and get the approval of the Graduate Studies Coordinator. Graduate students must maintain a 3.0 GPA to remain enrolled in the MA program.

Sequence of Courses

The table below outlines a sequence of courses required to complete the MA in the suggested two years. This sequence reflects current planning for course offerings and is subject to change based on faculty availability and budgetary resources.

YEAR 1					
FIRST SEMESTER			SECOND SEMESTER		
FALL			SPRING		
COURSE #	TITLE	UNITS	COURSE #	TITLE	UNITS
800	Sociocultural Foundations of Sexuality	3	801	Biological and Psychological Foundations*	3
881	Research Methods in Sexuality Studies	3	<i>advanced methods</i>	SXS 884 or other approved course	3
<i>elective</i>	Sexuality in Historical Perspectives (SXS 702); Teaching Internship (SXS 723), Research Internship (SXS 724); (SXS 772); Directed Reading (SXS 896); Independent Study (899). Consult with Professor Fields about these and other options	3	890	Professional Development	3
		<b>Semester units</b>			<b>Semester units</b>
		<b>9</b>			<b>9</b>
YEAR 2					
THIRD SEMESTER			FOURTH SEMESTER		
FALL			SPRING		
COURSE #	TITLE	UNITS	COURSE #	TITLE	UNITS
<i>advanced methods</i>	SXS 884 or other approved course	1-3	<i>culminating experience</i>	SXS 894, 895, or 898	3
<i>electives</i>	SXS 701 or 702, 723, 724, 896, 899 or other approved course, depending on offerings	6-9	884	<i>recommended to support presentation of Culminating Experience</i>	1
			<i>In 4<sup>th</sup> semester, students may decide to enroll in electives to maintain full-time status</i>		
<i>Submit Advancement to Candidacy and Culminating Experience forms</i>			<i>Submit Application for Award of Degree /Graduation Form; complete Culminating Experience by university deadline to ensure Spring graduation.</i>		
		<b>Semester units</b>			<b>Semester units</b>
		<b>9</b>			<b>3+</b>
<b>GRADUATE APPROVED PROGRAM = 30 UNITS</b>					

## Culminating Experience

All MA students in Sexuality Studies complete a Culminating Experience as part of their degree requirements. The university offers three ways to fulfill this requirement.

- *SXS 894 Creative Work Project*: This Culminating Experience is an original creative work. Projects must be described in a written document that summarizes the project's relation to other work in the area, its rationale, its significance, and its creative methodologies. Graduate Approved Program and Proposal for Culminating Experience Requirement forms must be approved by the Graduate Division before registration.
- *SXS 895 Research Project*: This Culminating Experience is a field study or research project. It must incorporate the application of knowledge and techniques acquired in the student's program of study. The field study or research project must be described in a written document that includes the project's significance, objectives, methodology, and a conclusion. An oral defense of the project may be required. Graduate Approved Program and Proposal for Culminating Experience Requirement forms must be approved by the Graduate Division before registration.
- *SXS 898 Thesis*: A thesis is the written product of an original study. It demonstrates clarity of purpose, critical and independent thinking, and accurate and thorough documentation. Normally an oral defense of the thesis will be required. Students completing a thesis should review and follow the Guidelines for the Preparation and Submission of Theses and Written Creative Works found on-line through the Division of Graduate Studies web site or at the Rapid Copy Center. Graduate Approved Program and Proposal for Culminating Experience Requirement forms must be approved by the Graduate Division before registration.

Reflecting faculty expertise and capacity and student interest, few Sexuality Studies students have enrolled in SXS 894 or SXS 895 in recent years. However, as we gain core and affiliated faculty, we hope and expect this will change. Before enrolling in either SXS 894 or SXS 895, you must meet with the Graduate Studies Coordinator to ensure you have the support you need to complete the project. The coordinator will ask whether you have assembled a Culminating Experience committee that can evaluate and support your work.

### Committee

Students must organize a Culminating Experience committee to evaluate their work. Please see Advising and Mentorship above for clarification about who can serve on students' committees.

