

Department of Psychology Bona Fide Academic Requirements

Supervised practica are required in the Clinical (MA/PhD) and School Psychology (MA) programs.

Rationale	Taught	Assessed
Practica are an integral part of the requirements for professional accreditation and/or certification in these programs, and are the primary means by which these students develop and demonstrate clinical and practical skills specific to their specialization.	Clinical: 7910, 7920, 7930, 7940, 7950, 7952, 7954, 7956 School: 7050, 7060	Clinical: 7910, 7920, 7930, 7940, 7952, 7954, 7956 School: 7050, 7060

An internship conforming to the requirements of the Canadian Psychological Association is required in the Clinical PhD program.

Rationale	Taught	Assessed
An internship is an advanced and intensive practical training experience that allows students to refine technical knowledge and skills that they have already acquired in course work and practicum experiences. The internship is typically a year-long experience consisting of at least 1600 clinical hours, completed just prior to the completion of the doctoral degree, which provides students with the opportunity to function in the role of a professional psychologist under supervision appropriate to their level of knowledge and skill. Successful completion of the internship is required for the doctoral degree in clinical psychology.	Preparation for the internship occurs via the practica and other coursework and program experiences.	7980

Students in the School Psychology comprehensive stream must successfully complete a comprehensive exam.

Rationale	Taught	Assessed
The comprehensive exam is the primary means by which students in this stream demonstrate the ability to synthesize what they have learned and to apply their learning to clinical practice in school contexts.	All coursework and program experiences.	Comprehensive exam

Students in a thesis stream program must produce a **written** thesis proposal and thesis commensurate with the degree being sought.

Rationale	Taught	Assessed
Effectiveness in written communication is a fundamental component of all sub-disciplines of Psychology. Additionally, the written proposal and thesis are necessary for the student's examining committee to assess the validity of the proposed/completed procedures and results in relation to established scientific standards. Assistive technologies and human assistance (e.g. transcription) would therefore be a possible accommodation only to the extent that the final written product could reasonably be fully attributed to the student.	All coursework and program experiences	See below regarding defense of proposal and of final thesis.

Students in a thesis stream program must successfully defend their thesis proposal, as determined by the assigned examining committee, in real-time interaction between the student and their committee.

Rationale	Taught	Assessed
Students must demonstrate, via the proposal defense: knowledge of the scientific process, thorough understanding of scientific methods	Preparation for the thesis proposal takes place via assigned coursework and activities, self-directed study, and	Based on the written thesis proposal and the real-time defense, the thesis committee determines whether the

of acquiring knowledge in Psychology, a deep understanding of their specific sub-discipline, and familiarity with contemporary statistical methods appropriate to their sub-discipline. Assessment of this knowledge requires the ability to query the student in real time.	mentorship from the advisor/committee. Thesis development course: MA: 7780 PhD: 7790	student's thesis proposal meets the standards for a thesis within the relevant sub-discipline, and that the student has reached a level of training sufficient to carry out the thesis work. The proposal should indicate how applicable data will be collected and analyzed.
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Students in a thesis stream program must successfully defend their thesis, as determined by the assigned examining committee, in real-time interaction between the student and their committee.

Rationale	Taught	Assessed
Students must demonstrate, via the thesis defense: knowledge of the scientific process, thorough understanding of scientific methods of acquiring knowledge in Psychology, a deep understanding of their specific sub-discipline, and familiarity with contemporary statistical methods appropriate to their sub-discipline. Assessment of this knowledge requires the ability to query the student in real time.	Preparation for the thesis defense takes place via assigned coursework and activities, self-directed study, and mentorship from the advisor/committee.	Based on the written thesis and the real-time defense, the thesis committee determines whether the student's thesis meets the standards for a thesis within the relevant sub-discipline, and whether the student's achievement demonstrates a level of scientific training commensurate with the degree being sought.

Students in doctoral program must complete their candidacy exam ***within the approved time limits***, as required by their program and determined by the assigned examining committee.

Rationale	Taught	Assessed
The purpose of the candidacy exam in Psychology is to contribute to and evaluate the student's (a) depth and breadth of	Preparation for the candidacy takes place via assigned coursework and activities, self-directed study, and	The candidacy exam is assessed by the examining committee to determine that

preparation in the content, methodology, and theory which, in the judgment of the Advisory Committee, is relevant to the general program of doctoral study in Psychology, and to contribute to and evaluate the student's (b) ability to analyze, integrate, and creatively use information from divergent areas relevant to the general program of doctoral study in Psychology. The evaluation entails not only the student's performance on the examination but also overall preparedness for a career in Psychology, which includes the ability to complete work in a timely fashion. Although point (a) is time-independent, both the student's skills under point (b) and preparedness for a career in Psychology cannot be assessed without a time limit on the exam. Hence, completing the exam within approved time limits = is considered a BFAR of the program.	mentorship from the advisor/committee.	the student has met the standards described in the Rationale.
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Students in a thesis stream must complete specified courses in quantitative methods, as approved by their advisor/committee and the Associate Head (Graduate).

Rationale	Taught	Assessed
Quantitative methods are a fundamental part of training in those areas of psychology corresponding to our thesis stream programs.	Coursework as specified in the program of study.	Via coursework.

Students in professional programs involving accreditation and/or certification must demonstrate professional suitability as defined within their respective regulatory body.

Rationale	Taught	Assessed
The psychology department provides graduate training programs that are accredited or approved by regulatory bodies in the areas of Clinical Psychology, School Psychology, and Applied Behaviour Analysis. The requirements of those regulatory bodies must have the force of a BFAR for the students in these programs.	Expectations for professional conduct and other requirements of regulatory bodies are communicated to students during coursework in their programs.	Professional suitability and other regulatory requirements are assessed via performance review by the student's advisor and/or the program area faculty.