University of Vermont

Clinical Psychology Program

Forms, Requirements, and Information

2019-2020
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The Clinical Training Program: Model Ph.D. Program Schedule

The Department recognizes that timelines may vary as a function of the nature of the individual’s research. Note: After the first year, many courses are taught in alternating years; therefore, the model program will have to be adapted for when courses are offered.

Students entering the program with graduate course work in psychology from another university often can transfer credits to fulfill program requirements. Students with a completed Master’s Degree from another university might complete their coursework one year sooner than those times indicated below. Guidelines for developing and completing the Master’s thesis and dissertation are as follows:

- Begin to develop the Master’s thesis research proposal during the first year, and formally propose the project at the beginning of the second semester of year two.
- Recommended: Defend the Master’s project by the end of the third year of study.
- Formally propose the Ph.D. dissertation during the third or fourth year, and no later than October 15 of the year you intend to apply for internship.
- Recommended: Defend the Ph.D. dissertation during the fourth (or fifth) year of study.

### First Academic Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Semester</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Second Semester</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>396 Intro to Clinical Practicum</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>396 Intro to Clinical Practicum</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>304 Advanced Statistics I</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>305 Advanced Statistics II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>371 Adult Psychopathology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>375 Adult Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>373 Adult Assessment</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>350 Proseminar (Developmental)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>391 (GRAD) Master’s Thesis Research</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>391 (GRAD) Master’s Thesis Research</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Expectations

- Participate on Vertical Team
- Engage in research with major advisor
- Develop topic for Master’s Thesis
- Develop plan for completing Comprehensive Doctoral Portfolio requirements and begin working on it

### Summer Semester (see note 2)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>391(GRAD) Master’s Thesis Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(see note 1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>491(GRAD) Dissertation Research</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Summer Expectations

- Participate in Vertical Team
- Engage in research with major advisor
Work on Master’s Thesis
Work on Comprehensive Doctoral Portfolio requirements

Second Academic Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Semester</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Second Semester</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>385 Advanced Clinical Practicum</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>385 Advanced Clinical Practicum</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>370 Child Psychopathology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>374 Child Behavior Therapy</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>315 Proseminar (Biobehavioral)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>330 Proseminar (Social)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>372 Child/Adolescent Assessment</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>491(GRAD) Dissertation Research</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>10</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>10</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Expectations

Participate on a Vertical Team
Engage in research with major advisor
Work on Master’s Thesis, defend if possible
Work on Comprehensive Doctoral Portfolio requirements

Summer Semester (see note 2)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>491(GRAD) Dissertation Research</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(see note 1)

Summer Expectations

Participate on a Vertical Team
Engage in research with major advisor
Work on Comprehensive Doctoral Portfolio requirements

Third Academic Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Semester</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Second Semester</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>385 Advanced Clinical Practicum</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>385 Advanced Clinical Practicum</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>376 Cross-Cultural Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>491 Dissertation Research (see note 1)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300 History of Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>380 Professional Affairs and Ethics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>303 Research Methods</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>xxx Elective (see note 3)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>10</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>10</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Expectations

Participate on a Vertical Team
Engage in research with major advisor
Recommended: Complete and defend Master’s Thesis
Develop dissertation
Recommended: Complete Comprehensive Doctoral Portfolio requirements and obtain final approval from designated faculty reviewer
Propose comprehensive exam topic

**Summer Semester (see note 2)  Credits**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>491 (GRAD) Dissertation Research</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(see note 1)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Summer Expectations**

Participate on Vertical Team
Engage in research with major advisor
Develop dissertation
Work on remaining Comprehensive Doctoral Portfolio requirements

**Fourth Academic Year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Semester</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Second Semester</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>385 Advanced Clinical Practicum</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>385 Advanced Clinical Practicum</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xxx Elective (see note 3)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>xxx Elective (see note 3)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>491 (GRAD) Dissertation Research</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>902 (GRAD) Continuing Registration</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(see note 1)</td>
<td></td>
<td>(see note 1)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>10</td>
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</table>

**Expectations**

Participate on a Vertical Team
Engage in research with major advisor
Defend comprehensive exam
Propose dissertation by October 15th (if applying for internship in fall of fourth year)
Complete any remaining Comprehensive Doctoral Portfolio requirements and obtain final approval from designated faculty reviewer (must be done prior to dissertation proposal meeting)
Recommended: Complete and defend dissertation (if going on internship in Year 5)

**Summer Semester (see note 2)  Credits**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>902 (GRAD) Continuing Registration</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(see note 1)</td>
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</table>

**Summer Expectations**

Participate on Vertical Team
Engage in research with major advisor
Complete any remaining Comprehensive Doctoral Portfolio requirements and obtain final approval from designated faculty reviewer (must be done prior to dissertation proposal meeting)
**Fifth Academic Year**

If on campus, complete any remaining courses and dissertation credits.

If on campus and involved in any clinical practicum activity at the VPS or another placement, enroll in PSYS 385 Advanced Clinical Practicum (1 hour per semester).

Complete any remaining Comprehensive Doctoral Portfolio requirements and obtain final approval from designated faculty reviewer (must be done prior to dissertation proposal meeting).

If not already done, propose dissertation by October 15th (required to apply for internship in fall of fifth year).

Recommended: Complete and defend dissertation (if going on internship in Year 6).

If on internship, sign up for PSYS 389 Internship in Clinical Psychology (0 hours credit) both semesters.

**Sixth Academic Year**

If on internship, sign up for PSYS 389 Internship in Clinical Psychology (0 hours credit) both semesters.

If not done already, complete and defend dissertation.

**Notes**

1. VPS = Vermont Psychological Services, our training clinic

2. A total of 6 Master’s Thesis research credit hours is required for the Master’s degree and (subsequently) a total of 20 dissertation research credit hours is required for the Ph.D. degree. When the 20 hours of GRAD 491 should be taken will vary depending on type of financial support, course requirements, and other factors. Taking as many of these hours as soon as possible is important!

3. All funded students can take up to 5 dissertation research credits in the summer without paying for them.

4. Electives need to add up to 9 hours. Electives can consist of 1-, 2-, or 3-hour courses. One elective must be a 3-credit treatment course.
# Record of Courses and Requirements

**GRADUATE STUDENT RECORD OF COURSES AND REQUIREMENTS**  
**CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY PROGRAM**  
**DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCE**  
*(Entering 2019 or after)*

**NAME____________________________________________**

**SEMESTER, YEAR ENROLLED____________________**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Courses</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
<th>Semester/Year Completed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Statistics</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Psys 304)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Psys 305)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Proseminars [1½ years of Proseminar meets part of the requirements for multiple Core Psychology Areas]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Psys 315: Biobehavioral)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Psys 330: Social)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Psys 350: Developmental)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Psychopathology</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child (Psys 370)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult (Psys 371)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Assessment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child and Adolescent Psychological Assessment (Psys 372)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Psychological Assessment (Psys 373)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Psychological Intervention:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child and Adolescent Behavior Therapy (Psys 374)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy (Psys 375)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Research Methodology</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Psys 303)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Advanced Clinical Practicum[^1]</td>
<td>6-8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Psys 385)</td>
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<td></td>
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</table>
h. Professional Affairs & Ethics  
   (Psys 380)  3  

i. History of Psychology  
   (Psys 300)  3  

j. Cross-Cultural Clinical, Intervention and Research  
   (Psys 376)  3  

k. One additional therapy course:  3  
   (Therapy courses outside the Clinical Program may be applied here with approval of the DCT).  

l. Two electives:  3  
   3  
   (Therapy courses can be utilized for electives. Courses outside the department can be used as electives if approved by the DCT.)  

m. Graduate College and Program milestones  
   Master’s Thesis Defense  
   Doctoral Comprehensive Portfolio  
   Doctoral Comprehensive Exam  
   Dissertation Defense  
   Internship in Clinical Psychology  
      (Psys 389)  0  
      (Enroll both semesters during internship year).  

TOTAL COURSE REQUIREMENTS  60-62  

REQUIRED RESEARCH CREDITS  
   Psys 391 Master’s Thesis Research: 6  
   Psys 491 Dissertation Research: 20  

TOTAL HOURS REQUIRED  80-82  

¹After the first year (when a student will sign up for 0 hours credit of PSYS 385), a student must sign up for PSYS 385 for 1 hour credit EACH SEMESTER he/she is seeing clients in the VPS or at another placement. This will typically result in 8 hours of credit for PSYS 385, but may be less if a student is on campus for only 4 years or elects not to see clients his/her 5th year.
Policies and Procedures

For The Ph.D. Program in Clinical Psychology at the University of Vermont:

Welcome to a new academic year! Please read this document carefully. It helps to re-read it at least once a year. The forms/policies included here represent the most recent versions available at the time you entered the program. The most recent versions of Department-level policies can be found on the Department’s sharepoint site.

Be sure to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. Thanks, and have a great year.

Matthew Price, Interim Director of Clinical Training
656-1341
matthew.price@uvm.edu

Kelly Rohan, Director of Clinical Training
656-0798
Kelly.Rohan@uvm.edu

Program Philosophy, Aims, Objectives, and Competencies

Program Philosophy

The program in clinical psychology at the University of Vermont is based on the scientist-practitioner model of training originally outlined at the 1949 Boulder Conference. The program is designed to develop competent professional psychologists who can function in applied, academic, or research positions. We emphasize clinical practice that is empirically based, research that is clinically relevant, and a balance in clinical and research training.

In order to train clinical psychologists who are scientist-practitioners, our program emphasizes the Integration of research training, clinical training, training in teaching, and course work. Our model of training stresses the simultaneous early exposure to clinical activities, research training relevant to clinical problems, and course work to learn the fundamentals of research and clinical interventions. In addition, gaining some experience in teaching occurs during your educational experience. Please see the Doctoral Portfolio for the minimum expectations in clinical, research, and teaching areas and see the Graduate Student Record of Courses and Requirements for course requirements.

In many graduate programs, clinical students’ service delivery activities are divorced from their research activities. It is therefore not surprising that upon their departure from an academic setting, many clinical graduates stop doing research. Clearly, one reason for this is that the student has not had the opportunity and training to develop research skills relevant to clinical issues and populations. We have attempted to provide opportunities to conduct research with clinical problems and to help students resolve in a realistic fashion the administrative and design problems associated with such clinical research.

Research and clinical training, along with course work, begins in the first year of our program. Students are expected to become involved in research with their faculty mentor immediately upon entering graduate school, often through a funded research assistantship. Research training at a more advanced level occurs through the Master’s Thesis Project, which involves a proposal, and final written document, and a formal defense before a committee and continues with the dissertation research in subsequent years. Clinical training begins with course work in psychopathology, assessment, and intervention in students’ first year. Also in their first and second years, students are involved in a Vertical Team Supervision group, beginning with exposure to advanced students’ clinical work in the first semester of their first year and taking increasing responsibilities over the next year and one-half. This is followed by more advanced training in the form of at least two years of a 10-hour per week clinical placement in their third and fourth year in our clinic, Vermont Psychological Services (VPS), and culminating in an APA-approved internship in the fifth or most commonly sixth year. Thus, both research and clinical training are carefully sequenced in increasing complexity throughout the program.
The “learning to teach” experience is less structured; however, all students have to be involved in a teaching activity at some point in their graduate training. Teaching activities may include being a teaching assistant for a course, teaching your own course after completing your Master’s Thesis, or any of several other activities (see Doctoral Portfolio).

**Aims, Objectives, and Competencies**

Consistent with the philosophy of an integration of research, clinical, and instructional training, the University of Vermont Clinical Psychology Program espouses four integrated training aims:

**Aim #1: Knowledge in Basic Psychology, Research Methodology, and Clinical Psychology.**

Objectives for Aim #1: a) exposure to and understanding of the foundations of psychology including the scientific literature and theories on which it is based; b) exposure to and understanding of and use of scientific approaches to psychology including rigorous methodologies; c) exposure to and understanding of the development and causes of psychopathology and empirically supported approaches to assessment and therapy; and d) integration of basic psychology, research methodology, and clinical psychology.

Competencies Expected for these Objectives: a) quality written and oral presentations on the scientific literature and underlying theories; b) use of principles and techniques from psychometric theory, experimental design, and inferential statistics to design one’s own work and to critically examine the literature; c) quality written and oral presentations on psychopathology, its assessment, and its treatment; d) development of quality written documents and oral presentations that integrate basic psychology, research methodology, and clinical psychology.

**Aim #2: Development of Strong Clinical Skills:**

Objectives for Aim #2: a) assess clients; b) formulate case conceptualizations; c) implement evidence-based treatment strategies; d) develop competencies in ethics, cultural diversity, and professional behavior; 3) write reports; and f) make oral case presentations.

Competencies Expected for these Objectives: a) learn and use standardized assessment instruments; b) use of a framework for understanding the causes and maintaining conditions for psychopathology; c) use of evidence-based intervention strategies; d) develop an understanding of the role of social, cultural, and individual variables in the assessment and treatment of psychopathology; e) work effectively with clients from a variety of socio-cultural backgrounds; f) write clear, detailed and conceptually framed case notes and reports; g) ability to organize and present clear and conceptually framed oral case presentations.

**Aim #3: Development of Strong Research Skills:**

Objectives for Aim #3: a) critique the scientific literature; b) conceptualize and design research; c) conduct research; d) analyze research data; e) present research data in written and oral formats; and f) exposure to the grant funding process.

Competencies Expected for these Objectives: a) apply research skills to conduct all phases of the research process; b) quality oral and written presentations; and c) apply for research funding and/or gain knowledge about grant funding.

**Aim #4: Develop Teaching Skills:**

Objectives for Aim #4: a) organize material for imparting information; b) effectively communicate to students (junior graduate students, undergraduates); c) provide feedback to students.

Competencies Expected for these Objectives: a) develop a syllabus or organized approach; b) impart information in a clear and caring manner to students; c) utilize an organized, systematic way to provide feedback on student performance.
Policies and Procedures

Annual Review of Graduate Students

Each year in the fall, there is a clinical faculty meeting to evaluate all graduate students who are beyond their first year in the program. Students will complete an annual report prior to this meeting. Our main purpose is to see whether each student is “in good standing” given her/his year in the program. The results of the annual evaluation are given to the student and placed in her/his file. (Also see section titled Evaluations).

Who Is Your Advisor?

Our program is based on a mentored model; therefore, you are accepted into the program to work with a specific faculty member. This faculty member will serve as your academic advisor and your research advisor. You are expected to remain part of this faculty member’s lab or team throughout graduate school unless you or the faculty member decide the “fit” is not a good one. In such cases, the student can switch to a new research mentor. The faculty member who serves as your advisor will supervise your Master’s Thesis research project, your dissertation, and other research projects.

Some clinical students do their research with a member of the General/Experimental faculty, with a faculty member who has a joint appointment with our department, or with an adjunct faculty member. If that is the case, this faculty member is your “research advisor” and you will be asked to identify a member of the core clinical faculty to be your “academic advisor.”

You should meet with your advisor on a regular basis to make sure you are progressing through the program. It is your responsibility to check in with the research advisor before making plans for UVM breaks (when UVM is closed) to resolve any conflicts with research duties before traveling.

What Does It Mean To Be “In Good Standing?”

Because we meet early in the fall semester to evaluate student progress, the clinical faculty considers all first-year students in good standing in the program. After that, we consider the following criteria:

1. Coursework. Has the student completed the standard courses for their year in the program with no incompletes? What was the quality of coursework?

2. Clinical work. Did the student receive a positive evaluation from their clinical supervisor(s)? What was the quality of their clinical work?

3. Teaching: By the end of their third year, students should have completed the teaching experience requirement (see Doctoral Portfolio).

4. Research. Did the student receive a positive evaluation from their research mentor? What is the quality of their research? By the end of their first year, we expect students to be starting their Master’s research project. By the end of their second year, we expect students to have completed this project or, if not, to complete it in the third year. In the third year, we expect students to begin their dissertation proposal. By the fall of the fourth year (at the latest, fall of the fifth year), students should have proposed their dissertation so that they can complete all or most of their research before starting their internship. In addition, it is expected that students will be involved in other research activities throughout their graduate school education.

5. Professional and ethical behavior. Students should engage in professionally appropriate and ethical behavior at all times.

Importantly, NO STUDENT CAN APPLY FOR INTERNSHIP (that is, they will not receive endorsement of their application from the Director of Clinical Training) IF THEY HAVE NOT HAD THEIR DISSERTATION PROPOSAL FORMALLY APPROVED BY OCTOBER 15 OF THAT YEAR. There are no exceptions to this rule.
Retention and Notification Policy

For students who fall behind schedule in meeting program milestones, or do not engage in professionally appropriate and ethical behavior, the program developed several levels of action, which are communicated to students at the beginning of their first semester of residence and in the annual evaluation letter. It is not necessary to progress through the levels of action sequentially as an initial behavior may warrant an advanced level warning or decision.

“Level 0: Cautionary Pre-warning”: The letter notes that a student is slightly behind schedule and encourages the student to develop a plan for getting back on schedule. The specific domains that need to be corrected are delineated.

“Level 1 Warning”: When a student is clearly “behind schedule”, or does not engage in professionally appropriate and ethical behavior, a higher level of warning takes place. The following would constitute “clearly behind schedule”

- Has not proposed the Master’s Thesis project by end of second year.
- Has not defended the Master’s Thesis project by end of third year.
- Has not fulfilled doctoral portfolio requirements by end of third year.*
- Has incompletes in courses that have not been removed in one year.
- Has not completed course work by end of fourth year (unless the necessary courses have not been offered).
- Has not passed the Comprehensive Exam by the end of the fourth year.
- Has not proposed dissertation by the end of the fourth year.
- Is not fulfilling clinical training contract with the Director of the VPS (or other clinical placements).
- Has not engaged in professionally appropriate and ethical behavior.**

Any of these would result in a Level 1 warning, specifying guidelines on how to avoid progressing to Level 2; asking the student, in conjunction with the major professor, to develop a plan with a timeline within three weeks for addressing the problem areas; and stating clearly that “failure to meet these guidelines by the time of next year’s review will result in a Level 2 warning, the formal notice of probation.” The warning will be communicated in writing and in person by the Director of Clinical Training.

