Clinical Psychology Program Requirements

Departmental Requirements*  APA Requirements*

*Click on type of requirements for more information.
Psychology Department Requirements

General
- First Year Project
- Master’s Degree
- Doctoral Preliminary Examination

Key Details
- Fall Research Presentation
- Quant I & II
- Elective Quant Course
- Teaching Service
- Ethics Workshop
- Research Methods
First Year Research Project and Fall Research Presentation

All students will complete a research project during the first year of graduate studies at Notre Dame, even if they have taken graduate courses elsewhere or already have a Master’s Degree. The complexity and scope of this research project should be manageable and attainable within the student’s first year of graduate study.

Depending on the student’s chosen field of study, the First Year Project may include studies that are designed primarily by a faculty member and executed by the student, or studies that are formulated by the student in collaboration with an advisor. It may involve either newly collected or archival data sets. In all cases, the objective is for students to engage in research activities immediately upon their arrival at Notre Dame.

At the beginning of the fall semester, all graduate students in their second year at Notre Dame will present their first year projects at the Department’s Fall Research Presentations. These presentations are in the form of a conference-style talk 10 minutes in length.
Master’s Degree Requirements

The general requirements for the Master’s Degree include:

a) registration with full-time status for at least one semester during the academic year or for one summer session

b) completion of a minimum of 30 credit hours composed of a minimum of 24 course hours (letter-graded classes) and not more than 6 Thesis Research credits (S/U graded)

c) a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or better

d) completion of PSY 60100 and 60101 (Quantitative Methods) with a grade of B- or better in both

e) completion of any program-specific requirements

f) participation in the Fall Research Presentations

g) successful defense of the Master’s Thesis proposal, and

h) satisfactory implementation and completion of the Master’s Thesis document and a meeting to orally defend the research
The Doctoral Preliminary Examination

The Doctoral Preliminary Examination is a requirement to demonstrate general knowledge of Psychology and mastery in one’s major field of study. The exam’s structure, components, and delivery method vary across Programs. See program-specific documentation in the General Requirements for Doctoral Students in Psychology document available on-line via the Departmental website.
The Doctoral Degree

The general requirements for the Doctoral Degree include:

a) registration with full-time status for at least four consecutive semesters (including the summer session)
b) completion of a minimum of 55 total credit hours composed of a minimum of 30 course hours (letter-graded classes) and up to 25 credit hours from a combination of S/U graded research credits and/or additional letter-grade work
c) a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or better
d) completion of all requirements for the Master’s Degree
e) completion of Research Methods course or equivalent
f) one elective quantitative course with a grade of B- or better
g) completion of all program-specific requirements
h) completion of the teaching service requirement
i) successful completion of the Doctoral Preliminary Examination
j) completion of the Graduate School’s Workshop on the Responsible Conduct of Research and Ethics
k) successful proposal of the Doctoral Dissertation
l) successful completion of the final defense of the Dissertation and any required revisions
m) successful completion of an APA-accredited Doctoral Clinical Psychology Internship
Teaching Service Requirement

All students must serve as a teaching assistant and/or instructor of record for at least two semesters as a requirement for their Doctoral degree. This requirement is independent of the source of a student’s funding.
Ethics Workshop

The Graduate School sponsors a “Workshop on the Responsible Conduct of Research and Ethics” that must be completed by all students (entering the program after 2011).
Research Methods

The Departmental requirement for Research Methods is met through successful completion of all three of the following three courses:

- Psychological Assessment & Ethics I (Psy 60320)
- Quantitative Methods II + Lab (Psy 60101/61101)
- Professional Standards & Ethics (Psy 60351)
Specific Quantitative Courses Requirement

The Departmental requirement for the Quantitative sequence is met through successful completion of the following two courses:

- **Quantitative Methods I** + Lab (Psy 60100/61100)
- **Quantitative Methods II** + Lab (Psy 60101/61101)
Elective Quantitative Course Requirement

In addition to successful completion of sequence Quantitative Methods I and II (and the respective labs), successful completion of a third Quantitative course of the student’s choosing is required. There are a variety of course offerings that provide a rich array of opportunities for developing particular statistical expertise tailored to the student’s area of research.
Overview: APA Requirements

[T]he program ... implements a clear and coherent curriculum plan that provides the means whereby all students can acquire and demonstrate substantial understanding of and competence in the following areas:

(a) The breadth of scientific psychology, its history of thought and development, its research methods, and its applications.

(b) The scientific, methodological, and theoretical foundations of practice in substantive area(s) of professional psychology in which the program has its training emphasis.

(c) Diagnosing or defining problems through psychological assessment and measurement and formulating and implementing intervention strategies (including ES Procedures).

(d) Issues of individual and cultural diversity that are relevant to all of the above.

(e) Attitudes essential for lifelong learning, scholarly inquiry, and professional problem-solving in the context of an evolving body of scientific and professional knowledge.

Click on (a), (b), (c), (d), or (e) for more information.
The Breadth of Scientific Psychology

Please Note
Owing to varying approaches to the subject matter adopted by different faculty teaching these courses, the class offering any particular semester may or may not satisfy the “broad and general” criterion of the APA requirement. If a course might not fulfill the requirement, it is designated with an asterisk (*). Students interested in taking such a course need to check with the DCT to ensure that the particular offering will meet the requirements.

Click on topic for specific courses and experiences that may fulfill the requirement.
Biological Aspects of Behavior

Successful completion of either of following two courses satisfies the biological aspects of behavior course requirement.