Students will indicate the members of their committees on the Culminating Experience Form. After this form is submitted an approved, students must submit a Revision of Culminating Experience Committee form to the Division of Graduate Studies before changing the composition of their committees.

### Oral Defense

This work is completed during their final semester at SF State. Most students present the results and products of their Culminating Experiences at a capstone event in the Spring of their second year. This presentation satisfies the oral defense required of all SF State students who complete a thesis as their culminating experience.

## IRB Approval

All SF State researchers collecting data with human subjects must submit a protocol to the Institutional Review Board (IRB) and secure IRB approval. Thus, IRB approval is required for all proposed student research projects pursued outside of supervised courses—including MA thesis research—and any research that students plan to present to audiences outside of a course (for example, at professional meetings or in journals). Students must receive approval before beginning any research activity involving these subjects, and no student whose research involves human or animal subjects will be allowed to enroll in the Culminating Experience course until the research activity has been approved by CPHS or UACUC.

Students will become familiar with the human and animal subjects requirements and protocols in SXS 881 and SXS 890. They should plan to complete their IRB protocols with the guidance and support of the SXS 881 and 890 instructors and their Culminating Experience advisor (first reader).

See below, Graduate Studies Designations and Requirements, for more on the IRB process.

## Registration and Grading

To register for a Culminating Experience course, students must have a 3.0 GPA in all post-baccalaureate course work completed. Before registering, students must receive signed approval from their committee members on the Graduate Approved Program and Proposal for Culminating Experience Requirement forms and obtain approval of the Division of Graduate Studies. Students must also complete the Human Subjects Protocol Approval Form before or at the same time as this Form. See below, Graduate Studies Designations and Requirements, for more on the Proposal for Culminating Experience Requirement form.

Students who do not complete the course by the end of the semester of registration will be issued a grade of RP (Report in Progress) or, if warranted, a NC (No Credit). When the student completes the project, a grade change to CR (Credit) will be submitted to the Registrar's Office.

You have a one-semester grace period after the semester you enroll in your Culminating Experience course to complete the requirement. If you do not complete your Culminating Experience within the two semesters allotted, you are required to maintain continuous enrollment through the College of Extended Learning until you earn your degree. See <http://www.sfsu.edu/~gradstdy/forms/culminating-experience-course-through-CEL.pdf> to enroll. You have 7 years from the semester you are admitted to complete your Culminating Experience. After 7 years, your enrollment in the university will be terminated, and you will need to reapply or request an extension.

## Preparation and Submission

Detailed instructions for preparing and submitting MA theses are online at <http://grad.sfsu.edu/content/current-students/thesis>. Creative Projects and Research Projects do not have to adhere to these requirements.

### *Formatting Review*

The Division of Graduate Studies will review theses submitted by the published deadline to determine if the thesis meets the requirements set forth in the guidelines. Should corrections be necessary, students must revise and resubmit the corrected copy by the published university deadline. Please plan ahead.

### *Submission*

The original document with signatures of the faculty committee members must be filed in the SF State J.

Paul Leonard Library. Students must pay a fee to cover the costs of preparing the Library copy. A receipt from the SF State Rapid Copy Center (in Leonard Library) is sent to the graduation evaluator to verify that this process has been completed. When submitting your thesis for printing, please remember to request an additional copy be sent to the Sexuality Studies Department.

*Additional Forms*

The University requires graduate students submit a series of forms with strict deadlines: an Application for Award of Degree, Receipt for Master's Thesis or Written Creative Work, and Report of Completion. See below, Graduate Studies Designations and Requirements, for more on these documents and deadlines.

# Graduate Studies Designations and Requirements

## Admissions Classifications

Upon admission to SF State, students are assigned a formal classification. Please consult your admissions materials to confirm your admission classification. Classifications have consequences for your coursework plans and may mean you have additional paperwork to complete.

- *Graduate Classified:* Student admitted without contingencies. Students must meet program and University requirements.
- *Graduate Conditional Classified:* Student must remediate or complete all deficiencies identified before admission. Students must apply for classified status. Please contact the Graduate Division to reapply. If admitted, students must meet all program and University requirements.
- *Contingent Admittance:* If students were admitted before their undergraduate degree was earned, they must forward the necessary transcripts with degree posted before the end of the first graduate semester; otherwise admission will be cancelled, the students will be returned to undergraduate status, and/or they will have to reapply for admission as a graduate student. All units taken for post-baccalaureate credit will thus be lost.