“Level 2 Warning”: A notice of probation. If the student still does not make significant progress, the evaluation letter states that: “Given that you did not meet the requirements outlined in last year’s letter, which are stated again below, you are being given a Level 2 warning, which is a notice that you are considered on probation within the Clinical Program. You will need to make the progress before next year’s evaluation or you will be placed on inactive status in the Clinical Program. You need to develop a plan in conjunction with your major professor and the Director of Clinical Training (DCT) within three weeks. The plan should specify steps to take to address problem areas and a timeline for each of the steps. The major professor and the DCT will monitor progress and report to the clinical faculty. During the period of probation, you remain eligible to take courses, and are considered for funding with the same priority as other students in your class year, but we strongly encourage you to focus on meeting the departmental milestones outlined below. Failure to do so will result in your being placed on inactive status.” A Level 2 Warning may also be issued immediately (without a prior Level 1 Waring) in the case of serious violations of academic/professional and ethical standards, to be determined on a case-by-case basis by the clinical faculty.

“Level 3 Warning”: A notice to the student that we now consider him or her as “inactive”, usually by virtue of not producing the work that was required to be removed from probation. The annual evaluation letter then says: “Because you did not meet the requirements outlined in last year’s letter, which are stated again below, you are now officially on inactive status within the Clinical Program. Students on inactive status may petition the clinical faculty to return to active status by presenting a detailed plan and timetable for meeting departmental milestones, along with justification for its feasibility. The decision to grant the petition, however, will be at the discretion of the clinical faculty.”
*Note: The teaching requirement may not be met in this time frame as students may be waiting for the opportunity to teach their own course, which is acceptable.

**Note: As an APA accredited program, we adhere to the ethical principles articulated by APA. This code can be found on the internet at [http://www.apa.org/ethics/code/index.aspx](http://www.apa.org/ethics/code/index.aspx). In general, it is expected that students and faculty will refer to the APA ethics code for guidance and problem solving when confronted with questions regarding professional and ethical behavior while engaged in clinical training, including clinical work, research, coursework, and teaching, at the University of Vermont. Legal/ethical factors may include, but are not limited to, the student's use of inappropriate language or actions, violation of university rules, or violation of state laws, all of which demonstrate the student is not meeting professional standards.

The Appeal and Grievance Process

In situations of grievance or conflict, students are generally expected to first try to work out the situation with the department member(s) involved, relying on assistance from the student's advisor as appropriate. If necessary, three additional steps of a grievance process would be as follows: (1) The complaint would be presented to the Clinical Director who would develop an action plan in conjunction with input from the remainder of the core clinical faculty. (2) If this fails, the grievance would be presented to the Department Chair who would develop an action plan with appropriate input from the general psychology faculty as well as the clinical faculty. This might include the appointment of a select committee to investigate the matter. (3) Issues that cannot be resolved within the Department are referred to the Graduate College for the formal student grievance appeal. While the Dean of the Graduate College is the final arbiter of Graduate College regulations, a student grievance procedure applicable to all students at the University of Vermont may have jurisdiction where the student alleges one of the following: a violation of due process; no rational basis for a decision or an abuse of discretion; sexual harassment; or a violation of fundamental rights.

The Nine-Year Rule

The Graduate College accepts coursework that is nine or fewer years old. Most students complete the program in five years plus their internship year, so this is not an issue. The nine-year rule becomes a problem when (a) students come in with a master's degree from another program and transfer credits that are already several years old; or (b) students do not complete their dissertations on time, and remain ABD (all but dissertation) for several years after their internship.

Transfer Credits

If you came in with graduate coursework from another program, you need to work with the Director of Clinical Training (not your advisor) to receive transfer credit. There are three ways courses can transfer. If the course is the same as a required course we offer, you will receive credit for a specific required course. If the course is not one we require (e.g., adolescent psychology), you will receive credit for an elective. Finally, we can “waive” requirements. In that case, you do not get credits for taking the course, but you don’t have to take the course. For example, if you took graduate statistics ten years ago, we might waive the graduate statistics requirement (this means you don’t have to take statistics again, but you won’t get transfer credit for such an old course). We waive the Master’s Thesis project requirement for students who completed a research-based master’s thesis.

The Graduate College will not give more than 24 transfer credits, and you will still need to take at least 60 credits in our program (20 hours of this 60 are dissertation research credits). If we have waived several courses, you may need to take extra electives to meet the minimum course credits required for graduation. You have to have received a grade of B or better for a course to transfer, and you cannot receive transfer credit for courses that were taken pass/fail or satisfactory/unsatisfactory (however, the Graduate College will accept letters from your former professors indicating what grade you would have received had the course had a letter grade). The Director of Clinical Training will submit a transfer request form to the Graduate College and they will eventually let us know if they confirm the transfer credits. Remember that licensing boards will examine your list of required courses very carefully. That means you are better off taking a course again if the title of the course you took is not exactly what APA requires.
International Students

International students on student visas (this includes Canadian students) must take care not to jeopardize their student status. Student visas limit international students to no more than 20 hours of work per week at a university-related setting, plus one year of 40 hours per week (it is important to save that year of full-time work for the internship). International students may, however, work full time during the summer (defined as the day after the UVM graduation takes place until the day before classes start in the fall) in university-related settings.

The 20-hour weekly limit may become a problem because of the requirements of our program that students should be actively involved in research and clinical work, and our recommendation that students obtain teaching experience. The INS makes exceptions to the 20-hour rule when students’ extra hours are an integral part of “curricular requirements.” Thus, it is extremely important that you check with me and with the Office of International Education before you begin any paid research, clinical, teaching, or other paid activities. The Office of International Education is an important resource for any questions related to international student status. Be sure to contact that office before you leave the U.S. for any reason (e.g., visiting Montreal, taking a leave of absence that requires leaving the U.S., international travel to psychology conferences) and also before you change your visa status in order to complete your clinical or research post-doctoral fellowships).

International students and students who have green cards must notify the INS whenever they move (including within Burlington). The Office of International Education has forms that you can fill out for this purpose.

Required Courses

Every few years, we change our courses to meet APA requirements or improve the program. Your requirements are those listed for 2015 and beyond. Be sure you have a copy of the appropriate course list. These lists are entitled Graduate Student Record of Courses and Requirements, and consist of a checklist.

First-year clinical students typically take statistics, adult assessment, adult (or child) psychopathology, and advanced clinical practicum (0-credit course) in the fall semester. During the spring semester they take statistics, child and adolescent assessment, adult (or child) (cognitive-) behavior therapy, and advanced clinical practicum (0-credit course). These courses are required in the first year unless not offered. Advanced students typically take proseminar, research methodology, child (or adult) psychopathology, child (or adult) (cognitive-) behavior therapy, and advanced clinical practicum (one-credit course per semester) in their second year. These courses are required in the second year unless not offered. Other advanced courses, including professional affairs and ethics, cross-cultural issues, history of psychology, the therapy elective course, and other electives, are usually offered every two years.

Some notes about courses:

- **Proseminars** meet the APA requirements for discipline-specific knowledge in the biological bases of behavior, affective bases of behavior, cognitive bases of behavior, developmental bases of behavior, and social bases of behavior. Each of these courses also meets the APA requirement for course work that demonstrates and evaluates integration between at least two of these areas.

- **Advanced clinical practicum** is a 0.5-credit required course in the first year and a one-credit course that students are required to take each semester when seeing clients in the second year and beyond, as long as they are seeing clients in the clinic or at another site. What does this course accomplish? By the time you have completed your first and second year of this course (at a minimum of 500 hours as part of the vertical team supervision model) and completed two years of a half-time clinical placement (10-hours per week) when enrolled in this course, your clinical hours should position you to apply for an APA internship.

- **Electives** consist of any courses offered in the Psychological Science Department. We sometimes give permission for courses offered in other departments (such as the College of Education) that are relevant to your program of study. Be sure to check with the DCT if you plan to sign up for a course outside our department to ensure that you can count it toward course requirements. Requirements for taking a course outside the department include: (1) taught by an instructor with a Ph.D. or equivalent degree; and (2) has a
textbook (or if not a comprehensive list of readings from a professional journal). Electives can be 1, 2, or 3 hour courses but must add up to a total of 9 credits.

- **Students need to take a total of 6 Master’s Thesis research credits.** You will typically receive a grade of “SP” (satisfactory progress) until all of the following occur: you defend your Thesis, your mentor approves the final version including all required revisions), and you upload the final copy to the Graduate College. Then it is considered passed.

- **Students need to take a total of 20 dissertation credits.** You will typically receive a grade of “SP” (satisfactory progress) for these until all of the following occur: you defend your dissertation, your mentor approves the final version (including all required revisions), and you upload the final copy to the Graduate College. Then it is considered passed.

- In our program, we have a comprehensive exam to advance to candidacy. See the specific section of the manual for details about this requirement.

- The year you are on internship, you need to sign up for the 0-credit course (Psys 389) Internship in Clinical Psychology for both academic semesters.

- **NOTE THAT ZERO-CREDIT COURSES DO NOT COST YOU ANYTHING.**

- **The total credits required by the Graduate College is a minimum of 75.** Our own list of requirements adds up to more required credits than this.

**Course Credits**

At UVM, funded grad students are required to enroll in at least 9 credits per semester in order to be considered full-time students. This refers to students funded on teaching, research, or clinical assistantships. Unfunded grad students also need to take 9 credits/semester to be considered full-time students, although we don’t usually have students without funding.

**Tuition**

- **GTAs (graduate teaching assistantships) come with 10 credits of tuition remission per semester.** GTA work is only done during the 9-months of the academic year.

- **GRAs (graduate research assistantships) also come with 10 credits of tuition remission per semester.**

- All funded students (GTA or GRA or combination) can take 5 credits during the summer as part of their funding. These can be used for 391 Master’s Thesis Research or 491 Dissertation Research.

- If you get a bill for out-of-state tuition, call the Graduate College at 656-1467, and explain that you are funded and should receive the in-state tuition reimbursement.

- If students are at the end of their program and no longer have courses to take, they need to sign up for **GRAD 901 (less than half-time), 902 (half-time), or 903 (full-time) (Continuous Registration)** and pay a continuous registration fee each semester in which they are still in the program (GRAD 901, 902, & 903 cost $100, $200, and $300, respectively. Please see Clinical Students: Graduate College Rules for more information). They need to do this if they still have incompletes, haven’t completed their dissertation, or have loans and are on internship. Registering for GRAD Continuous Registration also defers repayment of bank loans, because it implies active student status and it maintains eligibility for student health insurance. Students who are funded need to enroll for at least 9 hours/semester to keep their funding. On internship, students with loans likely need to enroll for at least 5 credits/semester of GRAD 902 (half-time status) to defer loan repayment, but please check with Student Financial Services (SFS) to find out the enrollment requirement for your specific loans.

**Placements (Funding)**
Along with the General/Experimental Program, the Clinical Program is committed to funding every graduate student in our department each year that he or she is in the program and on campus, and we have been successful in doing so every year since 1969. We want to ensure that students from all socioeconomic backgrounds apply to the graduate programs in our department, and also that funded placements provide meaningful training in teaching, research, clinical work, or prevention services.

Graduate student placements are designed: (a) to provide the student with training that contributes in a meaningful way to her or his overall educational and professional objectives; (b) to partially fulfill teaching, research, or clinical training requirements of the doctoral program; (c) to provide the student with funding; and (d) to provide services to Department faculty, the University, and the State of Vermont. Because student placements are designed to satisfy more than one objective, some compromise is unavoidable. For example, if training was the only goal, we would be able to match students to placements that are completely compatible with their training needs. Only placements that are dedicated to graduate training would be utilized. And if funding was irrelevant, many other potentially excellent training sites that cannot afford to hire a graduate student could be included in the placement system. However, in reality, the types of placements and freedom to match students are significantly constrained by our desire to fund all students.

Let the Director of Clinical Training know if there are any problems with your placement. You will be evaluated by your placement supervisor at the end of the fall semester and at the end of the year. (See section titled Evaluations).

The Graduate College does not allow you to have placements totaling over 20 hours unless you are in your third year or beyond, are making satisfactory academic progress, and the additional placement will enhance your education. In this case, I petition the Graduate School for a one-time exception for placements totaling at maximum 30 hours. Please note that CE (Continuing Education) courses are considered an outside source; you do not have to petition the Graduate School to teach a CE course and hold a 20-hour placement.

Clinical Experience

Psychological Work Outside of Placements: Work of a psychological nature outside of the Clinical Program and the VPS is only allowed when it is determined to enhance the clinical training of students, and must meet the following conditions: (a) have prior approval of the clinical faculty (the Director of Clinical Training will take a vote), the VPS Director, and the student’s major professor/advisor; (b) be supervised by an appropriately credentialed psychologist (e.g., licensed in the case of clinical work) who is a faculty member or adjunct faculty member in the UVM Psychological Science Department; and (c) have training as the primary objective.

The rationales for this policy are as follows: (a) being a student in the UVM Clinical Program is considered a full-time position; (b) outside work of a psychological nature can open the University to possible litigation; and (c) students are provided placements through the Psychological Science Department.

Other Information about Clinical Experience: By the time clinical students in our program apply for internship, they have accumulated clinical experience with a variety of clinical populations through our clinic Vermont Psychological Services (VPS) and, for some students, other placements.

- Students are required to take out malpractice insurance via APA each year that they are involved in any clinical activities, which is every year for most students. You need to become a student member of APA and then the Department will cover the cost of malpractice insurance. When you have completed the form (see me if you need copies), give it to the secretaries and they will handle the cost.

- Be sure that you are being supervised by a doctoral-level licensed psychologist. This is our agreement with each placement.

- IMPORTANT—keep track of all your clinical hours/activities beginning in your first year of graduate school. This is now required for internship training. There are a number of great resources available, some at no charge, for dealing with exactly this issue. See the APPIC.org site for details.
• Internship Preparation: Clinical hours toward internship are accumulated beginning in your first year in graduate school. Each year in May you are asked to report these hours (please see Internship Preparation: Reporting Year Data and Timeline for Final Six Months).

• Assessment Hours: One of the things that has come to the attention of the faculty is that it is important to have adequate clinical hours conducting assessments. When you apply for internship, you are asked not only about intervention hours but about assessment/testing hours. Obviously, you do assessments with every clinical case. These hours, as well as other hours that you do any assessment work, should be documented. In addition, it is important that you do some comprehensive assessments, which include multiple cognitive and/or personality testing instruments as well as write-ups of these data in an integrated report. In general, it appears that students who have applied successfully for internship have had a minimum of 100-150 face-to-face assessment/testing hours as well as at least 10 comprehensive evaluation reports. Please see Internship Preparation: Reporting Yearly Data and Timeline for Final Six Months and also Integrated Reports.

The Internship Year

Our Clinical Program requires a one-year clinical internship year at an APA-approved program (Please see written document titled “Internship Placement Policy”). This is required no matter how many clinical hours students have accumulated beforehand. Students should complete all on-campus requirements by the end of their fourth or fifth year. We urge you to complete your dissertation before internship. At a minimum, you must have proposed your dissertation before October 15th if you are applying for internship. And, prior to proposing your dissertation, you must have completed the doctoral portfolio.

While on internship, you must register both semesters for the zero-credit course PSYS 389 (Internship in Clinical Psychology). In order to maintain active student status so that loans are deferred, you also need to register for continuing registration (GRAD) and pay the associated fee while on internship. (Please see written document titled “Clinical Students: Graduate College Rules). IMPORTANT NOTE: As just mentioned, you must pass your dissertation proposal defense before you can apply for internship. October 15th is the deadline.

Working 50/50 in the Clinic during the Fifth Year

Students who already have a full-time funded placement and wish to see clients at 50/50 in the clinic will need to get formal approval of their primary research mentor to do this. The rationale is that this work would be extra work on top of your 20-hours/week funded placement, and your top priority should be staying on track with academic milestones. At the start of a new contract year (July 1), discuss this with your mentor and the clinic director.

Teaching Experience

The Doctoral Comprehensive Portfolio delineates the minimum teaching experience requirements in the Clinical Program. You may well want experiences beyond these requirements. Some of the formal teaching options are delineated below.

Graduate students can serve as GTAs (graduate teaching assistants) for some courses (e.g., Introductory Psychology, Abnormal Psychology, Statistics, Research Methods).

Our department requires that you have a Master’s degree or equivalent in order to teach your own course. If you came in with a Master’s degree, you can teach any time. Students must have completed the Master’s degree at the time they apply to teach. Typically, a call for applications to teach summer courses comes out the preceding fall. Therefore, if your Master’s Thesis project is still in process, you cannot even apply to teach, even if you expect to defend it before the summer term begins.

Graduate students usually teach courses via CE (continuing education) in the summer. You will receive a memo early in the fall about summer courses. The department committee responsible for CE courses gives first priority to faculty, followed by graduate students, and last to members of the community who want to teach courses. Few faculty members typically teach CE courses, which means that graduate students have opportunities to teach. CE will cancel a course if there is not enough enrollment. Courses that are typically
needed are introductory psychology, social psychology, abnormal psychology, developmental psychology, research methods, introduction to clinical psychology, and behavior disorders of childhood, but graduate students have taught many specialty courses over the years as well. Because CE courses are considered an outside source, you do not need to petition the Graduate College if you have a regular placement and teach CE courses.

