How to Get Your Degree and Participate in the Graduation Ceremony

There are TWO parts to the graduation process:

1) **Declaring Candidacy** is requesting your degree. This is the only official way to receive your UCSB degree from the Office of the Registrar, no other paperwork is required by Psychological & Brain Sciences. The PBS department does not issue degrees.

2) **Commencement Ceremony Reservation** is reserving your spot to walk in the commencement ceremony in June. All students who complete their UCSB degree requirements from January 1st-December 31st of that year, qualify to walk in the June Ceremony.

*Example:* A student completing their degree requirements in Fall of 2019 can reserve a spot to participate in the June 2020 Commencement Ceremony, but must select “Fall” when declaring candidacy.

Follow the steps below to complete BOTH parts of the graduation process.

This can only be handled **online:***

1. Log onto **GOLD.**
2. Click on the Progress tab
3. Click on Graduation & Commencement.
4. **To Declare Candidacy** (the only official way to receive your degree from the Office of the Registrar, no other paperwork is required by Psychological & Brain Sciences):
   
   A. **Select the quarter in which all degree requirements will be met.** All graduating seniors, including those finishing Summer Session A, B, and Fall are able to walk in June commencement. *Note: Those students with degree requirements remaining must select candidacy for the quarter they will actually complete their degree.*
   
   B. Then click “Declare Candidacy”

5. Once you have declared candidacy, you can make a **Commencement Reservation** to participate in the optional June ceremony. *Note: There is only one commencement ceremony per year for all graduates.*
   
   A. Click “Reserve” for “Math, Life, & Physical Sciences I” 9:00am ceremony.
   
   B. If you are a double major, you can select the ceremony for either of your majors.
6. Once these steps are completed, your Graduation page on GOLD should...
   A. Confirm that you have Declared Candidacy
   B. Confirm that you made the appropriate Commencement reservation