## Documents and Deadlines

SF State graduate students must complete a series of forms and meet a series of university deadlines on their way to earning their degrees. Completing the forms correctly and on time helps ensure the timely receipt of your degree. Completed forms will be submitted to and reviewed by the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (ORSP) Institutional Review Board (IRB) and the Graduate Studies Division.

### *ORSP Institutional Review Board*

All research conducted by at SF State involving human and/or animal subjects requires the approval of the Committee for the Protection of Human Subjects (CPHS) and/or the University Animal Care and Use Committee (UACUC). In Sexuality Studies, this is immediately relevant for research involving human subjects in interviews, focus groups, participant observation, surveys, or other data collection.

Visit the following website for more about the approval process: <http://www.sfsu.edu/~protocol/>.

You'll find Human Protections forms online at

[http://research.sfsu.edu/protocol/submit\\_protocol/human\\_protections\\_forms](http://research.sfsu.edu/protocol/submit_protocol/human_protections_forms).

### *Graduate Studies*

All students must complete the Advancement to Candidacy (ATC) and Proposal for Culminating Experience (PCE) forms in the third of the four semesters they are enrolled in the Sexuality Studies MA Program after completion of 18 units and prior to the semester of enrolling in your Culminating Experience course.

Students can gain access to the ATC and PCE forms online at <http://www.sfsu.edu/~gradstdy/atc-form.htm>; Culminating Experience forms are online <http://www.sfsu.edu/~gradstdy/culminating-experience-form.htm>. Please note additional forms accompany the completion of your Culminating Experience. See below for details.

## ADVANCEMENT TO CANDIDACY (ATC) FORM

The ATC form lists all courses the student took or intends to take to complete the MA degree. Students must submit the ATC form after completing eighteen units, but before completing the last six units of their degree. Thus, students should submit the ATC form to the Graduate Division during the third semester of our two-year program. Submitting the form early serves no purpose, as students may discover the University will not offer courses listed in the ATC form. This form is online at <http://grad.sfsu.edu/content/current-students/atc>

The form requires the signature of the student's Culminating Experience advisor, the graduate coordinator, and/or department chair. Once Graduate Studies approves the ATC, the student advances to *candidacy*. ATC program forms remain valid as long as the student maintains continuous enrollment and does not exceed the seven-year limit towards the degree.

After approving the ATC form, Graduate Studies will mail a copy to the student. Students should retain the copy of the approved ATC as it will list precisely the remaining requirements to earn the MA degree.

The following minimum standards must be met in all MA degree ATCs.

- A minimum of 30 semester units, or more if required by your program
- A 3.0 GPA in course work listed on the ATC and in all post-baccalaureate work taken at SFSU
- No lower-division course work (100-299)
- No more than 30% of courses at undergraduate-level (300-698); (the undergraduate-level 699 course will not be allowed on the ATC)
- No prerequisite course work
- Grades of C or better (grades of C- and lower may not be included)
- Minimum of one-half of the units at the 700-899 level
- No more than 12 semester units taken before obtaining classified status
- No more than 30% of the work with CR grades
- Maximum of 6 units in special study courses (899) or experimental courses (674, 677, 874, 877)
- Maximum of 4 student teaching units
- Maximum of 6 semester units of any combination of extension work, credit by examination, and/or transfer work, in a 30-unit program (for transfer credit, submit a Petition for Transfer Unit Evaluation: <http://grad.sfsu.edu/sites/default/files/assets/forms/transfer-unit-evaluation.pdf>)
- Specific description of how the student has met the two-level written English proficiency requirement
- Indication of final demonstration of competence, such as a thesis, field research project, comprehensive examination, or approved Culminating Experience

Students must complete their program approved on the ATC form within seven years as specified by The California Code of Regulations, Title 5, Education.

