



St. Xavier's College (Empowered Autonomous Institute), Mumbai
M.A. Psychology: Lifespan Counselling

Admissions Notice for 2025-2027

Introduction

In India, the ratio of mental health practitioners to citizens has always been poor, but it is in times of a crisis like the recent pandemic, that the importance of filling this gap comes into focus. To contribute to bridging this gap, the Department of Psychology, St. Xavier's College (Empowered Autonomous Institute) started a Master's degree course - M.A. Psychology: Lifespan Counselling in June 2019. This year, we are accepting applications for our seventh batch of students. Applications are invited for admission to the **two-year, full-time in-person course** for the academic year **2025 -2027**.

Highlights of the course

- Each semester focuses on a different stage of the lifespan and diverse populations within that stage
- Supervised fieldwork is relevant to the lifespan stage being covered in the semester
- Mandatory group and individual therapy in Semester I focusing on the personal development of the student
- A syllabus that is weighted heavily on courses related to counseling and therapeutic skills
- These courses are highly applied, being taught by practicing therapists who are experts in their field
- Guided exposure to the research process culminating in the submission of a dissertation at the end of the 2nd year
- As the college is affiliated to the University of Mumbai, the degree received at the end of the two years is recognized by the University of Mumbai

As such, receiving a recognized M.A. Psychology degree allows any student to work in the field and study further.

Number of seats

The intake is a maximum of 30 students per year.

Allocation of seats

St. Xavier's College is a Catholic Minority College, administered under the Provisions of the Indian Constitution, to promote the welfare of the minority community and to extend its services to all other communities in India, so as to contribute to the harmony and integration of Indian society. 50% of seats are reserved for Catholic minority students.

As per the Judgement dated 12th October 2017 of the Honourable Bombay High Court vide Writ Petition No.1726 of 2001, Minority Colleges do not need to set aside seats for Backward Classes. This was reiterated by the University of Mumbai Circular (No.Aff. / Recog.I / Admission (2018-19) / 10 / of 2018) dated 30th May, 2018.

Accordingly, the allocation of seats is as follows:

Category	Percentage of seats reserved	Number of seats out of 30
Management Quota	15%	5
		Number of seats out of 25
Christian Minority	50%	12
General	42%	11
Persons with disability	5%	1
Special**	3%	1

** The Special category is for the wards of transferred State / Central Government and Private Sector employees, Defence Personnel, Ex-Servicemen, Freedom Fighters; for students who have met with an accident and also for award winners at the District / State / National Level in Sports or Cultural activities.

Seats for international students are supernumerary. Applications for those seats must be done through the University of Mumbai website. **Please email us at ma.psychology@xaviers.edu and inform us if you are applying in the international student category.**

Students that fall under this category include - Students who have done their high school education or have an undergraduate degrees from outside India, Foreign students (FR/FS), Persons of Indian origin (PIO), Overseas Citizens of India (OCI), SAARC students, Non-Resident Indians (NRI). The definitions of these categories are available on the Mumbai University website. **If you are unsure about whether you qualify as an NRI category candidate or not, please contact us at ma.psychology@xaviers.edu.**

Eligibility

- Students with a Bachelor's degree in any faculty or discipline having studied a minimum of **three papers in Psychology at the undergraduate level** (across first, second and third year) are eligible to fill out the application form and sit for the entrance examination. This is because familiarity with undergraduate Psychology is essential to cope with our challenging programme.

Please note that:

- The eligibility criterion has been updated since the 2022 intake. This is due to our experience over the last three years, which has shown us that familiarity with undergraduate Psychology is essential to cope with our challenging programme.
- Diplomas/certificate courses/online courses/distance education in Psychology **DO NOT** fulfill the eligibility criterion.

Selection Process

Stage One: Online Registration

The link for online applications will open on the official college website www.xaviers.edu in mid-February 2025. Students must log on to the official registration portal when notified and fill out the online application form by following the instructions given in the form. The details you will be required to fill in include:

- Demographic information
- Information about your Bachelor's degree (the year and university)
- The quota in which you are applying for a seat. In case of minority/special quota, you will need to upload a **clear and legible** scanned copy of your proof e.g. Baptism certificate for Christian minority or document for special category as required.
- Information about your **Semester V marks** (Please note you **have to enter marks** not grades.) You will need to upload a **clear and legible** scanned copy of your Semester V marksheet as proof.

Please note that if selected, provisional admission will be given based on Sem V marks subject to the student passing Sem VI and handing in proof when released by the University.

