#### **Frequently Asked Questions**

## • Do I need to take the GRE? What if I have a Master Degree already?

<u>All</u> applicants must take the GRE general and psychology exams. No exceptions to this are made. The test is only offered by ETS twice a year. Applicants who have not taken the November psychology exam may submit their applications before taking the April exam. However, if accepted to the program, you will still be required to take the exam and submit your scores in order to enroll into the fall 2012 class.

### • Do I have to take the Subject GRE?

Yes. All applicants must take the Subject GRE. However, since this subject test is only given twice a year, we do allow applicants to apply to the program without the scores. If accepted, students must take the April 2012 exam and submit their scores in order to be allowed to enroll in classes that fall.

# • Will directly contacting the director or faculty with my credentials increase my chances of receiving an interview?

Submitting letters and/or CVs to faculty or staff of the program will not increase your chances of receiving an interview. Note that these documents will not be placed in your application file. Additionally, applicants are encouraged to consider all correspondences with program faculty, staff, and current students formal.

#### • Can I submit more than three letters of recommendation?

You may submit more than 3 letters of recommendation, however we do not guarantee that the reviewer will read more than 3 of the submitted letters.

#### • What kind of formatting do you expect on the hardcopy materials?

Each page of your CV, Personal Statement, Statement of Research Inquiry, and Scholarly Work MUST be labeled with your name, last 4 digits of social security number, and the material type in the top right corner of your pages, (e.g.: NAME - #### – Personal Statement; NAME - #### – Research Statement; NAME - #### - CV; NAME - #### - Scholarly Work). This ensures quick and easy processing of your materials.

## • I see two addresses to send the hardcopy materials for my application. Which one do I use?

We are now using a processing center in MA. Your materials should be sent there. However, if you already submitted them to the Brookville, NY campus address, that is fine, the materials will be forwarded by us to the processing center. The Processing Center address is: Graduate Admissions, LIU Post, Admissions Processing Center, P.O. Box 805, Randolph, MA 02368-0805

Applicants should NOT send documents via a mailing service that requires a signature. There is no one to sign for the materials at the P.O. Box.

### • Can I submit all of my materials online?

No. The general application is completed online, (including copying and pasting your personal statement into the online form). No documents can be attached to the online

application. Your supplemental materials (CV, statements, transcripts, letters of recommendation, and optional 10 pages of scholarly work) must be submitted in hardcopy to our processing center. These materials get scanned in and added to your file for the program to review. Through ETS you will submit your GRE scores electronically.

- I have a degree in a related field already. How many transfer credits will I receive? Students are able to transfer up to 12 graduate-level transfer credits. Students will need to submit a request form, the original syllabus, and their transcripts in order for our faculty to consider the transfer request. Requests are only granted in cases where the former graduate course matches up to our courses, and in which the students' grade was acceptable to our faculty member.
- Will transferring credits reduce my tuition expense or time in the program?

  Note that transferring credits will not reduce the amount of time a student spends in our five-year program. Transferring 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, or 3<sup>rd</sup> year courses also will not change the tuition expense in these years, as students are under a flat tuition rate.

It is important to note that in some cases, transferring 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> year classes may reduce students' credit load, causing issues with their eligibility for federal loan monies above their tuition expenses.

Transferring credits will enable students to choose between two options, depending on scheduling and time. In some cases students may elect to take an extra course. Others may be able to complete upper level coursework ahead of time. Others may simply elect to have some extra time in a given semester in which a scheduled class was transferred.

- My undergraduate work was poor and is reflected in a poor GPA and transcript. However, my graduate work is stellar. Will this affect my application to the program? The short answer is yes. The review committee will look at the total of your application, including former academic work. However, applicants may include a supplemental brief paragraph to explain poor academic performance and how it has been remediated. This should be included with your hardcopy materials.
- I do not do well on standardized exams and my GRE scores are low. Will this affect my application to the program?

The short answer is yes. The review committee will look at the total of your application, including aptitude tests. However, applicants have two options if their GRE scores are low. Applicants may include a supplemental brief paragraph explaining poor performance on these exams. This should be included with your hardcopy materials.

Additionally, applicants with low GREs are strongly encouraged to submit PPI evaluation reports (via ETS). This additional evaluation piece may provide the review committee with a more detailed view of applicants' abilities academically and clinically.

The program is highly invested in having students do well in every aspect of the training program. It is imperative that students are ready for doctoral-level work in clinical

psychology. Therefore the program may require remediation for applicants before and during the program for those whose admission files indicated deficiencies.

## How do I check on the status of my application?

To check on the status of your application, please log onto the account you created when you applied. Note that the processing center may take up to 14 business days to process your materials. We ask that applicants not call the program or Graduate Admissions for status updates. We make every effort to get information out to applicants as soon as it is available.

# • Can I apply to the LIU Brooklyn Ph.D. Program in Clinical Psychology AND the LIU Post Psy.D. Program in Clinical Psychology?

Yes. These programs are completely separate from one another. Applicants may apply to both programs. Please note that each program may have different application procedures and timelines. Once an applicant submits their application online for one of the LIU doctoral programs, they should contact Graduate Admissions (via email) to ensure that their document checklist is correctly updated in our online system.

## • Should I contact the Graduate Admissions Office about my application?

Calling the Graduate Admissions Office to check on the status of your application will impede their ability to process the applications and get them to the program. We ask that applicants be patient throughout this process. Additionally, the program office will not be able to tell you if all of your documents have been received.

# • I live out of state (or out of the country), and will not be able to come for an in-person interview. Is there an alternative?

The program will arrange for applicants from outside of the area to have an interview over video conference. The program sends all interview invitations via email. Applicants will need to send their Skype username and at least four available 30 minute slots during the same few weeks our in-person interviews will take place.

## • Who will look at my file? Who will I have an interview with?

All applications are reviewed by at least two faculty members in the program. All interviewed applicants will be interviewed by at least two faculty members in the program.

## • How can I apply for financial aid from the program?

All admitted students will be given a financial aid application to complete. We make every effort to provide admitted applicants with a financial aid package offer at the time of acceptance. Within this application applicants are given the opportunity to indicate which faculty members they would like to work for, apply for teaching fellowships, as well for SafeZone coordinator positions and Service Disparity Fellowships

## • I didn't get in, who can I talk to about making my application stronger?

Faculty and staff are not able to offer feedback on individual applicants' materials before applying to the program. We recommend looking over our student outcomes listings (average GREs, GPAs, etc), as well as discussing pre-doctoral experiences with our current students to gain an understanding of our student body.

• I am reapplying, do I need to resubmit my documents or can you use the same ones? Applicants who are reapplying must resubmit <u>all</u> documents. It is highly recommended that you review and revise your materials. Applicants must resubmit GRE scores ONLY if you have retaken them since last applying. Former scores will remain in the LIU Post application system from the previous academic year.

## More questions?

After reading through our website, attending a Graduate Open House and/or contacting one of our student representatives, if you have specific questions about the program and/or admissions process, please feel free to email the program coordinator at: <a href="mailto:pamela.pruitt@liu.edu">pamela.pruitt@liu.edu</a>.