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# V. Mark Durand ranked among top psychology professors in Florida

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**Psychology Professor V. Mark Durand, Ph.D.**

USF St. Petersburg Psychology Professor V. Mark Durand, Ph.D., has been ranked among the top 25 psychology professors in Florida.

Durand was chosen by [StateStats.org](http://StateStats.org) because of his expertise in autism spectrum disorder, said Wes Ricketts, vice president of the college resource Web site.

The list grew out of a previous ranking of top colleges. “Our readers immediately expressed interest in learning more about the faculties that make up those schools, so we obliged,” Ricketts said. The list was developed for and published by [OnlineSchoolsFlorida.com](http://OnlineSchoolsFlorida.com) and is based on awards given in the past year.

“I am honored to be included on a list with so many distinguished colleagues from across the state,” Durand said.

Norine Noonan, Ph.D., vice chancellor for academic affairs, said the ranking highlights the quality of the faculty at USF St. Petersburg. “We are fortunate to have Mark on our faculty and I am so pleased that he continues to be recognized for his path-breaking work and the positive impact it has on families.” she said.

Durand is co-editor of the [\*Journal of Positive Behavior Interventions\*](#), author of 100 research publications and 10 books, including abnormal psychology textbooks used at more than 1,000 universities worldwide. Major themes of his research are the assessment and treatment of severe behavior problems for children and adults with ASD and other severe disabilities, parent training and the development of treatments for child sleep problems.

His most recent book is the award-winning *Optimistic Parenting: Hope and Help for You and Your Challenging Child*, a guide for parents and caregivers of children with ASD. A new book, *Autism Spectrum Disorder: A Concise Clinical Guide*, will be published by the American Psychological Association this fall.

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