Once you have completed the form and the payment, kindly take a PRINTOUT OF THE APPLICATION FORM AND PROOF OF PAYMENT. You will be required to carry the print out of the form on the day of the Entrance test with an original Government issued ID (e.g. Aadhaar, Drivers License, Passport, etc.). NO SEPARATE HALL TICKET WILL BE ISSUED.

Stage Two: Entrance Examination

An **in-person entrance examination** for all the students who have applied (irrespective of category) will be held on **Sunday, 4th May 2025** on the campus of St. Xavier's College, Mumbai.

The language of the examination will be English. The duration of the examination is **two hours**. The examination will include a multiple-choice test (Section I) and an essay question (Section II).

The multiple choice test is designed to elicit the student's knowledge of content in the field of psychology and will include 100 questions from the following thematic areas - Introductory Psychology, Social Psychology, Developmental Psychology, Counselling Psychology, Abnormal Psychology, Industrial Organizational Psychology, Cognitive Psychology, Experimental Psychology, and Psychological Testing and Statistics. There is no negative marking for the multiple-choice section.

The essay question is designed to elicit information about the student's thought process, reasoning and analytical ability, and depth of comprehension regarding topics within and beyond the field of psychology.

Please note that:

- There is a passing grade for Section I (MCQs).
- Section II (Essay) will only be corrected if candidate has passed Section I
- A merit score is then calculated as follows: Entrance test score (70% weightage) + Semester V marks (30% weightage). Merit scores are then ranked and used to create the merit list.
- Individual candidates' entrance exam scores are not released. Only the first and second merit lists are uploaded to the college website.

REFUND POLICY FOR ONLINE APPLICATION FEES AND ENTRANCE EXAM

1. All payments made towards the online application and entrance exam are deemed non- refundable under any circumstances.
2. In the case of a double payment resulting from a technical glitch, a refund for the excess amount will be initiated by the college after verifying the transactions.
3. Chargeback cases will not be entertained by the college.
4. Requests for reimbursement of Merchant Discount Rate (MDR) charges on transactions will not be entertained.
5. Refunds will not be issued for any cancellation or withdrawal of application or exam registration.
6. In the event of unforeseen circumstances, such as natural disasters or government regulations, where the entrance exam cannot be conducted by the college, alternative arrangements or rescheduling will be provided, but refunds will not be offered.
7. Any requests for exceptions to the refund policy must be submitted in writing and will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the college administration.
8. The refund policy may be amended or modified at any time without prior notice by the college. Any changes will be communicated through official channels.
9. Refunds will be processed using the original method of payment whenever possible. However, refunds may be issued via alternative methods at the discretion of the college.
10. Any disputes regarding refunds or the application of the refund policy shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the appropriate legal authorities and the college's internal dispute resolution process.

Stage Three: Payment of Course fees

The First Merit Lists (Category-wise) will be released approximately ten days after the entrance examination (Kindly check the college website for the same). Students who are offered admission in the First merit list are required to pay their fees by the time and date that will be mentioned on the merit list notice. On failing to do so, the offer lapses, and students in the Second merit list will subsequently be offered admission.

Fees

For the Academic Year 2025 - 2026 *

For MA Part 1 (Semesters I and II) - Rs. 1,50,000/-

For MA Part 2 (Semesters III and IV) - Rs. 1,50,000/-

*Fees are subject to revision with advance notification

Stage Four: Personal interview

The 30 students accepted to the course as the new batch for the academic year 2025-2027 will each have a personal interview with the faculty of the course after the First Merit list is released. This is not part of the screening process, rather its purpose is to serve as an orientation to the course, counselling the student about the nature of the course, its requirements, etc. to help them make the decision of whether they wish to commit to the programme and pay the fees.

IMPORTANT DATES

- **LAST DATE TO APPLY:: Wednesday, 30th April 2025, 5:00 p.m.**
- **ENTRANCE EXAM: Sunday, 4th May 2025, 10 a.m. (offline, at the St. Xavier's College, Fort, Mumbai campus)**
 - **NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO ALTERNATIVE DATES OR VENUES FOR THIS EXAM.** There will be no ONLINE entrance exam.
- **BEGINNING OF CLASSES:** Estimated start of lectures will be mid-June 2025. Confirmation of these will be subject to specific guidelines from the University of Mumbai and College Management.

For any queries or clarifications, please send an email to ma.psychology@xaviers.edu