## CULMINATING EXPERIENCE FORM

Also in accordance with Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations, students must meet the requirement of a Culminating Experience by the satisfactory completion of a thesis, creative or research

project, comprehensive examination, or a combination of more than one of these. An oral defense of the work is normally required. See below for a discussion of the Culminating Experience.

Students must file a Proposal for Culminating Experience Form during the third semester subsequent to or simultaneous with the ATC form. Students are not permitted to enroll in a Culminating Experience course (SXS 894, 895 or 898) until the Division of Graduate Studies approves the ATC and Culminating Experience Forms. Culminating Experience forms are online at <http://www.sfsu.edu/~gradstudy/culminating-experience-form.htm>.

#### APPLICATION FOR AWARD OF DEGREE, REPORT OF COMPLETION, AND RECEIPT OF MASTER'S THESIS OR WRITTEN CREATIVE WORK

An Application for Award of Degree (<http://grad.sfsu.edu/content/current-students/award-degree>) must be filed with the Division of Graduate Studies. An application fee of \$100 must be paid at the bursar's office each time the student submits an application for graduation. Application fees do not automatically appear on the student's charges. The application for graduation and the application fees are non-transferrable/non-extendable. If the student does not meet degree requirements by the deadline for the term in which the student applies, the student will need to re-apply and pay for graduation for the correct graduating term.

To certify completion of their Culminating Experiences, students also need to submit a Receipt for Master's Thesis or Written Creative Work and a Report of Completion. The Report of Completion is obtained from the Sexuality Studies Department office. The Receipt for Master's Thesis or Written Creative Work may be obtained in the Division of Graduate Studies (ADM 254) when you bring your thesis or written creative work in for a formatting review. The Receipt for Master's Thesis or Written Creative Work must be verified at the campus library's Digital Scholarship Center (LIB 80) when you submit your document and pay the binding fees.

We cannot stress enough the importance of meeting university deadlines and, in particular, of submitting these forms by the university deadlines at the end of your 2nd year. When students forget to submit either the Receipt for Master's Thesis or Written Creative Work or the Report of Completion, the university can deny their graduation. Important deadlines can be found here: <http://grad.sfsu.edu/content/student-deadlines>. To ensure your degree requirements are completed, review your copy of the approved ATC, PCE, and the *Top Five Reasons For Denial of Graduation* (<http://grad.sfsu.edu/content/current-students/degree-denial-reasons>).



## **Sexuality Studies Graduate Student Organization**

The Sexuality Studies Graduate Student Organization (GSO) is an opportunity for students to participate in the formal governance and informal culture of the Sexuality Studies Department.

Each year, the GSO organizes the Department's capstone conference and celebration for second-year students completing their theses. GSO representatives also participate in the orientation for first-year students. Other GSO activities reflect the interests and needs of current students. In the past, informal activities have included peer support and social events. In large part, the GSO is what the students make it.

Every student is a member of the GSO by virtue of being enrolled in the MA Sexuality Studies Program. Each cohort elects two students to serve as their GSO cohort representatives to the faculty. Cohort representatives maintain the student Facebook pages; meet regularly with the faculty member acting as Graduate Studies Coordinator; and attend monthly department meetings with the Sociology and Sexuality Studies faculty. Early in the Fall semester, the first-year cohort will elect its representatives with the support of the second-year representatives and the Graduate Studies Coordinator. The second-year GSO representatives in 2016-17 are Rachel Henry and Spencer Ruelos

## Campus Resources

### Center for Research and Education on Gender and Sexuality (CREGS)

CREGS is a community of sexuality researchers, educators, and activists committed to understanding and addressing the intersection of race, class, gender, identity, and sexuality in the pursuit of social justice.

**Our Mission:** To conduct innovative research and education programming that addresses social inequities and promotes sexual well-being.

**Our Vision:** Through our research and education programs CREGS will build on existing partnerships with academic, state, federal and community stakeholders to increase sexuality discourse and participate in collective actions to reduce persistent sexuality inequities.

Dr. Colleen Hoff, Professor of Sexuality Studies, directs CREGS. Professors Bost, Clay, Fields, Martinez, and Melendez are research faculty at CREGS, and many Sexuality Studies students work at CREGS as interns, members of the research and administrative staff, and for independent study.