Research Experience

A major focus of our department is the training of scientist-practitioners. To be marketable for academic jobs (in psychology departments, medical schools, and other research institutions), students need to become actively involved in the science of psychology throughout their graduate school education. Talk to your advisor about your research trajectory, including current research projects, grant funding, publications, and professional organizations to join that are most relevant to your area of research. Take a look at the CV's (curriculum vitae, or resumes) of advanced students who are applying for academic jobs—you will see that they have numerous publications, reflecting research typically conducted with their major advisor and occasionally with other members of the department and adjunct faculty.

The Doctoral Comprehensive Portfolio is designed to help you meet minimum standards in terms of research skills and to prepare you for undertaking a dissertation. Read the requirements delineated in the Portfolio and begin working on them immediately with your advisor.

Take advantage of opportunities in our department and in other settings to work on collaborative research and writing projects. There are numerous opportunities to work on grants and research projects funded by core faculty and other research settings at UVM. We encourage students interested in research careers to take advantage of such research activities. In addition, applying for small and larger grants on your own is not only a way to fund your research, but is something highly valued by academic search committees when you are applying for jobs. In the past several years, multiple students have applied for and received National Research Service Awards (NRSAs) from NIH.

Master’s Thesis Project: Beginning in Fall 2018, our Program requires completing a Master’s Thesis as part of the training program for the Ph.D. This project should be the equivalent of a publishable data-based research study manuscript in terms of the literature review, conceptual development, hypotheses, sample size, research design, data quality and analysis, and discussion of the findings. Of course, the findings do not have to support the hypotheses or be “significant”.

You will work with your faculty advisor in terms of designing and completing the Master’s project. In addition, you will formally propose the project to a 3-person committee and receive feedback and an evaluation. At least one member of the committee must be a core clinical program faculty member. Once the study is completed, you will submit the final project in manuscript form to your 3-person committee, do a formal presentation to the committee, and again receive feedback and an evaluation (see Master’s Thesis Project Proposal and Defense Guidelines). Make sure to submit and follow the timeline on the Intent to Defend Form and abide by the timeline on when a student can schedule a defense.

The Dissertation: The Clinical Program also has a set of guidelines for the Dissertation Committee, Dissertation Proposal, and Dissertation Defense, as well as a policy on when students can schedule a defense (see Intent to Defend Form and its preamble pages for the timeline). Please refer to these early in the dissertation process.

The dissertation requires a committee of five members. At least three must be from the department and at least one must be from outside the department. At least one departmental member must be a core clinical program faculty member. The “outside” faculty member (the chair) will facilitate the meeting. The fifth member can be either from the department or from outside the department. At least four dissertation committee members must be members of the Graduate College (check the Graduate College website if you’re not sure about someone’s status, or check the list in the back of the Graduate College catalog), including the chair and your advisor. See the Department’s Doctoral Dissertation Defense Committee policy.
Your advisor is in charge of reading early drafts of your dissertation proposal (this consists of the literature review, study goals and hypotheses, method, and proposed data analyses). When you have completed the final draft of your written dissertation proposal, give this to all committee members. They will need at least two weeks to read this proposal. Schedule a date, time, and room for the dissertation proposal meeting. Secretary Cynthia Snyder has the room schedule for John Dewey Hall. The outside member (who is called the "chair" of the committee) is in charge of facilitating the meeting.

When you have completed the dissertation research, you need to write up the final dissertation document. This consists of the introduction (literature review and research goals), method, results, and discussion, as well as a formal cover page, signature page, formal abstract, table of contents, list of tables and figures, acknowledgements, references, and appendices with your measures, consent forms, and other materials. The Graduate College has a software package that they require you to use for formatting, along with other requirements for the final document. There are many dissertations in the department library that can serve as models.

Once again, your advisor is in charge of reading early drafts of your completed dissertation. When you have completed the final "defense version" of your written dissertation, give this to all committee members. They will need at least two weeks to read this. Schedule a date, time, and room for the dissertation defense meeting in accordance with the timeline specified our Intent to Defend form. IMPORTANT—the Graduate College requires a format check in person at least three weeks before your dissertation defense.

Our department requires that neither the dissertation proposal nor the dissertation defense meeting take place during the summer months. This is because faculty are paid on nine-month contracts. If you wish to schedule during the summer, contact the Psychology Department Chair and he/she will check with your committee members. All must agree to a summer meeting for the meeting to occur.

Evaluations

Each semester you will be evaluated in terms of your academic courses (i.e., grades), research, clinical work, and, if you have a GTA, teaching. Evaluation forms are described before the end of each semester. Your supervisors in research, clinical, and teaching activities will complete the evaluation, review it with you in a meeting where you have the opportunity to provide input, and then turn in to me. These evaluations are examined by me and considered at the Annual Review of Graduate Students. You also provide evaluations of your research, clinical, and teaching supervisors each semester. Your evaluations can be confidential or shared directly by you with your supervisor – this is your choice. In either case, the Director of Clinical Training will not share your individual comments/ratings with a supervisor but, instead, provide more general feedback based on all evaluations of the supervisor by graduate students.

Graduation

The Graduate College has a Graduate Hooding Ceremony that takes place during graduation weekend in May. As each student’s name is called, their advisor (or another member of the department) places the doctoral "hood" over their head. It's a great occasion to wear academic regalia and be part of an important academic process. There are two types of students—those who love these kinds of events and those who hate them. Usually students complete their internship during the summer, so they will graduate in either August or October. The Graduate College has a Walk Policy specific to our clinical program (see section on Criteria for Doctoral Clinical Psychology Students Walking in May Commencement). Basically, they set criteria for students on internship who wish to walk in the May commencement ceremony.

Licensing

Each state of the U.S. has its own requirements for licensing. Many states accept a degree from an APA-approved clinical Ph.D. program and APA-approved clinical internship (plus passing the licensing exam and completing post-doctoral clinical experience) as adequate for licensing. Other states have very specific course requirements. There is no way that any one clinical program can offer enough courses to meet licensing
requirements for all 50 states. If you already know the geographic area in which you want to locate after graduation, it helps to look at licensing requirements for that state early in your tenure as a graduate student.

Keep copies of all your graduate course syllabi, including the reading lists. Some states require this information for clarification of course content.

Note that most U.S. states require some post-doctoral clinical experience before you can apply for licensing. You will not be considered a post-doc until you have defended your dissertation and submitted the final copy to the Graduate College. This is why it’s best to do all of your dissertation work before going on internship. Many students continue working as post-docs at their internship site or in the town where they did their internship. These hours of clinical experience will not count for the post-doctoral period until the dissertation is completed—you cannot be a post-doc until you are a “doc!”

General Mentoring Issues

Our goal in the clinical program is to help you develop a sense of professional identity, which is vital for your future career as researcher, teacher, clinician, administrator, and/or consultant. If the rest of this section is self-evident to you, that's terrific—it means you already have a good understanding of how graduate school functions. One former student urged us to emphasize that the most important thing for graduate students is to keep asking questions. She felt that there was a lot she wasn't told, and it's important to ask lots of questions.

- **Staying in touch.** Students are sometimes reluctant to “bother” faculty or may not feel comfortable being around us. They may avoid the department as much as possible, or contact faculty only when it is absolutely necessary. Similarly, some students may rarely be in the department. Yet faculty expect students to be around the department, and often provide professional opportunities to those students who are most visible. Also, faculty are most sympathetic to students when they know them as real people, not just as names. Over and over again, I have heard faculty say someone must be a good student "because I always see him/her around."

  I urge you to spend substantial time in the department, and spend part of that time interacting with faculty, staff, and students. Faculty view you as junior colleagues, staff members know the answers to many questions, and other students can be friends, collaborators, and sources of support (see below). The reason this is so important is that your professional future will depend on your ability to get along with colleagues.

- **Building a coalition of colleagues.** The day of the scientist or practitioner working in isolation is gone. Most faculty in our department are networked into national and international groups in our disciplines. Graduate students should never be in a position where they don’t know enough faculty well enough to form a dissertation committee, or can't ask graduate students for help with their research because they don’t know any students well enough. It is important that faculty who serve on committees (e.g., to award mini-grants or student travel money) at least know who you are. Many graduate students in our department will go on to assume prominent leadership positions in psychology - they will be on licensing boards, APA committees, grant review committees, editorial boards of journals, etc., and so you will be valuable contacts for each other in the next decades.

- **Finding sources of emotional support.** I urge you to find friends for emotional support. Working on a dissertation brings up many issues for students, especially if you have concerns about evaluation, fear of rejection, writing blocks, insecurity about data analysis, etc. There have been many instances over the years where John Dewey graduate students have provided important sources of support for each other. No one knows your struggles better than other students.

- **Gaining a professional identity.** Although coursework and other requirements are important for you to complete in order to get your Ph.D. (and also for licensing), your real priorities in graduate school are developing your research, teaching, and clinical interests for your future career. The faculty wants you to be qualified for future jobs, and so it is important that you communicate your career goals to us. In this age of specialization, it is often too late to prepare for a career during the last year of graduate school. If you have specific clinical interests, you need to accumulate the necessary clinical hours, network with clinicians in your field of interest, and possibly give workshops/write articles on this topic. If research and/or teaching is a career goal, you will need to have a
number of publications (not just your dissertation and one other research project) by the time you graduate. It also helps to have grants and teaching experience.

Finally, please keep in mind that for most of your life, you will be asked to provide the names of 3-5 references for jobs, awards, promotions, etc. That will certainly be the case for any job you take after graduate school. Be sure to start thinking about your list of potential references, and keep these individuals in touch with your progress in graduate school.
Ph.D. Comprehensive Exam in Clinical Psychology

Aims
The Comprehensive Exam is an opportunity for a student to develop expertise in an area of clinical science. It also serves as a demonstration of a student’s ability to review, integrate, and evaluate a large body of empirical research. The purpose of this process is to determine that a student is prepared for a career as a doctoral level clinical psychologist in which this competency is necessary to guide decisions for teaching, clinical practice, research projects, and leadership roles.

Exam Format
There are two options for the comprehensive exam.

Option A is expected to be a systematic review (or meta-analysis if appropriate) on a topic associated with a student’s planned dissertation project. The exam process has three components: (1) a proposal, (2) a written document and an (2) oral defense. The document contains a systematic and rigorous critical review of relevant research in a given area of empirical investigation related to clinical psychological science. The review should be in the style of a manuscript for a major review outlet such as Psychological Bulletin, Clinical Psychology Review, Clinical Psychology: Science and Practice, Annual Review of Psychology, or Psychological Review.

The review should conclude by identifying knowledge gaps and 2-3 research questions to be addressed in future work. It is strongly recommended a student’s dissertation stem from one of these questions. As such, the scope of the comprehensive exam is broader than that of a dissertation proposal. The comprehensive exam is expected to cover a greater number of topics and have greater implication for the field of clinical psychology whereas a dissertation proposal is expected to focus on a specific set of hypotheses that will be tested.

Two useful resources on guidance on how to structure and write a review are:

- Moher, D., Liberati, A., Tetzlaff, J., Altman, D. G., & Prisma Group. (2009). Preferred reporting items for systematic reviews and meta-analyses: the PRISMA statement. PLoS medicine, 6(7), e1000097. (Note the review for the comprehensive exam does not need to follow the PRISMA guidelines. However, the recommendations for PRISMA are useful in developing a review).

Option B is the submission of an NRSA (F31: https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-18-671.html) to the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The NRSA project is expected to be the student’s dissertation project. For students interested in an academic career, completing an NRSA submission is an invaluable experience. An NRSA is a considerable endeavor to undertake and students interested in pursuing this option should consult with their mentors and those in the department with knowledge of how to successfully compete for these grants before choosing this option. The decision to undertake an NRSA should be done with approval of the student’s current research mentor. This approval must be shared with the director of clinical training before work on the NRSA is begun. Due to the parameters of the comprehensive exam described below, it is recommended that work on the NRSA begin in the 3rd year to ensure a timely submission.

In order for Option B to be fulfilled, the grant proposal must be submitted to NIH and documentation of its submission must be provided. An NRSA proposal that is drafted in full, but not submitted, will not fulfill the comprehensive exam requirement. The NRSA does not need to be awarded in order for the requirement to be
fulfilled. The NRSA should be the work of the student, but mentors are allowed to support the student as needed to develop a competitive proposal. (See section on Mentor Involvement.)

A proposal and defense are required for students pursuing Option B. The defense meeting should happen before the submission of the proposal to allow feedback and consultation with the student’s mentor.

**Page Limits**

**Option A:** The comprehensive exam document for the literature review is typically 20-35 pages for the body of the text (i.e., excluding title page, abstract, references, tables, and figures). The page maximum for the body of text is 35 pages.

**Option B:** The comprehensive exam document for the NRSA is the 1 page of Specific Aims and the 6-page Research Strategy section. A reference section is also required. These sections are expected to be written in the format specified for an NRSA. More information about this format can be found here: https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/forms-d/general/g.430-phs-fellowship-supplemental-form.htm#top

**Committee**

**Option A & B:** A committee of three faculty members will evaluate the comprehensive exam. The committee will consist of the student’s primary mentor, another core clinical psychology faculty member, and a third faculty member who may be outside of the clinical psychology faculty. A committee is selected prior to the proposal. A committee is formed with the “Comprehensive Exam Committee Agreement” form. The student is expected to select committee members.

**Proposal**

**Option A & B:** The proposal for the comprehensive exam contains two parts. The first part is a 1-page maximum abstract that identifies the topic of the literature review, a brief rationale for the need for a review of this topic, and the scope of the review (e.g., relevant areas of literature that will be explored). The second part is a list of at least 10 references for the literature review. The rationale for including such references are to ensure that there is sufficient literature on a given topic to warrant a review. The final review is expected to have far more than 10 references.

The committee members will have 14 days from the time the proposal is submitted to provide feedback and render one of the following decisions: Approve, request a proposal meeting, or Reject.

A decision of Approve indicates that the student may begin work on the comprehensive exam document consistent with the scope of the proposal and integrate any feedback provided by the committee.

A proposal meeting may be requested by a committee member to provide guidance on the scope of the review, ask clarification questions, or address other matters related to the proposal. After the meeting, a decision of Approve or Reject will be granted. A decision of Approve may be granted even if there are specific recommendations from the committee that are expected to be integrated into the literature review document.

A decision of Reject indicates that the student must revise the proposal document. The committee must provide a rationale for the decision to the student and provide guidance on how to revise the proposal for a subsequent submission. Work cannot begin on the comprehensive exam document. A student may go through the proposal process a maximum of 3 times. Receiving a total of 3 decisions of Reject on the proposal is equivalent to an overall decision of Fail for the comprehensive exam.

Proposals can only be submitted on the following dates: Sept 15th, December 1st, January 30th, April 1st.
Mentor Involvement

**Option A & B:** The student’s primary mentor(s) are allowed to serve as consultants for verbal or brief email discussion of concepts and broad ideas. The student can ask questions about the direction of their literature review, obtain verbal feedback on gaps in the literature they have identified, and bounce potential future research ideas off the mentor. The mentor can verbally discuss relevant background literature (e.g., identify relevant research papers for the student to review), provide feedback on the student’s developed research questions (i.e., aims and hypotheses), and offer feedback on the proposed methodology (e.g., different methodological strategies or choice of measures). Whereas the preference is that these discussions take place verbally in face-to-face meetings, the faculty recognize that in some situations, brief email exchanges may be more practical and hence are permitted. Because this is an exam, however, until the document is defended, there should be no review of the written document by the mentor.

The mentor’s involvement is limited to the above roles. The mentor is not allowed to discuss specific sections of the comprehensive exam, review drafts of the document in advance of the defense or discuss the writing process with the student. Mentors cannot offer models and hypotheses that are the mentor’s ideas for the student to pursue. The mentor is not allowed to be involved in preparation for the defense meeting (e.g., a mock defense). The rationale for restricting the involvement of the mentor is that this document is expected to be the students’ writing and ideas and should reflect their training up to this point. Students can consult with experts outside of the department with the same restrictions as that of the mentor.

Students may verbally discuss ideas among themselves pertaining to the comprehensive exam in the same manner as is permitted with faculty. However, because this is an exam, they may not edit one another’s documents prior to the final defense meeting.

**Option B Note:** Mentors are allowed to assist the student with other sections of the NRSA proposal outside of the specific aims and research strategy prior to the defense.

Timeline

**Option A:** The exam should be completed after the defense of the Master’s thesis and must be completed before the submission of the Dissertation proposal. It is recommended the comprehensive exam be proposed in the 3rd year or early in the first semester of the 4th year. The comprehensive exam writing process is expected to take 4 to 10 months (1-2 semesters). Students should prepare to defend in the second semester of the 4th year.

**Option B:** The exam should be completed after the defense of the Master’s thesis and must be completed before the submission of the Dissertation proposal. It is recommended the comprehensive exam be proposed as soon as possible after completion of the Master’s and no later than the end of the 3rd year. The writing of the research sections should be done efficiently to allow for mentor’s contribution once the defense is passed. As such, students should prepare to defend in the second semester of the 3rd year or early in the first semester of the 4th year.

Oral Defense

**Option A & B:** The final component of the comprehensive exam is an oral defense. The goal of the oral defense is to demonstrate a student’s ability to disseminate their understanding of a body of literature to colleagues. It is also an opportunity for the student to address questions and/or concerns that committee members have regarding the document. It is expected that the oral defense will take approximately 1 and 1/2 hours.

