

## Medical Student Education



The Department of Psychiatry has a strong presence in all four years of the UCSF medical

school curriculum. At UCSF, nearly 10% of students choose psychiatry as a career each year, higher than the national average. The Department of Psychiatry Medical Student Education (MSE) Program coordinates:

- Required and elective medical school courses
- Elective courses for visiting students interested in the UCSF Psychiatry residency program
- Medical student career advising
- Teaching faculty recruitment and development

## Contacts

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## Information for visiting students

Fourth-year clinical electives are offered to qualified students enrolled in U.S. and Canadian medical schools through a competitive process. Please visit the School of Medicine Visiting Students website <sup>[4]</sup> for eligibility requirements and application forms.

## Teaching opportunities

There are teaching opportunities for volunteer and paid faculty in modalities such as preceptorships and small group teaching. To learn about opportunities to teach in the Department of Psychiatry, please contact Descartes Li, MD <sup>[1]</sup>.

For current faculty members, the School of Medicine Academy of Medical Educators <sup>[5]</sup> provides resources on improving your teaching skills and other faculty development opportunities.

## Information for premedical students interested in psychiatry

Psychiatry is a medical specialty, so psychiatric training follows general medical training. The most common path that people take is to complete a baccalaureate (college) degree and then apply to medical school for their MD degree (or osteopathic medical school for a DO degree). During the four years of medical school, all students do clinical rotations in many different specialties (e.g., Family Medicine, General Surgery, Internal Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Pediatrics, Psychiatry). At the end of medical school, students choose a specialty career path and apply to residency programs in that specialty.

For more information about becoming a psychiatrist, please visit the American Psychiatric Association website

[6].

## Medical student courses and activities

### Required courses

Psychiatry has an essential role in the UCSF Bridges Curriculum [7], which is an integrated curriculum across all four years of the MD program at UCSF.

The Department of Psychiatry has a leading role in the following courses:

- **Brain, Mind, and Behavior:** An interdisciplinary, pre-clerkship course covering basic neurosciences, neuroanatomy, neurology, pharmacology, and psychiatry topics.
- **Clinical Psychiatry Clerkship:** This has several formats. One is a traditional four-week core inpatient or consultation rotation with a half-day rotation in an ambulatory setting. UCSF also offers longitudinal clerkships at Kaiser Oakland (KLIC) with a modified version at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center (model SFGH) and the San Francisco VA Medical Center (VALOR). Clerkship sites are Langley Porter Psychiatric Hospital and Clinics, Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center, San Francisco Veterans Medical Center, and UCSF Fresno.

### Elective courses

Psychiatry sponsors a wide range of pre-clinical and clinical electives throughout all years of medical school.

### Course catalog

More detailed information for both required and elective courses can be found at [meded.ucsf.edu/mse/course-and-schedule-information](https://meded.ucsf.edu/mse/course-and-schedule-information) [8].

### Student interest groups

- Psychiatry Interest Group
- Brain Interest Group

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Psychiatry Intranet  
UCSF Webmail  
UCSF Main Site

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## Links

[1] <http://profiles.ucsf.edu/descartes.li>

[2] <https://directory.ucsf.edu/people/search/id/23854>

[3] <https://directory.ucsf.edu/people/search/id/130731>

[4] <http://www.medschool.ucsf.edu/visitingstudents/>

[5] <http://meded.ucsf.edu/cfe/faculty-development>

[6] <https://www.psychiatry.org/residents-medical-students/medical-students/choosing-a-career-in-psychiatry>

[7] <http://meded.ucsf.edu/bridges>

[8] <http://meded.ucsf.edu/mse/course-and-schedule-information>