CREGS is located at SF State's Downtown Campus, 835 Market Street, Suite 523. We encourage you to contact CREGS researchers and staff before visiting the Center.

### SF State Live@edu E-mail Account

Students at SF State are provided with an email account. To find out more, visit <http://tech.sfsu.edu/it/guides/live-edu-email>

### J. Paul Leonard Library

SF State's J. Paul Leonard Library (<http://www.library.sfsu.edu>) holds over 3 million items, including books, periodicals, electronic databases, government publications, microforms, audio-visual media, computer software, and maps. The Library home page has information about hours and resources, including computer labs, laptops for checkout and printing. You can search InvestiGator, the library's online catalogue of these materials, remotely at <http://opac.sfsu.edu/>.

Your Library Account will allow you to manage your checked out books and borrow from other libraries. Create your PIN at <https://opac.sfsu.edu/patroninfo>. Use your University ID and password for remote access to library resources, including journal databases and e-books.

Library faculty and staff have prepared additional materials to orient you to the Library, called Research Guides, including one for Sexuality Studies at <http://libguides.sfsu.edu/sexuality> prepared by Librarian Chris Mays.

### *Library Databases*

While conducting literature reviews for your term papers, research projects and Master's Theses, please consult the many databases available through the Leonard Library web site (<http://library.sfsu.edu/find-articles-more-databases>). These databases offer full-text, PDF versions of articles in many leading academic journals. The databases recommended to begin your research for Sexuality Studies are found at <http://library.sfsu.edu/sexuality-studies-research>

*Annual Reviews and Literature Reviews for Research/Thesis Projects*

The Annual Reviews of Anthropology, History, Psychology, Public Health, and Sociology may be especially helpful when conducting literature reviews for papers and MA theses. To find Annual Reviews, one way is to go to InvestiGator, select a title search, and type in “Annual Review of ...” The library provides online versions of many Annual Reviews.

## Second-Year Sexuality Studies Students

Members of the second-year cohort organized this list of topics from their academic, political, and personal interests. The second-year students listed are happy to talk with you and answer any questions you have. If they can't help you directly, they'll know who can.

For general help, concerns, or questions, contact the second-year GSO representatives:

Rachel Henry [rhenry2@mail.sfsu.edu](mailto:rhenry2@mail.sfsu.edu)

Spencer Ruelos [sruelos@mail.sfsu.edu](mailto:sruelos@mail.sfsu.edu)

**Acroyoga:** Avry Schellenbach [aschelle@mail.sfsu.edu](mailto:aschelle@mail.sfsu.edu)

**APA Style:** Calli Johnson [cjohns14@mail.sfsu.edu](mailto:cjohns14@mail.sfsu.edu)

**Blues Dancing:** Joanna Lamstein [jlamstei@mail.sfsu.edu](mailto:jlamstei@mail.sfsu.edu)

**Commuting:** Mallory Zuckermann [malloryz@mail.sfsu.edu](mailto:malloryz@mail.sfsu.edu)

**Drag:** Nick Newton [nnewton1@mail.sfsu.edu](mailto:nnewton1@mail.sfsu.edu)

**Fat Studies:** Avry Schellenbach [aschelle@mail.sfsu.edu](mailto:aschelle@mail.sfsu.edu)

**Gender Studies:** Solana Willis [swillis1@mail.sfsu.edu](mailto:swillis1@mail.sfsu.edu)

**Improv Comedy:** Avry Schellenbach [aschelle@mail.sfsu.edu](mailto:aschelle@mail.sfsu.edu)

**Institutional Review Board:** Calli Johnson [cjohns14@mail.sfsu.edu](mailto:cjohns14@mail.sfsu.edu)

**Interviewing:** Rachel Henry [rhenry2@mail.sfsu.edu](mailto:rhenry2@mail.sfsu.edu)

**Media Studies:** Joanna Lamstein [jlamstei@mail.sfsu.edu](mailto:jlamstei@mail.sfsu.edu) and Solana Willis [swillis1@mail.sfsu.edu](mailto:swillis1@mail.sfsu.edu)