Students will notify their committee that they are ready to schedule their defense via e-mail. The student will coordinate scheduling a meeting at least two weeks from the time that the committee is provided with the
comprehensive exam document. Defenses will be scheduled on Wednesdays from 1:30 – 3:00 on dates when there is no committee meeting or faculty meeting scheduled.

In preparation for the defense, the faculty committee will review the exam document and score it according to the rubric below. The rubric is intended to assist the student in identifying the domains on which they will be evaluated and focus the feedback of the committee. All committee members are expected to bring the completed rubric to the defense.

The defense will consist of a brief (approximately 20 minutes, no more than 25 minutes) presentation of the literature review by the student to the committee followed by questions from the committee. Questions will focus on the domains indicated by the rubric and specific questions related to the literature. Committee members may ask questions about other topics if relevant. The mentor is requested to take notes during the defense to provide a written record of the feedback provided to the student in the event revisions are needed. The presentation meeting is open to the public. The question portion from the committee is closed to the public.

**Comprehensive Exam Decisions**
Once the question portion of the defense has been completed, the student will step out of the room and committee will determine one of the following outcomes:

**Pass (with or without minor revisions):** This score is only available to students pursuing Option A. Even when the student passes, minor changes may be required to the document. If minor changes are required, it is expected that the student will make those revisions within 30 days. The student’s mentor will be responsible for ensuring those changes are made to the document.

**Pass Pending Submission (with or without minor revisions):** This score is only available to students pursuing Option B. The student passes (minor changes may be required to the document). If minor changes are recommended, it is expected that the student will make those revisions within 30 days. The student’s mentor will be responsible for ensuring those changes are made to the document. A Pass will be given once the NRSA proposal is submitted to NIH. If a student does not submit their NRSA, this decision is voided. The student is then expected to proceed through the Comprehensive Exam procedure again following the guidelines for Option A.

**Pass Pending Revisions:** The student must make changes to the document that, once integrated, will result in a Pass. The committee member who requested the changes will determine if the changes were implemented successfully. Students must return these revisions within 30 days from the time of their defense. The student will have two attempts to sufficiently integrate the requested revisions. If the revisions are not successfully integrated after two attempts, the defense decision will become Revision (on a first oral defense) or Fail (on a second oral defense).

This decision would result from a document that had modest limitations, but the student was able to provide strong answers in their oral defense. Once the elements from the oral defense were integrated into the document, it would justify a Pass.

**Revision:** The student must make changes to the document that once integrated, will require a new oral defense. Students must return these revisions and set a new defense date within 60 days from the time of their first defense. Students should note that the 60 day clock stops when faculty go off-contract in the Spring and resumes when they return for the Fall semester to eliminate the need for summer defenses when faculty are off-contract. A decision of Revision will only be granted once. After the second oral defense, a decision of Pass, Pass Pending Revisions, or Fail will be given.
This decision would result from a document that had modest to significant limitations and the student did not perform adequately in the oral defense. The student is expected to revise their document and then orally defend the review again.

**Fail:** The written document and/or oral defense were significantly limited. This suggests that the student does not demonstrate the necessary skills to proceed with completing a doctoral degree in the field of clinical psychology.

**Completion of Comprehensive Exam**
If a student receives a Pass, they must complete the “Proof of Successful Completion of Comprehensive Exam” form from the graduate college. The student is now allowed to propose their dissertation project. [https://www.uvm.edu/sites/default/files/compexammemo.pdf](https://www.uvm.edu/sites/default/files/compexammemo.pdf)

If a student receives a Fail, they will be recommended for dismissal from the doctoral program by the graduate college.
## Comprehensive Exam Rubric

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Needs Improvement</th>
<th>Minimal Concerns</th>
<th>Meets Expectations</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A clear rationale for the current review is provided.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The methodology of the review is described. The number of articles identified are described and the method by which certain articles were included/excluded is discussed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Information across studies is organized, presented in an appropriate structure, and is integrated around clearly defined themes and ideas. Information and results are <em>not</em> simply listed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The current state of the science in the research area is clear from the information presented. There is clear evidence that the articles in the review include the most recent findings on the topic.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Findings from this specific area of research are connected to other literatures or broader perspectives (e.g., to developmental psychopathology theories or learning theory)</td>
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<tr>
<td>There are clearly defined “next steps” that can be taken with regard to a program of research in this area.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The methods of published studies are critically evaluated with the overall strengths and limitations of these methods for this body of work clearly identified.</td>
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<tr>
<td>New methodological approaches that would address the limitations of a given body of work are discussed. Potential benefits and tradeoffs of these new methods are identified.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The written document is reasonable for submission to a high-impact journal. That is, it uses clear and concise expressions, follows APA format, has minimal grammatical and typographical errors, uses an appropriate professional style of writing. The paper is less than 35 pages of body text.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall, the comprehensive exam makes a meaningful contribution to the field through its organizing, summarizing, and integrating the current state of the science and identifying clear next steps.</td>
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The Comprehensive Portfolio is designed to insure that all students develop a minimum level of research and teaching skills/competencies. The third area (clinical skills) is developed and evaluated by students progressing through the training sequence delineated below, receiving satisfactory clinical evaluations, and a passing grade in Advanced Clinical Practicum (PSYS 385).

1. First semester, first year: Participate on a vertical team.  
2. Second semester, first year: Serve as a co-therapist on 2 to 3 cases.  
3. Second year: Participate on a vertical team and carry 2 to 3 cases at most times.  
4. Third year: Have a ½-time placement in the VPS.  
5. Fourth year: Have a ½-time placement at the VPS or an external placement.

The goal is to have at a minimum the equivalent of one full-time placement over the course of years 3 and 4. The sequence is one that most, but not necessarily all, students will follow.

**Purpose of Comprehensive Portfolio**

The purpose of the Comprehensive Portfolio is to have students document how they have developed their research and teaching skills through their experiences in the clinical psychology doctoral program. They will integrate the knowledge they obtain from their courses and other experiences into the materials contained in the portfolio. Publications, conference presentations, and teaching experiences are crucial skills in our field and for obtaining academic or non-academic positions following the completion of the doctoral degree; therefore all students should do these things as an integral part of their activities in the doctoral program. Through the materials assembled in the portfolio, students demonstrate their knowledge of the clinical psychology field and their specialized knowledge in a certain area of clinical psychology, their research skills, and their teaching promise. Because the ability to integrate knowledge in one’s specialty area and the ability to conduct and report research are especially important, all students are required to complete research requirements 1 or 2 below. Students choose (in consultation with their advisor) other items to include in their portfolios to foster their own professional development.

**Timeline for Completion of the Portfolio**

1. During the student’s first semester, one clinical faculty member (not the student’s primary mentor) will be randomly assigned to each student to evaluate the portfolio when it has been completed.  
2. The student will turn in to the Director of Clinical Training and to the assigned clinical faculty member by December 15th the checklist indicating items you plan to complete. These can be changed at any point in time.  
3. Completion and approval of the portfolio should occur by the end of the third year at the latest and must occur prior to preliminary orals being held on the dissertation proposal.

**REQUIREMENTS**
One of the first two items is required. Choose three additional items (or 2 additional items if you complete 1 and 2) to complete the research part of the Portfolio. The choices should be made in consultation with your advisor. The faculty evaluation person will provide their evaluation on the Portfolio within 4 weeks of receiving it from the student.

**Research**

1. Interpretive or review article/chapter for field of specialization. This paper is expected to be longer than a typical seminar paper, and it should be of publishable quality. The review article must be first or sole authored by the student and submitted or accepted for publication. This paper may serve as the basis of the introduction to the dissertation but should be written as a review paper (e.g., integrative conclusions but no hypotheses for a proposed study).

2. First authored published journal article or article submitted for publication to a peer-reviewed journal. Note: Results must be viewed as publishable by mentor.

3. An additional first or co-authored article or chapter published or submitted for publication. Articles should be published in peer reviewed journals and chapters should be published in reputable academic publishing houses or university presses. Co-authorship means having one’s name on the chapter or article. If the contribution is a chapter, it must be a full length.

4. First-author conference presentation or poster presentation. An abstract of the presentation or poster also should be provided.

5. First or co-authored paper designed to disseminate psychology to other disciplines or the public, published or submitted for publication. Co-authorship means having one’s name on the paper.

6. Review of an article for a journal, or review of a published data-based paper. Submit the article reviewed and your review. (Note: This can be satisfied by co-reviewing an article with a faculty member as long as the student makes a substantial contribution to the content and writing of the submitted critique).

7. A submitted grant proposal (with the student as the PI/trainee) to the National Institute of Health (NIH) or the National Science Foundation (NSF). This could be a predoctoral fellowship grant (e.g., NRSA) or a dissertation research grant. Other external grant mechanisms will be considered upon approval of the clinical faculty (direct a request to the Director of Clinical Training).

**Teaching**

Three of seven items is required. Either number 1 or 6, but not both, can be used to fulfill the teaching requirement.

1. Complete at least three (3) workshops at the Center for Teaching and Learning and type a separate half-page summary of what you learned for each workshop you attend. (If you also choose #7, you must select workshops that were not part of the Graduate Teaching Program).

2. Serve as a Teaching Assistant in a course offered by a faculty member. This can be a formal (receive a TA placement) or informal (not receive a TA placement) appointment. A course syllabus and a clear delineation of your responsibilities should be presented.
3. Teach a course, typically through Continuing Education. Include course number, title, syllabus, and number of students enrolled.

4. Guest lecture in a formal course at least 3 times.

5. Mentor two or more undergraduates in your lab by setting up a course of learning and a syllabus.

6. Take and pass a “Teaching Psychology” course, approved by the Director of Clinical Training.

7. Complete the University of Vermont’s Graduate Teaching Program.

**Submission of the Portfolio**

Portfolios are first submitted to the advisor for initial approval, and then to the faculty member appointed to evaluate the portfolio.

The student should create a binder with dividers for each of their items, and should provide a cover letter describing the contents of the portfolio, how the portfolio reflects the student’s content area, and a vita. *Include the Portfolio checklist in the binder.* Paper copies of all materials should be provided, along with citations for published papers, conference presentations, and chapters.

**PROCEDURES**

1. Student meets with advisor to plan comprehensive portfolio during the student’s first semester of the first year of the program. The faculty member who will conduct the evaluation also will be assigned in the first semester of the first year.

2. The advisor and student decide on the set of items to go into the portfolio. They use the checklist to keep track of progress on the different items. Students should receive feedback from their advisor before submitting items to the faculty member who will conduct the evaluation. This is particularly the case for the literature review or journal article. It is expected that the advisor reads the literature review or journal article several times after revisions before it is included in the portfolio and submitted for evaluation.

3. Students compile the portfolio, which should include an up-to-date vita and the Portfolio checklist, for submission for evaluation. A paper copy of each item should be provided, along with citations for published papers, conference presentations, and chapters. Portfolios are first submitted to the advisor for initial approval, and then to the faculty member for full evaluation. The student should provide a cover letter describing the contents of the portfolio and how the portfolio reflects the student’s content area.

4. The faculty evaluation person evaluates each item in the portfolio. Articles accepted for publication in reputable journals or books, papers presented at national conferences, grants submitted to reputable agencies or foundations, and reviews submitted to reputable journals do not have to be evaluated further. Articles submitted and other items not judged by outside agencies will be read and evaluated by the evaluator. The student’s advisor determines the appropriateness of the specific journals and granting agencies for the portfolio requirements.

5. The faculty evaluation person evaluates each item separately, and decides if it meets the requirements or needs to be revised and resubmitted. For items judged as needing revision, a second faculty member will be asked by the DCT to provide a second opinion. If there is a difference of opinion, the two faculty members
will resolve the difference of opinion. ALL items must meet the requirements for the portfolio to be judged acceptable.

a. For all items except the required one, an item judged as needing revision can either be revised, or students can opt to submit another item in its place.
b. If the required item is judged as needing revision, the student cannot replace it with another item but must submit a revised version.
c. Students unable to revise item(s) successfully will not be allowed to complete the doctoral program.

Timeline for Completion of the Evaluation of the Portfolio

1. The faculty member will provide her or his evaluation on the Portfolio within 4 weeks of receiving it from the student.

Monitoring of Student Progress

As part of the annual evaluation which occurs in October, students shall complete a progress report that they submit to the DCT. This report will summarize their progress toward completing the portfolio.

EVALUATION

The faculty member reading the portfolio will assign one of the following recommendations:

A. PASS. Accept as is (no revisions).

B. PASS WITH REVISION. The faculty member has relatively minor comments and feedback that should be addressed by the student.

C. DOES NOT PASS. Reject and revise the portfolio according to comments from the faculty portfolio committee.

The faculty member sends her or his evaluation to the student (using designed evaluation form), the student’s Advisor, and the DCT.
Evaluation of Doctoral Portfolio by Faculty Reviewer

Student:

Faculty Reviewer:

**Timeline:** The faculty reviewer will provide her or his evaluation on the Portfolio within 4 weeks of receiving it from the student. The faculty reviewer will then send a copy of his/her evaluation to the student, the student’s advisor, and the Director of Clinical Training.

**EVALUATION**

Recommendation of the faculty member reviewing the Portfolio:

____PASS. Accept as is (no revisions).

____PASS WITH REVISION*. The faculty member has relatively minor comments and feedback that should be addressed by the student (see below).

____DOES NOT PASS*. Reject and revise the portfolio according to comments (see below).

Comments to be addressed:

*The Portfolio should be resubmitted to the faculty reviewer (along with a clean copy of this form) after revision in accord with the comments.

__________________________________    _______________________
Faculty Reviewer Signature      Date
CHECKLIST

Doctoral Portfolio Checklist

STUDENT’S NAME: ADVISOR:
DATE: FACULTY REVIEWER:

One of the first two Research items below is required. Choose three additional Research items (or 2 additional items if you complete numbers 1 and 2) to complete the portfolio. Choose three of seven Teaching items to complete. The choices should be made in consultation with your advisor. Consult the Portfolio Procedures and Portfolio Requirements documents for more details on the criteria for each item. Place a check next to the item that you are submitting. Please submit the checklist to your assigned faculty reviewer by December 15 of your first semester in graduate school to indicate items you plan to complete as part of your Portfolio. Advise the DCT of any changes in items you plan to complete as part of your Portfolio. Include the checklist in your submitted Portfolio.

Research

1. First authored interpretive or review article/chapter for field of specialization, accepted or submitted for publication.
   ___Completed. Title:

2. First authored published journal article, or article submitted for publication to a peer-reviewed journal.
   ___Completed. Title:

3. An additional first or co-authored article or chapter accepted or submitted for publication.
   ___Completed. Title:

4. First authored or co-authored conference presentation or poster presentation.
   ___Completed. Title:

5. First or co-authored published or submitted for publication paper designed to disseminate psychology to other disciplines or the public.
   ___Completed. Title:

6. Review of an article for a journal or review of a data-based published paper.
   ___Completed. Title:

7. Submitted grant proposal (with the student as the PI/trainee) to the National Institute of Health (NIH) or the National Science Foundation (NSF) (or other mechanism if approved by the clinical faculty).
   ___Completed. Title:
**Teaching** (Complete at least 3 of 7. Either number 1 or 6, but not both, can be used).

1. Complete three workshops at the Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) and write a one-half page summary of what you learned in each workshop. (If you also choose #7, you must select workshops that were not part of the Graduate Teaching Program).

   ___Completed. CTL workshop titles (3):
   ___Completed: Summaries (provide a separate summary for each workshop):

2. Serve as a Teaching Assistant.

   ___Completed. Course:

3. Teach a course.

   ___Completed. Title:

4. Guest lecture in formal course at least 3 times.

   ___Completed. Courses lectured in: ___________, ___________, and ___________.

5. Mentored 2 or more undergraduates in lab.

   ___Completed.

6. Complete a “Teaching Psychology” course, approved by the Director of Clinical Training.

   ___Completed.

7. Complete the University of Vermont’s Graduate Teaching Program.

   ___Completed.
Evaluation of Doctoral Portfolio Checklist by Faculty Reviewer

Student:

Faculty Reviewer:

EVALUATION

Recommendation of the faculty member reviewing the Portfolio checklist:

___ PROPOSED PLAN IS ACCEPTABLE. Checklist is acceptable as is (no revisions).

___ PROPOSED PLAN IS UNACCEPTABLE.* The faculty member has comments and feedback that should be addressed by the student (see below).

Comments to be addressed:

*The Portfolio checklist should be resubmitted to the faculty reviewer (along with a clean copy of this form) after revision in accord with the comments.

Faculty Reviewer: Please submit a copy of this completed form to the student, the student’s advisor, and the Director of Clinical Training.

__________________________________    _______________________
Faculty Reviewer Signature      Date
These are general guidelines for mentoring graduate students. The most important part of the mentoring process is a match between mentoring style and the graduate student. Therefore, one size does not fit all; as long as both the faculty member and the graduate student are effectively communicating and satisfied with progress, then mentoring is effectively occurring.

Our goals with research mentoring of graduate students are as follows: (1) To develop research skills and in-depth knowledge in selected areas of the literature; (2) to become collaborators with faculty and other students; (3) to be consumers and producers of research; (4) to be exposed to the grant process; and (5) to serve as mentors themselves for more junior students.

1. Research teams will generally meet once a week.

2. Faculty member will have individual meetings with each member of the team on at least an every-other-week basis. When meetings have to be cancelled, they will be made up as soon as possible. Progress toward research goals can be assessed and deadlines can be revisited during these meetings.

3. By the beginning of the second year, graduate students will be involved not only in conceptualization of conducting research but in writing papers for submission and presentations for conventions. Faculty members generally will provide extensive feedback on drafts of papers and convention presentations within two weeks (and earlier if possible).

4. Students will be encouraged to pursue and receive help developing: (1) NRSA applications when appropriate; (2) other internal and external grant funding; and (3) venues for participation in professional organizations.