- Introduction to Cognitive Neuroscience (Psy 60520)
- Introduction to Biopsychology (Psy 60501)
Cognitive Aspects of Behavior

Successful completion of either of following two courses may satisfy the cognitive aspects of behavior course requirement.

- Introduction to Cognitive Neuroscience* (Psy 60520)
- Cognitive Development* (Psy 60250)

*Depending upon the approach adopted by the particular faculty member teaching the class, the course may or may not meet the APA requirement.
Affective Aspects of Behavior

Successful completion of BOTH of following courses satisfies the affective aspects of behavior course requirement.

Personality & Individual Differences (Psy 60306)

&

Psychopathology (Psy 60310)
Social Aspects of Behavior

Successful completion of the following course satisfies the social aspects of behavior course requirement.

Social Psychology
(Psy 30600)
History & Systems

The Clinical Program believes that the history and systems of thought in Psychology are best considered in the context of the particular content area of study. To this end, a concerted effort has been made in all required course offerings to have a substantive section (typically early in the semester) devoted specifically to the history of the ideas and movements involved with the course topic. This approach, we contend, provides a richer understanding of the ideas in the relevant context, and provides an historical perspective for evaluating more specific domains of study.
Psychological Measurement

Successful completion of BOTH of following courses satisfies the psychological measurement requirement.

- Psychological Assessment & Ethics I (Psy 60320)
- Professional Standards & Ethics (Psy 60351)
Research Methods

Successful completion of **ALL THREE** of following courses satisfies the psychological measurement requirement.

- Professional Standards & Ethics (Psy 60351)
- Psychological Assessment & Ethics I (Psy 60320)
- Quantitative Methods II + Lab (Psy 60101/61101)
Data Analysis

Successful completion of ALL THREE of following courses satisfies the data analysis requirement.

Quantitative Methods I + Lab (Psy 60100/61100) & Quantitative Methods II + Lab (Psy 60101/61101) & Additional Required Quantitative Course
Please Note
Owing to varying approaches to the subject matter adopted by different faculty teaching these courses, the class offering any particular semester may or may not satisfy the “broad and general” criterion of the APA requirement. If a course might not fulfill the requirement, it is designated with an asterisk (*). Students interested in taking such a course need to check with the DCT to ensure that the particular offering will meet the requirements.
Individual Differences

Successful completion of ALL THREE of following courses satisfies the individual differences requirement.

- Personality & Individual Differences (Psy 60306)
- Psychopathology (Psy 60310)
- Psychological Assessment & Ethics I (Psy 60320)
Psychopathology

Successful completion of the following course satisfies the psychopathology requirement.

Psychopathology
(Psy 60310)
Successful completion of one or more of the following courses may satisfy the human development requirement.

- Development & Individual Differences* (Psy 63277)
- Developmental Psychopathology* (Psy 60282)
- Child Psychopathology* (Psy 63272)
- Socio-Emotional Development* (Psy 60260)

*Depending upon the approach adopted by the particular faculty member teaching the class, the course may or may not meet the APA requirement.
Ethical issues are integrated into the curriculum explicitly for the courses on professional standards, clinical skills training, intervention, and assessment. Successful completion of ALL OF THESE courses is a program requirement, which, inter alia, is in keeping with this APA requirement. Furthermore, all graduate students are now required to participate in the Graduate School sponsored “Workshop on the Conduct of Responsible Research and Ethics.”
Diagnosing and Defining Problems through Assessment & Measurement

- Theories & Methods of Assessment & Diagnosis
- Effective Interventions
- Evaluating Efficacy of Interventions
- Consultation & Supervision
Theories & Methods of Assessment & Diagnosis

Successful completion of ALL THREE of following courses satisfies this requirement.

- Psychological Assessment & Ethics I (Psy 60320)
- Psychological Assessment & Ethics II (Psy 60323)
- Psychopathology (Psy 60310)
Effective Interventions

Successful completion of Intervention Science & Ethics satisfies the effective interventions requirement.

Note: “Intervention Science & Ethics” fulfills both “Effective Interventions” and “Evaluating Efficacy of Interventions”
Evaluating Efficacy of Interventions

Successful completion of Intervention Science satisfies the evaluating efficacy of interventions requirement.

Note: “Intervention Science & Ethics” fulfills both “Effective Interventions” and “Evaluating Efficacy of Interventions”
Individual Differences & Cultural Diversity

Successful completion of Multicultural Psychology is the foundation for this requirement. Issues involving individual differences and cultural diversity, however, are also integrated into other required courses (e.g., Psychopathology, Assessment, Interventions, Personality & Individual Differences). Consequently, successful completion of numerous exposures and coursework are required to fulfill this general requirement.
Consultation & Supervision

Successful completion of **BOTH** of following courses satisfies this requirement.

- **Professional Standards & Ethics** (Psy 60351)
- **Intervention Science & Ethics** (Psy 60333)
Attitudes Essential for Lifelong Learning, Scholarly Inquiry, & Professional Problem-Solving

The following course and exposures contribute to fulfilling this requirement:

**Professional Standards & Ethics (Psy 60351)**

In addition, students acquire these attitudes through many other experiences over the course of their time and studies, including:

- Role models provided by faculty in the department and by professionals at practica sites through memberships in professional societies, presentations at professional meetings, and attendance at workshops to enhance professional development.
- Collaboration of faculty and students on research teams and projects including publishing joint papers and presenting posters at conferences.
- Collaboration of UCC staff, interns (in the APA-accredited internship), and student trainees on clinical teams.
- Professional atmosphere at the UCC and other practicum sites.
- Faculty-student collaboration on grant-writing and fellowship proposals.