**On-Campus Housing:** Rachel Henry [rhenry2@mail.sfsu.edu](mailto:rhenry2@mail.sfsu.edu)

**Organizational Affiliations:** Nicolette Gullickson [ngullick@mail.sfsu.edu](mailto:ngullick@mail.sfsu.edu)

**Phenomenology:** Calli Johnson [cjohns14@mail.sfsu.edu](mailto:cjohns14@mail.sfsu.edu)

**Podcasts:** Jill Salazar [jsalaza1@mail.sfsu.edu](mailto:jsalaza1@mail.sfsu.edu) and Solana Willis [swillis1@mail.sfsu.edu](mailto:swillis1@mail.sfsu.edu)

**Polyamory:** Spencer Ruelos [sruelos@mail.sfsu.edu](mailto:sruelos@mail.sfsu.edu)

**Pornography:** Alicia Mcpherson [ammc@mail.sfsu.edu](mailto:ammc@mail.sfsu.edu)

**Prison Abolition:** Jill Salazar [jsalaza1@mail.sfsu.edu](mailto:jsalaza1@mail.sfsu.edu)

**Qualitrics:** Joanna Lamstein [jlamstei@mail.sfsu.edu](mailto:jlamstei@mail.sfsu.edu)

### Queer Resources

*Campus and Community Resources:* Rachel Henry [rhenry2@mail.sfsu.edu](mailto:rhenry2@mail.sfsu.edu)

*Queer Parties for Women and POC:* Jill Salazar [jsalaza1@mail.sfsu.edu](mailto:jsalaza1@mail.sfsu.edu)

**Queer Theory:** Spencer Ruelos [sruelos@mail.sfsu.edu](mailto:sruelos@mail.sfsu.edu)

### Restaurants and Bars

*Authentic Mexican Restaurants:* Michelle Parra [mparra2@mail.sfsu.edu](mailto:mparra2@mail.sfsu.edu)

*Oakland Bars:* Alicia Mcpherson [ammc@mail.sfsu.edu](mailto:ammc@mail.sfsu.edu)

*SF Restaurants and Bars:* Nicolette Gullickson [ngullick@mail.sfsu.edu](mailto:ngullick@mail.sfsu.edu)

**Scholarships:** Nick Newton [nnewton1@mail.sfsu.edu](mailto:nnewton1@mail.sfsu.edu)

**Science and Sexuality:** Kathleen Morrison [kmorriso@mail.sfsu.edu](mailto:kmorriso@mail.sfsu.edu)

**Sexual Violence:** Jill Salazar [jsalaza1@mail.sfsu.edu](mailto:jsalaza1@mail.sfsu.edu)

**Prioritization:** Kathleen Morrison [kmorriso@mail.sfsu.edu](mailto:kmorriso@mail.sfsu.edu) and Mallory Zuckermann [malloryz@mail.sfsu.edu](mailto:malloryz@mail.sfsu.edu)

**Teaching and Research Internships:** Michelle Parra [mparra2@mail.sfsu.edu](mailto:mparra2@mail.sfsu.edu)

**Tinder Dates:** Kathleen Morrison [kmorriso@mail.sfsu.edu](mailto:kmorriso@mail.sfsu.edu)

**Video Games:** Spencer Ruelos [sruelos@mail.sfsu.edu](mailto:sruelos@mail.sfsu.edu)

## Final Note

We hope this handbook answers some of your initial questions about the department. Do not hesitate to contact the Graduate Studies Coordinator, Department Coordinator, or Graduate Student Organization representatives with additional questions. We are committed to ensuring your graduate degree is a meaningful, challenging, and satisfying educational experience.

You were one of many competitive applicants to the MA program in Sexuality Studies, and simply being admitted to the Department is an accomplishment. We look forward to getting to know more about you, your research interests, and your goals. We trust that many more accomplishments lie ahead.

On behalf of the SXS community,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jessica Fields".

Jessica Fields, PhD  
Professor and Graduate Studies Coordinator  
Sexuality Studies