5. As graduate students progress through the program, they should begin serving as mentors for junior members of their research team, including less advanced graduate students and undergraduate students.
Annual Evaluation

Each year in October, there is an annual evaluation of clinical students in their second year and beyond who are on campus. This is an opportunity for you to self-evaluate what you have accomplished and to receive feedback from the faculty on your progress.

Please complete the attached form, print it out, attach an up-to-date vita, and put in my box by _____________. The reports and vita will be made available to faculty as part of your annual evaluation at the ____________ clinical faculty meeting.

Again, let me emphasize the importance of this activity for you in terms of evaluating whether you are achieving your goals in graduate school.

Kelly

CLINICAL STUDENTS IN YEAR 2 AND BEYOND:
Please complete and return the attached annual evaluation form in hard copy in my box along with these other things:
(1) a copy of your full CV,
(2) the number count of peer-reviewed article publications you have coauthored to date (separately for total number and number since at UVM),
(3) the number count of presentations you have coauthored to date (separately for total number and number since at UVM),
(4) the number count of manuscripts you currently have under review at peer-reviewed journals, and
(5) the number of manuscripts you currently have in preparation.
*Please provide a separate page with the numbers referenced in (2)-(5) as opposed to just marking them on your CV. I prefer not to do the counting.
Annual Self-Report of Clinical Psychology Graduate Students

University of Vermont

Name: ___________________________ Research Advisor: ___________________________

Month and Year: ______________________ Academic Advisor: ___________________________

Year in Program: ______________________ Clinical Supervisor: ___________________________

Have you completed your Second Year or Master’s Thesis Project?: ___Yes ___No

Have you completed your doctoral portfolio?: ___Yes ___No

**Important! Please read:** Under each subheading below, you will be asked to describe your current progress with respect to the main training foci of the Clinical Psychology Ph.D. program: research, clinical work, and teaching. We then ask you to briefly describe your academic community involvement and service as well as your academic standing. To allow for the broad range of activities undertaken by different students, these questions will be worded in an open-ended answer format, with some suggestions for information to be included in each section. However, because we realize that much of the information you would provide here would be listed on your curriculum vita, we ask that you please attach to this document a current CV and use the spaces below to briefly (e.g., one or two paragraphs at the most) elaborate on things listed on your vita and/or provide relevant information that would not be outlined on your vita. Please consider completion of this form an opportunity to describe to members of the Clinical Psychology faculty what you have been focusing on during the past year so that they may have information pertinent to evaluating your progress in the program. This is also a great opportunity to distill and evaluate for yourself what you have accomplished so that you may set goals for the next year(s) accordingly. Remember: keep it brief!

**Research**

*Please use this space to describe your current research project(s) and the stage of each project. Please also list here any other research-related activities you have undertaken in the past year. For example: special statistical training, a course in qualitative research methods, applying for a research grant, etc. Please also indicate where you are on completion of the Doctoral Portfolio research requirements.*
Clinical

Please use this space to describe your current clinical activities, such as a placement and/or vertical team, any specialized clinical training you have obtained, case presentations given, and progress with regard to tracking your clinical hours. Please also indicate your progress in the completion of the Doctoral Portfolio clinical requirements.

Teaching

Please use this space to describe any current teaching activities, including guest lectures given and trainings/workshops that you may have attended. Please also indicate where you are in the completion of the Doctoral Portfolio teaching requirements.
Academic Community Involvement and Service

Please use this space to describe ways in which you have been involved with and/or served your academic community (which can be the Psychology Department, the University, professional organizations related to your academic or clinical work, etc.). This could include (but is not limited to) such things as attendance of department colloquia or other university lectures, departmental committee membership, and involvement in other academic or professional organizations not already listed on your vita.

Academic Progress

Please indicate in the space below your progress with regard to taking required courses, any incompletes that you may have, and give a general outline of when you intend to complete any remaining course requirements with the course schedule information currently available to you. One very simple way of doing this would be to fill out and attach the Course Requirements form that applies to the year you entered the program. For courses you haven't yet taken, you can fill in the semester and/or year you plan to take them. If you choose this option, be sure to keep a copy for your own future reference.
Tuition and Student Health Insurance Information for Funded Graduate Students in Psychology

Graduate Student Tuition

Graduate students are charged tuition based upon their residency, in-state or out-of-state, and credit hour enrollment. Residency for tuition purposes is determined by the Residency Officer. The residency regulations are outlined in the online Graduate Catalog and are also available from the Office of the Registrar. Questions may be directed to the Residency Officer at 802-656-8515.

Receipt of a fellowship, traineeship, assistantship or other award in most cases it will provide tuition remission benefits, as outlined below for various types of awards.

Graduate Teaching Assistants

Full Graduate Teaching Assistants (20-hours/week appointments with a stipend at the Graduate College minimum or more/9 months) receive a tuition scholarship from the College of Arts and Sciences covering a maximum of 10 credit hours per semester during the term of the GTA appointment. If you decide to take more than 10 credits in a semester, you will pay for any additional credits out-of-pocket at the in-state tuition rate (even if your residency is out-of-state). Students funded as Graduate Teaching Assistants can also take up to 5 credits during the summer term, which can be used for 491 Dissertation Research.

Graduate Research Assistants

Clinical program graduate students funded as Graduate Research Assistants (20-hours/week appointments at the Graduate College minimum or more for 9 months or 12 months) may take up to 10 credit hours per semester during the term of the GRA appointment. If you decide to take more than 10 credits in a semester, you will pay for any additional credits out-of-pocket at the in-state tuition rate (even if your residency is out-of-state). Students funded as Graduate Research Assistants can also take up to 5 credits during the summer term, which can be used for 491 Dissertation Research.

Student Health Insurance

All funded students with an annual stipend of at least the Graduate College minimum for 9 months or 12 months are eligible to have the University pay 100% of the single UVM student health insurance premium. This is an increase (UVM used to cover 75% of the premium) and saves each graduate assistant enrolled in the plan over $700 annually. The health insurance premium is resourced through a fringe benefit rate on the stipend. This benefit rate is charged to the same budget (general fund, grant or gift, etc.) that pays the stipend. To receive this premium support, students must enroll in the Student Health Insurance Plan through the Center for Health and Wellbeing. You must enroll annually to receive premium support.

Fellowships, Traineeships, NRSA Awards

The details of the specific traineeship or fellowship grant will dictate how tuition is paid. These awards are handled differently than GRAs and GTAs because the fellow/trainee is considered an employee of the granting agency (such as NIH), not of UVM. If you are funded on a training grant, you will need to find out the specifics of the stipend level and financial aid package (e.g., tuition remission per semester, whether it covers a portion of the student health insurance premium) from the Principal Investigator on the grant. If you are funded on a
National Research Service Award (NRSA), you will need to work with UVM’s Sponsored Programs Office to set up your project budget in accord with current standards. There are times that the grant may not be finalized prior to tuition becoming due. In such cases, close communication with the Graduate College and Student Financial Services can often save students from late fees.

If you came to the State of Vermont to go to graduate school (that is, did not work in the State for one year preceding enrolling in graduate school), NRSAs may have tuition rates at the out-of-state rate. On the other hand, if you are a resident of the State of Vermont and have worked for a year preceding graduate school, then you are considered in-state and the NRSA pays tuition at the in-state rate. The Registrar’s office determines your residency status upon your application to the program, and tuition is charged accordingly.
1. If you are on a Graduate College Graduate Teaching Assistantship (GTA) at full-time (20 hours/week), you can take a maximum of ten (10) credit hours per semester during fall and spring (20 credits for the year). Dissertation credit hours can count within these hours and will be fully covered. In some cases, it may be possible to borrow from that award of 20 hours if you wish to take any courses or research credits during the summer preceding your appointment as a GTA.* GTAs can take a maximum of five (5) credit hours in the summer as part of their funding.

2. If you are on a Graduate Research Assistantship (GRA on someone’s research grant) at full-time (20 hours/week), you can take a maximum of ten (10) credit hours per semester during fall and spring (20 credits for the year). In some cases, it may be possible to borrow from that award of 20 hours if you wish to take any courses or research credits during the summer preceding your appointment as a GRA.* GRAs can take a maximum of five (5) credit hours in the summer as part of their funding.

3. If you are on a GRA ½-time and a College of Arts and Sciences GTA ½-time, you get ten (10) credits per semester covered by your placement and can take up to five (5) credit hours in the summer as part of your funding.

4. Clinical placements (for example, VPS and UVM Medical Center) currently come with the same stipend and level of tuition remission as GTAs and GRAs do.

5. Please note that cases above referring to the summer refer to the summer before the next academic year.

6. Different rules apply to those who are on fellowships, traineeships, and NRSA awards. Those awards are dependent on the terms of the specific grant. Your principal investigator should send Student Financial Services an email at sfs@uvm.edu with the following information: Your name, student ID number, semester, amount to pay directly from the grant, and respective chartstring. The College may pick up tuition beyond what is included in the grant, but those cases are determined on an individual basis.

*You must request special permission for this from the Graduate College and let them know how you will be funded for the coming year to have these paid. Please inform the Director of Clinical Training.

When to Register
The Graduate College recently received a new policy from the Registrar's Office that you need to be aware of. Effective Spring 2014, a student must be registered for courses (including dissertation research credits) by the end of the add/drop period or s/he will be deactivated and need to be reactivated. If students are deactivated, they will lose the accesses their CAT Card currently provides (library, labs, bus, etc.).
Master’s Thesis Proposal Guidelines

Preamble: The purpose of a Master’s thesis is for a graduate student to demonstrate her/his ability to conceptualize, design, and analyze a meaningful piece of research with guidance from a mentor. A knowledge of the relevant literature and theory, the ability to integrate the proposed study into the existing literature and theory, and an ability to recognize the limitations, strengths, and implications of the study also are critical parts of the second-year project proposal. Publication of the project in a peer reviewed journal is typically a goal.

A student who enters with a Master’s degree where a thesis has been completed and published in a peer reviewed journal is exempt.

1. A Master’s Thesis proposal and oral defense of the project should be the work of a graduate student with the guidance of a faculty mentor. Students who work with existing data are expected to conceptualize a novel research question as opposed to addressing the primary question(s) the Principal Investigator designed the original project to answer (i.e., the study aims).

2. The proposal should be in the best shape possible prior to submission to a 3-person committee (consisting of the faculty mentor, a chairperson, and one other). At least one committee member must have a primary appointment in the clinical psychology cluster. Both the mentor and chairperson must be members of the Graduate Faculty. The chairperson must not have a primary or secondary appointment in the Psychological Science Department (see the Department website for a list of faculty with primary or secondary appointments).

3. The candidate should know her/his data analytic plan and be able to justify it.

4. The Master’s Thesis proposal should be submitted to the committee two weeks before the proposal meeting unless all committee members agree to waive the two week period. The proposal should consist of the following: (a) a 4-6 page introduction, rationale, and hypotheses; (b) a Method section; and (c) proposed data analyses.

5. The candidate should present an oral overview of the proposal that should last approximately 10-15 minutes. A brief literature review, rationale for and hypotheses of the study, methods, and data analytic strategies should be presented.

6. The great majority of the proposal meeting should focus on committee member questions for the candidate.

7. A final meeting among committee members without the candidate present should occur to make one of the following decisions:

a. Proceed with the study;
b. Proceed with the study with a list of changes to the proposal;
c. Re-write aspects of the proposal and re-submit to committee members.
d. Re-write aspects of the proposal and hold another proposal meeting;
e. Hold another proposal meeting;
f. Start on a new proposal.

8. The proposal meeting should be no longer than one hour.

9. Timeline: We encourage students to begin on the Master’s Thesis during their first year in graduate school. The proposal and oral defense cannot occur during the summer, defined as beginning one week after commencement in May and ending one week before classes start in August.
Master’s Thesis Project Defense Guidelines

Preamble: The Master’s Thesis defense is an opportunity for the candidate to demonstrate her/his knowledge of the study she/he has conducted. In the defense presentation, the candidate should be fully versed in the empirical and theoretical basis for the study, the methods used, the data analytic procedures used, whether the hypotheses were or were not supported, and the limitations, strengths, and implications of the study.

The final Master’s Thesis should be submitted to the committee two weeks before the defense date unless all committee members agree to waive the two week period. The document should consist of the following: (a) an abstract; (b) an introduction, including the rationale and hypotheses; (c) a methods section, including data analyses, (d) results, and (e) a scholarly discussion. The document should resemble a research report in a peer-reviewed journal.

1. The defense consists of two parts: (1) a 15 to 20 minute presentation, and (2) a question and answer part. Others beside the committee are welcome to attend the presentation but should leave before the second part of the defense.

2. Following the question and answer period, the committee will meet without the candidate to decide one of the following:
   a. Pass with no revisions to the document.
   b. Pass with minor revisions to the document.
   c. Orals and/or question and answer section not passed.
   d. Document is not acceptable.

3. The defense meeting should be no longer than one hour.

4. Timeline: The Master’s Thesis should be completed no later than the end of the second academic year (one week after commencement in May).

5. Students must use and follow the timeline on the Intent to Defend form for the Master’s Thesis defense, including the requirement to submit the form to the Director of Clinical Training, the Intent to Graduate Form to the Graduate College, and the Defense Committee Membership Approval Form to the Graduate College no later than 6 weeks prior to the defense date.

6. Students must submit a Defense Notice to the Graduate College at least three weeks prior to their defense date (also submit to Cyndi Snyder). Please go to http://www.uvm.edu/graduate/resources to get the Defense Notice Template (see section on "Thesis/Dissertation Forms").
**Doctoral Dissertation Defense Committee**

The committee consists of five members, three of whom (including the dissertation advisor) must be members of the Graduate Faculty and the Psychological Science Department. The fourth member must be from outside the Psychological Science Department, a member of the Graduate Faculty, and serves as Chair of the Dissertation Defense Committee. The fifth member can be inside or outside of the Psychological Science Department and need not be a member of the Graduate Faculty. At least one person must be a core faculty member in the student’s academic cluster (i.e., clinical, social, developmental, or biobehavioral*), and it is strongly recommended that one be from a department cluster other than the student’s own.

Proposals for thesis or dissertation research must be approved by the full committee in advance of substantive work on the project. Changes in thesis or dissertation plans are to be discussed with the committee for approval as the research is in progress. It is the responsibility of the student to keep her or his committee up to date.

Thesis and dissertation defenses are publicly held. The student must complete the department Intent to Defend Form at least at least six weeks prior to the defense. The student must follow all Graduate College requirements and deadlines. Only in exceptional circumstances and with the unanimous consent of committee members may defenses be held during June, July, or August. A request must be made to the Department Chair for a defense during these months.

*The biobehavioral cluster serves as the academic cluster for students in the Human Behavioral Pharmacology subprogram.*
Dissertation Proposal Guidelines

Approved by Faculty: February 8, 2017; Revised March 9, 2018

Preamble: The purpose of a dissertation is the opportunity for a graduate student to demonstrate her/his ability to independently conceptualize, design, and analyze a meaningful piece of research. A knowledge of the relevant literature and theory, the ability to integrate the proposed study into the existing literature and theory, the ability to develop research hypotheses, and an ability to recognize the limitations, strengths, and implications of the study also are critical parts of the dissertation proposal.

10. A dissertation proposal should be the work of a graduate student with the guidance of a faculty mentor. It should include a comprehensive literature review leading to specific research hypotheses and a detailed method section. Because the length of the literature review can vary by topic, the scope of the literature review, including its length, should be determined through consultation with the student’s advisor and dissertation committee as early in the process as possible. The Department of Psychological Science does not accept dissertation proposals (or dissertations) in manuscript/journal article format, even if appended with a full literature review.

11. The proposal should be in the best shape possible prior to submission to the committee. The role of committee members is to evaluate the proposal and the candidate, not to design the study, help write the proposal, or help design data analytic approaches.

12. The candidate should know her/his data analytic plan and be able to justify it.

13. The oral defense of the dissertation proposal is the task of the candidate, not the primary faculty mentor.

14. The dissertation proposal should be submitted to the committee two weeks before the proposal meeting unless all committee members agree to waive the two week period. Serious concerns about the readiness of the written proposal for a committee meeting must be shared, via email, with the committee at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled meeting. The meeting may be rescheduled at the discretion of the committee chair.

15. The dissertation proposal meeting should be scheduled for a 2-hour block, but may end early.

16. The candidate should then present an oral overview of the proposal that should last approximately 15 minutes. A brief literature review, rationale for and hypotheses of the study, methods, data analytic strategies, and preliminary data if available should be presented.

17. The great majority of the proposal meeting should focus on committee member questions for the candidate.

18. A final meeting among committee members without the candidate present should occur to make one of the following decisions:
a. Proceed with the dissertation study;
b. Proceed with the dissertation study with a list of changes to the proposal;
c. Re-write aspects of the proposal and re-submit to committee members.
d. Re-write aspects of the proposal and hold another proposal meeting;
e. Hold another proposal meeting;
f. Start on a new proposal.
Dissertation Defense Guidelines

Approved by Faculty: February 8, 2017

Preamble: The dissertation defense is an opportunity for the candidate to demonstrate her/his knowledge of the study she/he has conducted. In the dissertation defense presentation, the candidate should be fully versed in the empirical and theoretical basis for the study, the methods used, the data analytic procedures used, whether the hypotheses were or were not supported, and the limitations, strengths, and implications of the study.

1. The defense consists of two parts: (1) a 25 to 30 minute presentation and brief question and answer part that is open to the “public”, and (2) a question and answer part limited to the candidate and the committee. The entire dissertation defense should be scheduled for 2 hours. Students should give careful consideration to whom they invite to the public part of the defense. See attached for issues to consider.

