

**San Francisco Neuropsychology, PC
Practicum Training in Clinical
Neuropsychology**

**San Francisco
Neuropsychology**



**Training Brochure
2021-2022**

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Overview and Tracks

San Francisco Neuropsychology, PC (SFN) is currently accepting applications for our [Bilingual Spanish Track](#) and the [Lifespan Neuropsychology Track](#) of the 2021-2022 practicum training year. SFN is an institute providing neuropsychological assessment, diagnostic services, and treatment to individuals [across the lifespan](#). We serve a broad range of individuals in the Northern California region. In addition to out-of-pocket referrals, we receive referrals from a variety of insurances and medical centers in the area. We are dedicated to the education and training of clinicians interested in pursuing careers in neuropsychology. The primary objective of the practicum program is to provide training in the neuropsychological evaluation of children, adolescents, adults, and seniors with a wide range of medical/neurological, developmental, and psychiatric disorders.

[Bilingual Spanish Track](#): Approximately 40% of our patients are Spanish speaking or bilingual. The trainee in this track, in addition to conducting English-speaking evaluations, will have the opportunity to conduct comprehensive evaluations in Spanish with bilingual and monolingual Spanish speaking patients across the lifespan utilizing measures specifically normed for this population. The opportunity to assist with Spanish-speaking forensic cases (e.g., criminal, personal injury, and immigration) will also be available. Supervision by a Spanish-speaking neuropsychologist with experience conducting neuropsychological evaluations in Spanish will be provided.

[Lifespan Neuropsychology Track](#): The practicum trainee in this track will have the opportunity to conduct comprehensive evaluations with patients across the lifespan. Additionally, we receive many referrals for multicultural/bilingual evaluations. Thus, this trainee will have the opportunity to work with a medical interpreter in conducting neuropsychological evaluations with patients who speak a variety of languages, such as Tagalog, Arabic, Cantonese, Mandarin, and Russian.

Neuropsychology Training Model and Goals

The goal of the Clinical Neuropsychology Practicum Training Program at SFN is to develop the trainee's skills in a manner that adheres to current standards in clinical neuropsychology. Our training model utilizes a developmental approach. We acknowledge that practicum students begin with different levels of experience and we will work to build upon baseline skills acquired through graduate school training.

Training in clinical neuropsychology is achieved through:

- Focused learning by means of intensive immersion in supervised clinical experiences working with qualified mentors who are experts in clinical neuropsychology.
- Didactic training to provide a background and context in the empirical, clinical, and other literatures relevant to clinical neuropsychology.
- Professional development and socialization into the profession and practice of Clinical Neuropsychology.
- A variety of training opportunities designed to foster multicultural competence and the ability to work effectively with individuals of various ethnic backgrounds, sexual orientation status, and religious affiliations.

Training Emphasis

The vast majority of students' patient contact will be for neuropsychological assessment. *Students may indicate a preference for pediatric or geriatric patients, but all students must be ready and willing to work with all age ranges.* Students are supervised, and if an age range is new to a student, there will be additional one-on-one supervision.

Specific Training Settings

[SFN Outpatient Neuropsychological Assessment](#): Supervised training and experience in the assessment and

evaluation of individuals ranging in age from early childhood to older adulthood, demonstrating a wide range of presenting problems, is the primary focus of the practicum. Patients are referred by neurologists, pediatricians, attorneys, schools, psychiatrists, psychologists, related services (SL, OT, PT), and other specialists. Common patient populations include individuals with ADHD/LD, traumatic brain injury, stroke, dementia, epilepsy, brain tumors, movement disorders, multiple sclerosis, and psychiatric conditions. Opportunities to conduct forensic evaluations are also available (capacity, personal injury, and criminal). Trainees will be expected to participate in all aspects of the evaluation including case preparation and record review, intake evaluations, neuropsychological testing, report writing, feedback to patients and family members, communication and consultation with healthcare professionals and school professionals, and additional case management needs.

Teleneuropsychology: In the wake of the COVID-19 global pandemic shelter in place recommendations, SFN transitioned to teleneuropsychological evaluations via HIPAA compliant Zoom. Trainees participate in all aspects of the evaluation.

Trainee Responsibilities

- Neuropsychological test administration under supervision including, but not limited to, administration of neuropsychological assessment instruments, scoring, and report writing. Students will also aid in the intake process, interviewing patients, and providing feedback.
- Dependent on availability, students will have the opportunity to conduct therapy/cognitive rehabilitation. Therapy is provided only to patients with neuropsychological conditions and/or their families/caregivers.
- Therapy training approaches: CBT, ACT, cognitive rehabilitation.

Supervision Training Model

An apprenticeship model is employed for all supervision. Students are introduced to the mechanics of testing and the psychometrics of scoring. They learn how to compose a complete neuropsychological report, about various disorders and relevant recommendations, clinical interviewing, and feedback skills. Practicum trainees will also have the opportunity to engage in a tiered supervision model with postdoctoral fellows.

COVID-19 Training Considerations

Currently, SFN is conducting neuropsychological evaluations via teleneuropsychology. We utilize video-conferencing (HIPAA compliant Zoom) to conduct our evaluations by providing remote audiovisual presentation of tests instructions and stimuli in accordance with APA and Inter Organization Practice Committee (IOPC) guidelines. We have continued to see nearly the same number of cases via telehealth (both pediatric and adults/seniors). Thus, the use of telehealth has not significantly impacted trainees' hours as they continue to see about two to three cases per month. Supervision is also currently conducted remotely via video-conferencing as well as real-time remote observation of a student's performance during the evaluation.