2. Following the question and answer period, the committee will meet without the candidate to decide one of the following:
   a. Pass with no revisions to the document.
   b. Pass with minor revisions to the document.
   c. Orals and/or question and answer section not passed.
   d. Document is not acceptable.

NOTE on public portion of defense: Based on the advice of students and faculty who have been through this process, we would like to offer a few thoughts to inform the decision of who to invite to the public portion of one’s dissertation defense, with the caveat that there is no right or wrong decision. Some students may only wish to have the committee present and, perhaps, a few other colleagues within the department who have been involved in the student’s training, research, etc. As has happened in the past, other students may also elect to invite significant others and/or family members from out of town to be present for the defense, which is then often followed by a small celebratory gathering after the “closed” portion of the defense. There are a number of reasons why this may appeal to some and we certainly want to make clear that we acknowledge that the support of family and friends is important throughout the process of obtaining an advanced degree. However, it is also important for candidates to know that the dissertation defense is not simply a formality; that is, there is a small possibility that the candidate’s committee will need to see major revisions to the dissertation before it can be passed, thus postponing the time for celebration. We set these comments within the context that it is expected that the student’s advisor will not allow them to defend when there are serious problems that might prevent the candidate from passing. In other words, the process leading up to the defense should preclude such a scenario from ever happening at all, but these are things that each student may want to consider in planning for the defense.

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consider in planning for the defense.
Psychological Science Defense Timeline of Checkpoints
Timeline for a Master’s Thesis or Ph.D. Dissertation Defense

Graduate College Forms and Requirements

Note that some Graduate College deadlines begin early in the semester in which you plan to graduate, so plan ahead!

___ Beginning of the semester of your expected defense
Submit Intent to Graduate Form to the Graduate College (also submit to Cyndi Snyder)
http://www.uvm.edu/sites/default/files/Intent%20to%20Graduate%20-%20Fillable2_0.pdf
Submit Defense Committee Membership Approval Form to the Graduate College (also submit to your Program Director)
http://www.uvm.edu/sites/default/files/defensemembershipform_2.pdf

___ 3 weeks before your defense
Schedule a format check with the Graduate College at least three weeks prior to your defense date
Submit a Defense Notice to the Graduate College at least three weeks prior to your defense date (also submit to Cyndi Snyder). Please go to http://www.uvm.edu/graduate/resources to get the Defense Notice Template (see section on "Thesis/Dissertation Forms").

Follow Guidelines, including the timeline, provided by the Graduate College at the Fall Information Session. For review, see p. 4 http://www.uvm.edu/sites/default/files/Electronic%20Thesis%20and%20Dissertation%20Guidelines.pdf

Your thesis/dissertation must meet the Graduate College formatting. This means that there will be two different formats for your thesis/dissertation. One format is the Psychological Science format (APA) and one is the Graduate College format. The thesis/dissertation template for the Graduate College format is available at http://www.uvm.edu/graduate/resources (see section on "Thesis/Dissertation Forms").

Psychological Science Department Forms and Requirements

In addition to the Graduate College requirements, the Department of Psychological Science has the following requirements for Master’s and Dissertation defenses.

- Defenses must take place during the academic year, which spans the week before classes start in fall semester through the week after spring commencement. A request must be made to the Department Chair for a defense outside of these dates and will only be approved in exceptional circumstances and with the unanimous support of the defense committee.
- Form your master’s and dissertation committees well in advance of the defense. Your committee is meant to serve as an important resource for you as you develop your research ideas. At least 1 committee member must have a primary appointment in Psychological Science and be a member of the cluster in which you are specializing (i.e., biobehavioral, clinical, developmental, or social cluster).
- Note that the initiation of departmental processes cannot begin until your advisor has seen a complete draft of your thesis and anticipates that the thesis will be ready to submit to the committee for review at least 2 weeks before the defense date. This means that, at a minimum, a high quality and complete draft should have been reviewed and approved by your advisor at least 6 weeks before the earliest possible defense date.
- Graduate students should not attempt to rush the departmental timeline for any reason (e.g., postdoctoral fellowship start date, the desire to accrue postdoctoral clinical hours toward licensure, facilitation of travel plans back to Burlington).

___ 6 weeks before your defense
Schedule your date and time
Submit Psychological Science Intent to Defend Form (see p. 3) to the Psych department (Cyndi)

___ 2 weeks before your Defense
Submit a defendable copy to your Defense Committee members

**Before You Leave**

- Provide an Electronic/Hard copy of your dissertation to the Department.
- Return Departmental Keys to Gail Kirby
- Send updates about your work positions to Cyndi Snyder
  - NOTE: This is important for our APA accreditation and for documenting our success in training graduate students!
Department of Psychological Science Intent to Defend Form

MA THESIS -- DISSERTATION -- 2ND YEAR PROJECT

This form MUST be submitted to the Program Director no later than 6 weeks prior to the defense date.

Name: ____________________________________________     Today’s Date: ________________

Program:  □ Clinical  □ Experimental  Degree: □ M.A  □ 2nd Year Project  □ Ph.D.

Defense Date & Time: Date: ___________  Time: ___________

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<th>Names of Committee Members</th>
<th>Department Affiliation</th>
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<td>Advisor</td>
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Thesis/Second Year Project/Dissertation Title: (please print clearly)

Advisor Approval: I verify that I have seen a complete version of the thesis and I anticipate that the thesis will be ready to submit to the committee for review at least two weeks before the listed defense date.

Advisor Signature: ___________________________     Date: ________________

Program Director Approval: ___________________________     Date: ________________

Program Director should forward a copy of the form to Cyndi (Graduate Director Administrative Assistant).

Ph.D. ONLY – Your preference for commemorative gift (check one): UVM degree frame___ engraved pen___

If you chose the pen, please print clearly your name as you wish it to appear on your commemorative pen:

Email contact after graduation (non-UVM email):

Plans for next year:

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Psychological Sciences Department Policy on Scheduling Thesis, Second Year Project, and Dissertation Proposals and Defenses during Summer

Thesis, Second Year Projects, and Dissertation proposals and defenses shall not be scheduled during the summer months, defined as the period beginning 1 week after commencement and ending 1 week before the start of fall semester classes, except in extraordinary circumstances.

If there are extraordinary circumstances that recommend a summer proposal or defense, the student may request a waiver of this policy from the Department chairperson. This request must include a description of the unavoidable and extenuating circumstances that make a summer proposal or defense necessary. This request should be made to the chairperson as soon as the student anticipates the need for a summer proposal or defense. The chairperson will poll the thesis/dissertation committee and grant a waiver only if each member of the committee agrees to the summer proposal or defense.

In the rare circumstances that a summer defense is approved by the committee, the student must still follow the Department's Intent to Defend process and form (this form is not required for proposals). This includes a signature from the research mentor indicating that he/she has reviewed and approved a high quality and complete draft at least 6 weeks before the earliest possible defense date. Approval for a summer defense does not imply permission to schedule the actual defense date before the mentor has approved a high quality and complete draft.

Graduate College Forms and Policies

The Graduate College has its own policies and procedures that are beyond the scope of this clinical program-specific binder. Please visit the Graduate College’s “Forms and Policies” page for details:

http://www.uvm.edu/~gradcoll/?Page=Forms.html

There, you will find lots of important information, such as the final deadlines to be an August, October, January, or May graduate (e.g., deadlines for submitting the intent to graduate form, your format/record check, oral defense, and submitting your final dissertation to the Graduate College). These due dates change slightly each year. Last day of internship is also relevant for August and October graduation.

You will also find important forms, including the Intent to Graduate form, and the Electronic Thesis and Dissertation Guidelines.

Degrees are conferred in January, May, August, and October of every year. However, once you have met all of your program requirements and have turned in an acceptable dissertation, we can write a letter to a future employer or post doc entity confirming that you have met all the requirements and will be receiving your degree (if that helps).
Guidelines for the Pay Structure for Graduate Students in the VPS

First-year students: Learning experience – no pay.
Second-year students: Learning experience – no pay.
Third-year and fourth-year students: Typically one-half (10-hours/week) placement in VPS for standard placement pay.
Fifth-year students: Typically receive 50% of client-generated fees.

Clinical Program Policy on Advanced Students working 50/50 in the Clinic: As a reminder, if you are a student in Year 5 or beyond, you need to obtain your research mentor’s permission to do any work over-time (beyond your regular placement) on the 50/50 arrangement in the Clinic, whereby you typically get to keep 50% of the revenue you generate. Your mentor must let both the Director of Clinical Training and the Clinic Director know if he/she approves this extra clinical work and how much of it permitted. The reason we ask for mentor approval is because this is EXTRA work (beyond the 20-hours/week placement allowed by the Graduate College), and we want to ensure that the student stays on track with academic milestones, particularly dissertation progress.
UVM Clinical Graduate Program

Research Competencies

**Valuing research** – Student demonstrates behavior that is consistent with positively valuing the role of research as a component of their training in professional and scientific psychology. For example, the student completes assignments on time, is careful in his/her work (e.g., written assignments are free of typographical errors; data entry and management is done carefully), and takes the initiative on assignments (e.g., student seeks out research projects rather than waiting for them to be given to her/him).

**Professional interaction** – Interacts appropriately with other staff on a research team and with research participants. For example, collaborates well with others on joint projects and works well with other lab/staff members.

**Ethical issues** – Demonstrates knowledge of ethical principles when conducting research. For example, writes an IRB proposal (including a consent form), addresses HIPAA issues, displays familiarity with the ethics of research design, and maintains participant confidentiality.

**Theoretically based** – Uses theory to inform the conceptualization, design, and interpretation of research. For example, grasps the theoretical literature in relevant areas, discusses this literature in individual and lab meetings, and integrates theory and literature into scientific writing and presentations.

**Research design** – Generates novel hypotheses and designs a study that follows from those hypotheses. For example, skillfully critiques others' research, shows initiative/independence on thesis/dissertation.

**Data analytic skills** - Demonstrates familiarity and proficiency in basic data analytic procedures. For example, demonstrates knowledge and proficiency in conducting and interpreting correlational analyses, ANOVAs, MANOVAs, multiple regression, and procedures relevant to research area.

**Critical thinking skills** – Critically evaluates own and others' research. For example, identifies limitations in the research literature or design of a specific study, effectively critiques a manuscript, and "makes psychological sense" of own data.

**Scientific writing** – Demonstrates a scholarly writing style appropriate for journal submissions and thesis/dissertation write-up. For example, follows APA guidelines and style, skillfully integrates research findings, skillfully writes research and grant proposals, and writes in a clear and organized manner.

**Manuscript preparation** – Writes a manuscript suitable for publication in a peer-reviewed journal.

**Presentation skills** – Prepares and presents one's own research at a scientific conference, at brown bag presentations, and/or in lab meetings.

*Review an article* – Writes a critique of a manuscript submitted for publication as a data-based paper.

*Prepare and submit a grant* – Prepares and submits an application for grant funding.

*May only be relevant if selected as part of the Doctoral Portfolio research requirements.*
Note: These research competencies represent a modification of those adopted by the clinical psychology training program at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill.
| Competency #1 | **To develop effective communication and interpersonal skills.**  
*Training Objective for Competency #1:* A practicum student exhibits the ability to develop rapport and build professional alliances (with colleagues and communities). A practicum student works effectively with colleagues, supervisors, and mentors, and engages with feedback constructively. |
| Competency #2 | **To incorporate research and theory in clinical practice.**  
*Training Objective for Competency #2:* A practicum student can incorporate theory, scientific knowledge, and research when providing evidence-based techniques in clinical practice. |
| Competency #3 | **To provide proficient and effective psychological interventions grounded in evidence-based principles.**  
*Training Objective for Competency #3:* A practicum student can formulate case conceptualizations, select appropriate interventions, and implement evidence-based treatment strategies in a flexible manner. A student can also effectively conduct oral case presentations regarding intervention. |
| Competency #4 | **To complete comprehensive psychological assessments and accessible assessment reports.**  
*Training Objective for Competency #4:* A practicum student can develop and understand a referral question, choose appropriate, well-validated assessment tools, assess clients in a valid and reliable manner, write clear, useful, and accessible assessment reports, and disseminate assessment findings to appropriate parties. |
| Competency #5 | **To practice psychology with sensitivity to diversity matters and diverse individual backgrounds.**  
*Training Objective for Competency #5:* Practicum students attend to a broad range of diversity dimensions (e.g., age, gender, gender identity, race, ethnicity, culture, national origin, religion, disability, sexual orientation, language, mental illness, socio-economic status), consider diversity matters when choosing assessment and intervention strategies, and adapt case conceptualization and services based on diversity considerations. |
| Competency #6 | **To advance clinical research skills and scholarly inquiry.**  
*Training Objective for Competency #6:* Practicum students will develop and build upon their analytic and research skills, while contributing to the clinical research community. |
| Competency #7 | **To gain knowledge regarding theories and methods of supervision and gain direct experience providing supervision.**  
*Training Objective for Competency #7:* A practicum student understands models of supervision, and is able to supervise more junior doctoral-level graduate students. |
| Competency #8 | To gain knowledge regarding theories and methods of consultation and gain direct experience providing consultation.  
*Training Objective for Competency #8:* A clinical VPS Practicum Student is able to provide professional assistance and consultation services to others in response to client, family, or community needs. A student also seeks out interdisciplinary consultation as needed. |
| Competency #9 | To develop a thorough understanding of ethical practice in the context of professional psychology and to implement such practice.  
*Training Objective for Competency #9:* Practicum students develop ethical decision-making skills, conduct themselves in accordance with the APA “Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct,” HIPPA, and uphold their primary ethical obligation to protect the welfare of the client/patient. |
| Competency #10 | To adhere to professional demeanor in interactions with clients, peers, supervisors, and allied professionals.  
*Training Objective for Competency #10:* Practicum students maintain professional appearance, engage in appropriate interactions, and adhere to business practices of psychology (e.g., notes, billing, attendance). |
| Competency #11 | To develop and maintain self-care practices.  
*Training Objective for Competency #11:* Practicum students understand the importance of self-care, maintain awareness of self-care practices and stressors, and engage in self-care practice. |
| Competency #12 | To develop and maintain appropriate clinical responsiveness.  
*Training Objective for Competency #12:* A practicum student demonstrates strong relational skills, including empathy, maintenance of therapeutic alliance, goal consensus and collaboration, positive regard, and genuineness. A practicum student also exhibits self-reflection, understands the impact of the clinician on the therapeutic relationship, and responds appropriately to this knowledge. |
Teaching Competencies
UVM Clinical Graduate Program

Valuing teaching – Student demonstrates behavior that is consistent with generally valuing teaching as a component of their training in professional and scientific psychology. For example, the student completes teaching-related assignments on time, is careful in their work (e.g., written work is free of typographical errors), and takes the initiative on teaching-related duties (e.g., student seeks out opportunities to teach rather than waiting for them to be given to her/him).

Professional interaction – Interacts appropriately with students who she/he is teaching, other teaching assistants, and professors.

*Syllabus Design and Development – Designs and develops a syllabus for a course (including a lab-based course).

*Lecture Development – Develops lectures for a course.

Exam Development – Develops exams for a course.

Grading – Grades exams/papers promptly, provides students with feedback and current standing in class.

Responding to Questions – Responds to questions posed by students and, if necessary, finds answers.

Availability – Sets office hours and responds to student requests within 48 hours.

Facilitating Discussion – Sparks class/lab discussions and keeps them going.

Research Integration – Integrates research into teaching activities, including lectures, readings, and class discussions.

Note: Some competencies may only be relevant if selected as part of the Doctoral Portfolio teaching requirements and/or if the student has engaged in formal classroom teaching activities (e.g., teaching one’s own course, serving as a Graduate Teaching Assistant, or guest lecturing).
Competency-Based Evaluation Forms

Research Competencies Rating Form

Name of Student:
Date:
Research Supervisor:

Evaluation Criteria

PLEASE EVALUATE THE STUDENT IN YOUR LABORATORY USING THE SCALE BELOW. PLEASE CIRCLE THE NUMBER THAT BEST DESCRIBES THE TRAINEE’S COMPETENCE. CONSIDER THE TRAINEE’S LEVEL OF TRAINING (I.E., YEAR IN PROGRAM) WHEN MAKING YOUR RATINGS. EACH ITEM MAY INCLUDE SOME SPECIFIC BEHAVIORAL EXAMPLES OF THE COMPETENCE AREA IN QUESTION, WHICH WHILE NOT AN EXHAUSTIVE LIST, SHOULD PROVIDE GENERAL GUIDELINES TO FACILITATE YOUR RATINGS.

1. Competence is below expectations for level of training. Student’s competence may be acceptable at times, but may be inconsistent or her/his skill set is below an acceptable level for her/his year in program. This rating should improve to an acceptable level with further training, remediation, and/or increased student effort.

2. Competence meets expectations for level of training. The student has shown some basic mastery of the competency or skill and is at a level expected for someone at her/his level of training.

3. Competence exceeds expectations level of training.

N. Not applicable. The competency or skill set is not applicable to the student or there was no opportunity to rate/observe.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMPETENCY AREA</th>
<th>RATING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. <strong>Valuing research</strong> – Student demonstrates behavior that is consistent with positively valuing the role of research as a component of their training in professional and scientific psychology. For example, the student completes assignments on time, is careful in his/her work (e.g., written assignments are free of typographical errors; data entry and management is done carefully), and takes the initiative on assignments (e.g., student seeks out research projects rather than waiting for them to be given to her/him).</td>
<td>N 1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. <strong>Professional interaction</strong> – Interacts appropriately with other staff on a research team and with research participants. For example, collaborates well with others on joint projects and works well with other lab/staff members. In rating, please consider your own observations of the student’s behavior, which can include how well he/she collaborates with others on joint projects, as well as input from other lab/staff members.</td>
<td>N 1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. <strong>Ethical issues</strong> – Demonstrates knowledge of ethical principles when conducting research. For example, writes an IRB proposal (including a consent form), addresses HIPAA issues, displays familiarity with the ethics of research design, and maintains participant confidentiality.</td>
<td>N 1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. <strong>Theoretically based</strong> – Uses theory to inform the conceptualization, design, and interpretation of research. For example, grasps the theoretical literature in relevant areas, discusses this literature in individual and lab meetings, and integrates theory and literature into scientific writing and presentations.</td>
<td>N 1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. <strong>Research design</strong> – Generates novel hypotheses and designs a study that follows from those hypotheses. For example, skillfully critiques others' research, shows initiative/independence on thesis/dissertation.</td>
<td>N 1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. <strong>Data analytic skills</strong> - Demonstrates familiarity and proficiency in basic data analytic procedures. For example, demonstrates knowledge and proficiency in conducting and interpreting correlational analyses, ANOVAs, MANOVAs, Multiple Regression, and procedures relevant to research area.</td>
<td>N 1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. <strong>Critical thinking skills</strong> – Critically evaluates own and others' research. For example, identifies limitations in the research literature or design of a specific study, effectively critiques a manuscript, and &quot;makes psychological sense&quot; of own data.</td>
<td>N 1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. <strong>Scientific writing</strong> – Demonstrates a scholarly writing style appropriate for journal submissions and thesis/dissertation write-up. For example, follows APA guidelines and style, skillfully integrates research findings, skillfully writes research and grant proposals, and writes in a clear and organized manner.</td>
<td>N 1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>N 1 2 3</td>
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<td>N 1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. <strong>Review an article</strong> – Writes a critique of a manuscript submitted for publication as a published data-based paper.</td>
<td>N 1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. <strong>Prepare and submit a grant</strong> – Prepares and submits an application for grant funding.</td>
<td>N 1 2 3</td>
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</table>

*Rate this only if it is selected as part of the research requirement of the Doctoral Portfolio. Otherwise, rate as N (not applicable).
Please comment below on the student’s particular strengths in research:

Please comment below on any areas of development for the student in research (for example, as indicated by ratings of 1 in any area) and recommendations for the clinical program faculty on how this will be remediated:

Only complete the following section at the end of the academic year (end of Spring semester):
Contributes knowledge to the field: Below, please indicate how many presentations and the number of manuscripts submitted and published the student had the past academic year.

# of scientific presentations:  Posters:  Other:
# of publications:  Submitted:  Published:

________________________________   ____________________________________
Research supervisor’s signature     Student’s signature

The above signatures indicate that the student has read this feedback form and that the supervisor and student have discussed it verbally. The signatures do not necessarily imply total agreement on the student’s performance.
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**Self-Evaluation**

**PURPOSE:**
The self-evaluation is conducted each semester in order to encourage students and supervisors to align clinical training efforts with clinical training goals. The self-evaluation is not used to make decisions about students' standing in the program, but rather is used to inform future training efforts with individual students and larger cohorts. Therefore, the self-evaluations will be reviewed only by the Clinic Director and each student's individual/vertical team supervisor(s). Self-evaluations will be retained only by the Clinic and will not be shared outside of the persons listed above.
# SELF-EVALUATION

## COMPETENCY #1: TO DEVELOP EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION AND INTERPERSONAL SKILLS.

Training Objective for Competency #1: A practicum student exhibits the ability to develop rapport and build professional alliances (with colleagues and communities). A practicum student works effectively with colleagues, supervisors, and mentors, and engages with feedback constructively.

<table>
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<th>BENCHMARKS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Establishes and maintains relationships with other professionals (e.g., individuals, groups, and/or communities).</td>
<td>1. Respectful and engaging communication with other professionals.</td>
<td>1 2 3  NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Works effectively with colleagues.</td>
<td>2. Respectful and engaging communication with colleagues.</td>
<td>1 2 3  NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Works effectively with supervisors and mentors.</td>
<td>3. Respectful and engaging communication with supervisors and mentors.</td>
<td>1 2 3  NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Engages with feedback constructively.</td>
<td>4. Receives feedback without defensiveness and responds appropriately.</td>
<td>1 2 3  NA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE:** Self-Evaluations are for training purposes only. They are retained by the Clinic and will be not be shared outside of the Clinic Director and your individual/vertical team supervisor(s). Please reflect honestly.

**SELF-RATING:**
Please indicate above the degree to which you believe you meet each benchmark, as demonstrated by each behavioral anchor (1 = Does not meet competency, 2 = Meets competency, 3 = Exceeds competency). It is expected that students will identify some areas where they do not yet meet benchmarks, so please take this as an opportunity to reflect on your current development as a trainee.

**SELF-REFLECTION:**
In the space below, please describe your strengths and areas for improvement within this competency domain. Please use the benchmarks and behavioral anchors above to guide your reflection. Complete sentences and accurate grammar/spelling are discouraged, while honest self-feedback is strongly encouraged!

**STRENGTHS:**

Areas for improvement:
Competency #2: To incorporate research and theory in clinical practice.
Training Objective for Competency #2: A practicum student can incorporate theory, scientific knowledge, and research when providing evidence-based techniques in clinical practice.

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<tr>
<td>1. Knowledge of core psychological science.</td>
<td>1. Demonstrates advanced level of scientific knowledge of human behavior.</td>
<td>1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. independently applies scientific knowledge to practice.</td>
<td>2. Discusses theory and research with clinical supervisors and develops treatment plans and intervention strategies based on theory, research and measurable outcomes.</td>
<td>1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Independently pursues continued knowledge of advances in clinical science.</td>
<td>3. Reads and remains up-to-date on relevant clinical research and applies scientific knowledge and skills appropriately and habitually to the solution of problems.</td>
<td>1 2 3</td>
</tr>
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STRENGTHS:

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:
**Competency #3: To provide proficient and effective psychological interventions grounded in evidence-based principles.**

Training Objective for Competency #3: A practicum student can formulate case conceptualizations, select appropriate interventions, and implement evidence-based treatment strategies in a flexible manner. A student can also effectively conduct oral case presentations regarding intervention.

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<tr>
<td>1. Applies knowledge of evidence-based practice in treatment and case presentation.</td>
<td>1. Writes clear case notes and summaries grounded in evidence-based practice and provides rationale in notes, supervision, and formal clinical case presentation for intervention strategies utilizing empirical support.</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Conducts thorough and sensitive initial assessment with attention to functional assessment, treatment goals, and valid measurement.</td>
<td>2. During initial assessment, builds rapport with client, conducts functional assessment, develops treatment goals, and utilizes valid and reliable assessment methods.</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Engages in independent intervention planning.</td>
<td>3. Independently conceptualizes case and selects appropriate intervention.</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Applies sound clinical judgment.</td>
<td>4. Uses good judgment in crises, consults with supervisors as needed, and appropriately refers clients to alternative or additional services.</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Implements effective intervention with fidelity to empirical principles, while being flexible as appropriate.</td>
<td>5. Independently implements a range of appropriate intervention strategies with sensitivity to each individual client’s needs and progress.</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Evaluates treatment progress and modifies treatment plans as indicated.</td>
<td>6. Critically evaluates own clinical work and relevant client outcomes, and adapts treatment when necessary.</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
</tr>
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**SELF-RATING:**

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**SELF-REFLECTION:**

In the space below, please describe your strengths and areas for improvement within this competency domain. Please use the benchmarks and behavioral anchors above to guide your reflection. Complete sentences and accurate grammar/spelling are discouraged, while honest self-feedback is strongly encouraged!

**STRENGTHS:**

**AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:**
Competency #4: To complete comprehensive psychological assessments and accessible assessment reports.

Training Objective for Competency #4: A practicum student can develop and understand a referral question, choose appropriate, well-validated assessment tools, assess clients in a valid and reliable manner, write clear, useful, and accessible assessment reports, and disseminate assessment findings to appropriate parties.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Independently selects and implements multiple methods and means of evaluation with responsiveness to diversity and context.</td>
<td>1. Demonstrates competent use of appropriate and culturally sensitive instruments, seeks consultation as needed, and acknowledges limitations of assessment data, as reflected in written reports.</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Independently understands strengths and limitations of diagnostic approaches and interpretation of results from multiple measures.</td>
<td>2. Accurately and consistently selects, administers, scores and interprets assessment tools with appropriate flexibility, such that diagnostic questions are addressed and the report leads to clinical formulation and appropriate treatment plan, while including limitations of measures.</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Demonstrates knowledge of psychometrics of measures and integrates data effectively from a variety of assessment methods.</td>
<td>3. Accurately reports psychometric properties of assessment instruments, when appropriate.</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Communicates results in written and verbal form clearly, constructively, and accurately in a conceptually appropriate manner.</td>
<td>4. Writes an effective, comprehensive and conceptually framed report, and effectively communicates results verbally.</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Demonstrates the ability to base written evaluation on psychological assessment literature.</td>
<td>5. Writes report consistent with guidelines provided in Groth-Marnat (2009), Sattler (2008), and Sattler &amp; Ryan (2009)[1]</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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SELF-RATING:
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SELF-REFLECTION:
In the space below, please describe your strengths and areas for improvement within this competency domain. Please use the benchmarks and behavioral anchors above to guide your reflection. Complete sentences and accurate grammar/spelling are discouraged, while honest self-feedback is strongly encouraged!

STRENGTHS:

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:
Competency #5: To practice psychology with sensitivity to diversity matters and diverse individual backgrounds.

Training Objective for Competency #5: Practicum students attend to a broad range of diversity dimensions (e.g., age, gender, gender identity, race, ethnicity, culture, national origin, religion, disability, sexual orientation, language, mental illness, socio-economic status), consider diversity matters when choosing assessment and intervention strategies, and adapt case conceptualization and services based on diversity considerations.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Independently monitors and applies knowledge of self as a cultural being in assessment, treatment, and consultation.</td>
<td>1. Independently articulates, understands, and monitors own cultural identity in relation to work with others, and initiates consultation or supervision when uncertain about diversity issues.</td>
<td>1 2 3  NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Independently monitors and applies knowledge of others as cultural beings in assessment, treatment, and consultation.</td>
<td>2. Independently articulates, understands and monitors other cultural identities in relation to work with others, and initiatives consultation or supervision when uncertain about diversity issues.</td>
<td>1 2 3  NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Integrates diversity dimensions with case conceptualization, treatment plan, and case presentations.</td>
<td>3. Formulates and presents case conceptualizations and treatment plans with respect for and attention to diverse client background.</td>
<td>1 2 3  NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Independently and creatively adapts intervention to match client’s background and needs, and considers diversity when selecting evidence-based intervention.</td>
<td>4. Demonstrates adaptation of case formulation and intervention with responsiveness to diversity domains. Critically evaluates representation of diversity in clinical research and therefore appropriately modifies intervention.</td>
<td>1 2 3  NA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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SELF-RATING:

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SELF-REFLECTION:

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STRENGTHS:

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:
COMPETENCY #6: TO ADVANCE CLINICAL RESEARCH SKILLS AND SCHOLARLY INQUIRY.

Training Objective for Competency #6: Practicum students will develop and build upon their analytic and research skills, while contributing to the clinical research community.

BENCHMARKS | BEHAVIORAL ANCHORS | RATING
--- | --- | ---
1. Applies a scientific approach to clinical work. | 1. Applies scientific method and knowledge to the monitoring of client progress and outcomes. | 1 2 3
2. Participates in clinical research (e.g., clinical data collection). | 2. Assists with clinical research efforts within VPS. | 1 2 3
3. Integrates clinical knowledge with own research program. | 3. Applies clinical experiences and training to own research and dissemination. | 1 2 3

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STRENGTHS:

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:
Competency #7: To gain knowledge regarding theories and methods of supervision and gain direct experience providing supervision.

Training Objective for Competency #7: A practicum student understands models of supervision, and is able to supervise more junior doctoral-level graduate students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BENCHMARKS</th>
<th>BEHAVIORAL ANCHORS</th>
<th>RATING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Understands the complexity of the supervisor role, including ethical, legal, and contextual issues.</td>
<td>1. Prepares supervision contract (verbal or written) and demonstrates knowledge of limits of competency, and constructs plans to deal with areas of limited competency.</td>
<td>1 2 3  NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Knowledge of procedures and practices of supervision.</td>
<td>2. Articulates a philosophy or model of supervision and reflects on how this model is applied in practice.</td>
<td>1 2 3  NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Engages in professional reflection about relationship with supervisee, as well as supervisee’s clients.</td>
<td>3. Articulates how to use supervisory relationships to enhance development of supervisees and clients.</td>
<td>1 2 3  NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Understands other individuals and groups and intersection of diversity in the context of supervision practice.</td>
<td>4. Demonstrates integration of diversity and multiple identity aspects in conceptualization of supervision with clients, supervisees, and self as supervisor.</td>
<td>1 2 3  NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Gains skills in providing monitored supervision to junior colleagues.</td>
<td>5. Provides supervision to less advanced trainees, with meta-supervision from licensed psychologists, and seeks consultation as needed.</td>
<td>1 2 3  NA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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STRENGTHS:

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:
Competency #8: To gain knowledge regarding theories and methods of consultation and gain direct experience providing and obtaining consultation.

Training Objective for Competency #8: A clinical VPS Practicum Student is able to provide professional assistance and consultation services to others in response to client, family, or community needs. A student also seeks out interdisciplinary consultation as needed.

**BENCHMARKS**

<table>
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<th>3 = Exceeds competency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Appropriately seeks consultation from interdisciplinary providers as needed.</td>
<td>1. Recognizes situations in which consultation is needed (e.g., from educators, psychiatrists, other medical professionals, lawyers, cultural consultants), contacts consulting professionals, and resolves consultation questions.</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Selects appropriate assessment/data gathering that answers consultation referral question(s).</td>
<td>2. Demonstrates ability to gather necessary information, and clarifies and refines referral questions based on analysis of question.</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Provides effective assessment feedback, articulates recommendations, and advocates for client as appropriate.</td>
<td>3. Provides clear consultation reports and verbal feedback to consultee and offers appropriate recommendations.</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Applies literature to provide consultation in routine and complex cases</td>
<td>4. Implements consultation based on assessment findings and meets consultee needs.</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
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**STRENGTHS:**

**AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:**
Competency #9: To develop a thorough understanding of ethical practice in the context of professional psychology and to implement such practice.

Training Objective for Competency #9: Practicum students develop ethical decision-making skills, conduct themselves in accordance with the APA “Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct,” HIPPA, and uphold their primary ethical obligation to protect the welfare of the client/patient.

### BENCHMARKS

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Routine command and application of the APA Ethical Principles and Code of Conduct, HIPPA, and other relevant standards and guidelines in the profession.</td>
<td>1. Reliably identifies complex ethical and legal issues, analyzes and addresses them, and is aware of the obligation to confront ethical dilemmas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Commitment to integration of ethics knowledge into professional work.</td>
<td>2. Applies ethical principles and standards in writings, presentations, teaching, training and research when applicable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Determines when it is appropriate to seek information for an ethical issue.</td>
<td>3. Uses supervision to discuss ethical dilemmas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Independently and consistently integrates ethical and legal standards with all other clinical competencies.</td>
<td>4. Uses all domains of clinical competence to inform ethical/legal decision-making, and uses ethical/legal standards to inform all clinical decisions.</td>
</tr>
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**STRENGTHS:**

**AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:**
COMPETENCY #10: TO ADHERE TO PROFESSIONAL DEMEANOR AND INTERACTIONS WITH CLIENTS, PEERS, SUPERVISORS, AND ALLIED PROFESSIONALS.

Training Objective for Competency #10: Practicum students maintain professional appearance, engage in appropriate interactions, and adhere to business practices of psychology (e.g., notes, billing, attendance).

**BENCHMARKS**

1. Understands and adheres to professional values such as honesty, personal responsibility, and accountability.

2. Maintains professionally appropriate communication and conduct across settings including attire, language and demeanor.

3. Adheres to business practices of psychology in a timely manner.

**BEHAVIORAL ANCHORS**

1. Proactively adheres to professional values and demonstrates ability to discuss failures and lapses in adherence to professional values with peers and supervisors as appropriate.

2. Utilizes appropriate language and demeanor in professional setting and understands impact of these behaviors on clients, public, and profession.

3. Maintains notes, billing, and other documentation.

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<tr>
<td>1. Understands and adheres to professional values such as honesty, personal responsibility, and accountability.</td>
<td>1. Proactively adheres to professional values and demonstrates ability to discuss failures and lapses in adherence to professional values with peers and supervisors as appropriate.</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Maintains professionally appropriate communication and conduct across settings including attire, language and demeanor.</td>
<td>2. Utilizes appropriate language and demeanor in professional setting and understands impact of these behaviors on clients, public, and profession.</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Adheres to business practices of psychology in a timely manner.</td>
<td>3. Maintains notes, billing, and other documentation.</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
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**STRENGTHS:**

**AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:**
Competency #11: To develop and maintain self-care practices.

Training Objective for Competency #11: Practicum students understand the importance of self-care, maintain awareness of self-care practices and stressors, and engage in self-care practice.