Keeping the safety of our staff, trainees, and patients' in mind, we hope to return to in-office testing as COVID-19 guidelines/recommendations permit. Currently, trainees are allowed, though not required, to go into the office. SFN provides personal protective equipment (PPE) and has COVID-19 safety guidelines in place for those who go into the office. Trainees are provided necessary testing materials to conduct evaluations. Report writing is also completed remotely in accordance with HIPAA guidelines and considerations.

Practicum Schedule

- Minimum of 38 weeks required with maximum of 52 weeks. Any other arrangements must be negotiated between the agency, school director of training and the student contracted. Please estimate if necessary.

- Most trainees start over the summer. **We have rolling/flexible start dates.** However, students must attend mandatory orientation on **Wednesday 6/30/2021 9 AM – 5 PM.**
- **Hours per week:** 16-24 hours (24 hours/week is highly recommended)
- **Required Days:** Flexible (Students typically come in for 2-3 days per week.)
- **Didactics:** Mandatory didactics on Wednesday 4 PM – 5 PM may be accessed online via Zoom, so in-office presence is not required but attendance is mandatory.
- **Group Supervision/Case Conference:** Wednesdays 3 PM - 4 PM.

Didactic Experiences

Didactics include an emphasis on professional development and trainees participate in journal club, neuroanatomy series, and rounds/seminars at area universities and hospitals. Didactics will cover topics that are required by ABCN board certification including basic neurosciences, functional neuroanatomy, neuropathology, clinical neurology, clinical neuropsychological assessment, psychopathology, and psychological intervention.

A list of didactic experiences available are included below:

SFN Neuropsychology Seminar (Required; Wednesdays 4:00-5:00 PM): This weekly seminar is designed to provide a comprehensive didactic experience in conjunction with practicum and post-doctoral training at SFN. Topics covered include differential diagnosis, appropriate uses of normative data, neuropathology, neuroanatomy, neurodevelopmental disorders, cross-cultural issues in neuropsychology, and ethics.

SFN Case Conference (Required; Wednesdays 2:00-3:00 PM): A case conference/consultation group in which trainees and staff present clinical cases that are challenging or unusual.

SFN Journal Club (Required; Wednesday 4:00-5:00 PM once a month): Journal club is held by postdoctoral fellows and providers and focuses on neurological and neuropsychological conditions throughout the lifespan.

Zuckerberg SFGH Neuropsychology Service Seminar (Optional; every other Thursday 9:00-11:00 AM): Designed in conjunction with post-doctoral training with the ZSFG Neuropsychology Service, this seminar will present topics of particular relevance to individuals practicing in public health and medical settings. The seminar will cover general issues in the practice of neuropsychology, neuropathology relevant to neuropsychological assessment and consultation, practical aspects of neuropsychological and personality assessment (e.g., administration and interpretation), and case conferences.

California Pacific Medical Center (CPMC) Fact Finding (Optional; Thursdays once a month 1:00-3:00 PM): Fact finding practice and demonstration with board certified neuropsychologist in preparation for board certification.

UCSF Memory and Aging Center Grand Rounds (Optional; Fridays 8:00-9:00 AM): This weekly didactic series features guest lectures and case presentations covering a wide range of topics pertinent to clinical neuropsychology, including neuroanatomy, neuroimaging, cognitive, behavioral, and physical manifestations of a variety of neurodegenerative disorders, assessment, and clinical intervention.

UCSF Memory and Aging Center Behavioral Neurology Tuesday Lecture (Optional; Tuesdays 4:00-5:00 PM): This weekly didactic alternates between journal club, research seminar, and mini clinical-pathological case conference formats and covers a wide range of complex topics in neurology and cognitive neuroscience.

UCSF Memory and Aging Center Clinical-Pathological Case Conference (Optional; Tuesdays Monthly 3:00-5:00 PM): Monthly case presentation led by a neurology fellow and neuropsychology fellow. The

presentation consists of clinical data (neurology exam findings, neuropsychological testing, neuroimaging, genetic data), in addition to neuropathological diagnosis from autopsy.

VA Palo Alto Brain Cutting (Optional; Twice a Year): This didactic is a live brain dissection in which the neurologist or neuropathologist characterizes the neuroanatomy of each slice as well as neurological syndrome present.

HNS Cross-Cultural Neuropsychology Webinar (Optional; Last Friday Monthly, 10:00-11:00 AM): A virtual didactic program organized by Dr. Adrianna Strutt of Baylor College of Medicine focusing on cross-cultural/Latino neuropsychology.

UCSF School of Medicine Brain, Mind, and Behavior: A Remarkable Universe (Optional; Self-Paced Online): This UCSF Osher Mini Medical School Series presents new discoveries in brain sciences that allows us to better understand the interplay of memory, brain, and mind.

NAN Clinical Neuroanatomy Course (Optional; Self-Paced Online): The course combines text readings, online material, video, supplemental thought questions, and student-instructor interactions via an online discussion board. The goal of this course is to provide students with a working knowledge of the basic neuroanatomy and clinical neuropsychological application of such knowledge. 3-5 hours per week is necessary to commit to the course and to pass course requirements students must 1) complete all multiple-choice posttest examinations, earning a cumulative percentage >74% correct and 2) participate in assigned course discussions and activities as judged by the instructor.

Application Requirements

BAPIC Deadline: 2/22/2021 at 11:59 PM

Required application materials:

1. Cover letter.
2. A recent CV with an appendix indicating which assessment measures you have administered, the number of times you have administered each measure, and the number of integrated reports you have written using those instruments.
3. Two letters of recommendation, preferably speaking to your assessment skills.
4. Two de-identified reports, preferably integrating neuropsychological measures.
5. Unofficial graduate transcripts.

Please send application materials via email to Aikisha@SanFranciscoNeuropsychology.org

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