### BENCHMARKS

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Understands the importance of self-care.</td>
<td>1. Demonstrates understanding of self-care across wellness domains.</td>
<td>1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Monitors self-care and sources of stress.</td>
<td>2. Openly communicates with peers, supervisors, and/or appropriate others regarding (1) self-care practices and (2) clinical and other stressors and their impact on clinical work.</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Engages in self-care practices and intervenes early in response to stressors.</td>
<td>3. Openly communicates with supervisor regarding interruptions to self-care and seeks appropriate feedback.</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Proactively seeks support for self-care in response to major stressors.</td>
<td>4. Proactively responds to major stressors by seeking support personally and from clinical advisors as appropriate.</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
</tr>
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**STRENGTHS:**

**AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:**
**Competency #12: To develop and maintain appropriate clinical responsiveness.**

Training Objective for Competency #12: A practicum student demonstrates strong relational skills, including empathy, maintenance of therapeutic alliance, goal consensus and collaboration, positive regard, and genuineness. A practicum student also exhibits self-reflection, understands the impact of the clinician on the therapeutic relationship, and responds appropriately to this knowledge.

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Develops strong relational skills, including empathy, maintenance of therapeutic alliance, goal consensus and collaboration, positive regard, and genuineness.</td>
<td>1. Exhibits strong relational skills, including empathy, maintenance of therapeutic alliance, goal consensus and collaboration, positive regard, and genuineness.</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Self-reflects on own emotions, cognitions, behavior, values, strengths, and challenges in the therapeutic context.</td>
<td>2. Discusses relationship between own emotions, cognitions, behavior, values, strengths, and challenges to treatment with supervisor.</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Monitors the impact of therapist behavior on client, therapeutic relationship, and treatment progress.</td>
<td>3. Discusses the impact of therapist behavior on client, therapeutic relationship, and treatment progress with supervisor and with client, as appropriate.</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Responds appropriately to knowledge gained from self-reflection and clinical assessment to further therapeutic relationship and treatment progress.</td>
<td>4. In the service of treatment progress and therapeutic relationship, appropriately maintains and modifies style, intervention, and other therapy-relevant behavior in response to supervision, self-reflection, and clinical assessment.</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
</tr>
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**STRENGTHS:**

**AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:**
Supervisor Evaluation

COMPETENCY #1: TO DEVELOP EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION AND INTERPERSONAL SKILLS.

Training Objective for Competency #1: A practicum student exhibits the ability to develop rapport and build professional alliances (with colleagues and communities). A practicum student works effectively with colleagues, supervisors, and mentors, and engages with feedback constructively.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Establishes and maintains relationships with other professionals (e.g., individuals, groups, and/or communities).</td>
<td>1. Respectful and engaging communication with other professionals.</td>
<td>1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Works effectively with colleagues.</td>
<td>2. Respectful and engaging communication with colleagues.</td>
<td>1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Works effectively with supervisors and mentors.</td>
<td>3. Respectful and engaging communication with supervisors and mentors.</td>
<td>1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Engages with feedback constructively.</td>
<td>4. Receives feedback without defensiveness and responds appropriately.</td>
<td>1 2 3</td>
</tr>
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REFLECTION:
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STRENGTHS:

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:
### Competency #2: To incorporate research and theory in clinical practice.

Training Objective for Competency #2: A practicum student can incorporate theory, scientific knowledge, and research when providing evidence-based techniques in clinical practice.

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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 = Does not meet competency</td>
<td>2 = Meets competency 3 = Exceeds competency</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Knowledge of core psychological science.</td>
<td>1. Demonstrates advanced level of scientific knowledge of human behavior.</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Discusses theory and research with clinical supervisors and develops treatment plans and intervention strategies based on theory, research and measurable outcomes.</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Reads and remains up-to-date on relevant clinical research and applies scientific knowledge and skills appropriately and habitually to the solution of problems.</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
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**STRENGTHS:**

**AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:**
**Competency #3: To provide proficient and effective psychological interventions grounded in evidence-based principles.**

Training Objective for Competency #3: A practicum student can formulate case conceptualizations, select appropriate interventions, and implement evidence-based treatment strategies in a flexible manner. A student can also effectively conduct oral case presentations regarding intervention.

<table>
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<tbody>
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<td>2 = Meets competency</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 = Exceeds competency</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Applies knowledge of evidence-based practice in treatment and case presentation.</td>
<td>1. Writes clear case notes and summaries grounded in evidence-based practice and provides rationale in notes, supervision, and formal clinical case presentation for intervention strategies utilizing empirical support.</td>
<td>1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Conducts thorough and sensitive initial assessment with attention to functional assessment, treatment goals, and valid measurement.</td>
<td>2. During initial assessment, builds rapport with client, conducts functional assessment, develops treatment goals, and utilizes valid and reliable assessment methods.</td>
<td>1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Engages in independent intervention planning.</td>
<td>3. Independently conceptualizes case and selects appropriate intervention.</td>
<td>1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Applies sound clinical judgment.</td>
<td>4. Uses good judgment in crises, consults with supervisors as needed, and appropriately refers clients to alternative or additional services.</td>
<td>1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Implements effective intervention with fidelity to empirical principles, while being flexible as appropriate.</td>
<td>5. Independently implements a range of appropriate intervention strategies with sensitivity to each individual client’s needs and progress.</td>
<td>1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Evaluates treatment progress and modifies treatment plans as indicated.</td>
<td>6. Critically evaluates own clinical work and relevant client outcomes, and adapts treatment when necessary.</td>
<td>1 2 3</td>
</tr>
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**STRENGTHS:**

**AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:**
**Competency #4: To complete comprehensive psychological assessments and accessible assessment reports.**

Training Objective for Competency #4: A practicum student can develop and understand a referral question, choose appropriate, well-validated assessment tools, assess clients in a valid and reliable manner, write clear, useful, and accessible assessment reports, and disseminate assessment findings to appropriate parties.

**BENCHMARKS**

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<tbody>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Independently selects and implements multiple methods and means of evaluation with responsiveness to diversity and context.</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Independently understands strengths and limitations of diagnostic approaches and interpretation of results from multiple measures.</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Demonstrates knowledge of psychometrics of measures and integrates data effectively from a variety of assessment methods.</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Communicates results in written and verbal form clearly, constructively, and accurately in a conceptually appropriate manner.</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Demonstrates the ability to base written evaluation on psychological assessment literature.</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Demonstrates competent use of appropriate and culturally sensitive instruments, seeks consultation as needed, and acknowledges limitations of assessment data, as reflected in written reports.</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Accurately and consistently selects, administers, scores and interprets assessment tools with appropriate flexibility, such that diagnostic questions are addressed and the report leads to clinical formulation and appropriate treatment plan, while including limitations of measures.</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Accurately reports psychometric properties of assessment instruments, when appropriate.</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Writes an effective, comprehensive and conceptually framed report, and effectively communicates results verbally.</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Writes report consistent with guidelines provided in Groth-Marnat (2009), Sattler (2008), and Sattler &amp; Ryan (2009)[1]</td>
<td>NA</td>
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STRENGTHS:

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:
Competency #5: To practice psychology with sensitivity to diversity matters and diverse individual backgrounds.

Training Objective for Competency #5: Practicum students attend to a broad range of diversity dimensions (e.g., age, gender, gender identity, race, ethnicity, culture, national origin, religion, disability, sexual orientation, language, mental illness, socio-economic status), consider diversity matters when choosing assessment and intervention strategies, and adapt case conceptualization and services based on diversity considerations.

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<tbody>
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<td>1. Independently monitors and applies knowledge of self as a cultural being in assessment, treatment, and consultation.</td>
<td>1. Independently articulates, understands, and monitors own cultural identity in relation to work with others, and initiates consultation or supervision when uncertain about diversity issues.</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Independently monitors and applies knowledge of others as cultural beings in assessment, treatment, and consultation.</td>
<td>2. Independently articulates, understands and monitors other cultural identities in relation to work with others, and initiates consultation or supervision when uncertain about diversity issues.</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Integrates diversity dimensions with case conceptualization, treatment plan, and case presentations.</td>
<td>3. Formulates and presents case conceptualizations and treatment plans with respect for and attention to diverse client background.</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Independently and creatively adapts intervention to match client’s background and needs, and considers diversity when selecting evidence-based intervention.</td>
<td>4. Demonstrates adaptation of case formulation and intervention with responsiveness to diversity domains. Critically evaluates representation of diversity in clinical research and therefore appropriately modifies intervention.</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
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STRENGTHS:

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:
COMPETENCY #6: TO ADVANCE CLINICAL RESEARCH SKILLS AND SCHOLARLY INQUIRY.

Training Objective for Competency #6: Practicum students will develop and build upon their analytic and research skills, while contributing to the clinical research community.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Applies a scientific approach to clinical work.</td>
<td>1. Applies scientific method and knowledge to the monitoring of client progress and outcomes.</td>
<td>1 2 3  NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Participates in clinical research (e.g., clinical data collection).</td>
<td>2. Assists with clinical research efforts within VPS.</td>
<td>1 2 3  NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Integrates clinical knowledge with own research program.</td>
<td>3. Applies clinical experiences and training to own research and dissemination.</td>
<td>1 2 3  NA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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RATING:
Please indicate above the degree to which you believe the student meets each benchmark, as demonstrated by each behavioral anchor (1 = Does not meet competency, 2 = Meets competency, 3 = Exceeds competency). It is expected that students will display some areas where they do not yet meet benchmarks, so please take this as an opportunity to reflect on the student’s current development as a trainee.

REFLECTION:
In the space below, please describe the student’s strengths and areas for improvement within this competency domain. Please use the benchmarks and behavioral anchors above to guide your reflection. Honest feedback is strongly encouraged!

STRENGTHS:

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:
**Competency #7: To gain knowledge regarding theories and methods of supervision and gain direct experience providing supervision.**

Training Objective for Competency #7: A practicum student understands models of supervision, and is able to supervise more junior doctoral-level graduate students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BENCHMARKS</th>
<th>BEHAVIORAL ANCHORS</th>
<th>RATING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Understands the complexity of the supervisor role, including ethical, legal, and contextual issues.</td>
<td>1. Prepares supervision contract (verbal or written) and demonstrates knowledge of limits of competency, and constructs plans to deal with areas of limited competency.</td>
<td>1 2 3  NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Knowledge of procedures and practices of supervision.</td>
<td>2. Articulates a philosophy or model of supervision and reflects on how this model is applied in practice.</td>
<td>1 2 3  NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Engages in professional reflection about relationship with supervisee, as well as supervisee’s clients.</td>
<td>3. Articulates how to use supervisory relationships to enhance development of supervisees and clients.</td>
<td>1 2 3  NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Understands other individuals and groups and intersection of diversity in the context of supervision practice.</td>
<td>4. Demonstrates integration of diversity and multiple identity aspects in conceptualization of supervision with clients, supervisees, and self as supervisor.</td>
<td>1 2 3  NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Gains skills in providing monitored supervision to junior colleagues.</td>
<td>5. Provides supervision to less advanced trainees, with meta-supervision from licensed psychologists, and seeks consultation as needed.</td>
<td>1 2 3  NA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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RATING:

Please indicate above the degree to which you believe the student meets each benchmark, as demonstrated by each behavioral anchor (1 = Does not meet competency, 2 = Meets competency, 3 = Exceeds competency). It is expected that students will display some areas where they do not yet meet benchmarks, so please take this as an opportunity to reflect on the student’s current development as a trainee.

REFLECTION:

In the space below, please describe the student’s strengths and areas for improvement within this competency domain. Please use the benchmarks and behavioral anchors above to guide your reflection. Honest feedback is strongly encouraged!

STRENGTHS:

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT
**Competency #8: To gain knowledge regarding theories and methods of consultation and gain direct experience providing and obtaining consultation.**

Training Objective for Competency #8: A clinical VPS Practicum Student is able to provide professional assistance and consultation services to others in response to client, family, or community needs. A student also seeks out interdisciplinary consultation as needed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BENCHMARKS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 = Does not meet competency</td>
<td>2 = Meets competency</td>
<td>3 = Exceeds competency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Appropriately seeks consultation from interdisciplinary providers as needed.</td>
<td>1. Recognizes situations in which consultation is needed (e.g., from educators, psychiatrists, other medical professionals, lawyers, cultural consultants), contacts consulting professionals, and resolves consultation questions.</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Selects appropriate assessment/data gathering that answers consultation referral question(s).</td>
<td>2. Demonstrates ability to gather necessary information, and clarifies and refines referral questions based on analysis of question.</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Provides effective assessment feedback, articulates recommendations, and advocates for client as appropriate.</td>
<td>3. Provides clear consultation reports and verbal feedback to consultee and offers appropriate recommendations.</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Applies literature to provide consultation in routine and complex cases</td>
<td>4. Implements consultation based on assessment findings and meets consultee needs.</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**RATING:**

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**REFLECTION:**

In the space below, please describe the student’s strengths and areas for improvement within this competency domain. Please use the benchmarks and behavioral anchors above to guide your reflection. Honest feedback is strongly encouraged!

**STRENGTHS:**

**AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:**
Competency #9: To develop a thorough understanding of ethical practice in the context of professional psychology and to implement such practice.

Training Objective for Competency #9: Practicum students develop ethical decision-making skills, conduct themselves in accordance with the APA “Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct,” and uphold their primary ethical obligation to protect the welfare of the client/patient.

**BENCHMARKS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RATING</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Does not meet competency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Meets competency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Exceeds competency</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Routine command and application of the APA Ethical Principles and Code of Conduct and other relevant standards and guidelines in the profession.

- 1. Spontaneously and reliably identifies complex ethical and legal issues, analyzes and addresses them, and is aware of the obligation to confront ethical dilemmas.
- 2. Applies ethical principles and standards in writings, presentations, teaching, training and research when applicable.
- 3. Uses supervision to discuss ethical dilemmas.
- 4. Demonstrates awareness, integrates and understands that ethical-legal standards are informed by all competencies.

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RATING:
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RELECTION:
In the space below, please describe the student’s strengths and areas for improvement within this competency domain. Please use the benchmarks and behavioral anchors above to guide your reflection. Honest feedback is strongly encouraged!

STRENGTHS:

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:
COMPETENCY #10: TO ADHERE TO PROFESSIONAL DEMEANOR AND INTERACTIONS WITH CLIENTS, PEERS, SUPERVISORS, AND ALLIED PROFESSIONALS.

Training Objective for Competency #10: Practicum students maintain professional appearance, engage in appropriate interactions, and adhere to business practices of psychology (e.g., notes, billing, attendance).

**BENCHMARKS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1 = Does not meet competency</th>
<th>2 = Meets competency</th>
<th>3 = Exceeds competency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Understands and adheres to professional values such as honesty, personal responsibility, and accountability.</td>
<td>1. Proactively adheres to professional values and demonstrates ability to discuss failures and lapses in adherence to professional values with peers and supervisors as appropriate.</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Maintains professionally appropriate communication and conduct across settings including attire, language and demeanor.</td>
<td>2. Utilizes appropriate language and demeanor in professional setting and understands impact of these behaviors on clients, public, and profession.</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Adheres to business practices of psychology in a timely manner.</td>
<td>3. Maintains notes, billing, and other documentation.</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BEHAVIORAL ANCHORS**

**RATING**

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**REFLECTION:**

In the space below, please describe the student’s strengths and areas for improvement within this competency domain. Please use the benchmarks and behavioral anchors above to guide your reflection. Honest feedback is strongly encouraged!

**STRENGTHS:**

**AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:**
## Competency #11: To develop and maintain self-care practices.

Training Objective for Competency #11: Practicum students understand the importance of self-care, maintain awareness of self-care practices and stressors, and engage in self-care practice.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BENCHMARKS</th>
<th>BEHAVIORAL ANCHORS</th>
<th>RATING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Understands the importance of self-care.</td>
<td>1. Demonstrates understanding of self-care across wellness domains.</td>
<td>1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Monitors self-care and sources of stress.</td>
<td>2. Openly communicates with peers, supervisors, and/or appropriate others regarding (1) self-care practices and (2) clinical and other stressors and their impact on clinical work.</td>
<td>1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Engages in self-care practices and intervenes early in response to stressors.</td>
<td>3. Openly communicates with supervisor regarding interruptions to self-care and seeks appropriate feedback.</td>
<td>1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Proactively seeks support for self-care in response to major stressors.</td>
<td>4. Proactively responds to major stressors by seeking support personally and from clinical advisors as appropriate.</td>
<td>1 2 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**REFLECTION:**

In the space below, please describe the student’s strengths and areas for improvement within this competency domain. Please use the benchmarks and behavioral anchors above to guide your reflection. Honest feedback is strongly encouraged!

**STRENGTHS:**

**AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:**
**Competency #12: To develop and maintain appropriate clinical responsiveness.**
Training Objective for Competency #12: A practicum student demonstrates strong relational skills, including empathy, maintenance of therapeutic alliance, goal consensus and collaboration, positive regard, and genuineness. A practicum student also exhibits self-reflection, understands the impact of the clinician on the therapeutic relationship, and responds appropriately to this knowledge.

**BENCHMARKS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1 = Does not meet competency</th>
<th>2 = Meets competency</th>
<th>3 = Exceeds competency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Develops strong relational skills, including empathy, maintenance of therapeutic alliance, goal consensus and collaboration, positive regard, and genuineness.</td>
<td>1. Exhibits strong relational skills, including empathy, maintenance of therapeutic alliance, goal consensus and collaboration, positive regard, and genuineness.</td>
<td>1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Self-reflects on own emotions, cognitions, behavior, values, strengths, and challenges in the therapeutic context.</td>
<td>2. Discusses relationship between own emotions, cognitions, behavior, values, strengths, and challenges to treatment with supervisor.</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Monitors the impact of therapist behavior on client, therapeutic relationship, and treatment progress.</td>
<td>3. Discusses the impact of therapist behavior on client, therapeutic relationship, and treatment progress with supervisor and with client, as appropriate.</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Responds appropriately to knowledge gained from self-reflection and clinical assessment to further therapeutic relationship and treatment progress.</td>
<td>4. In the service of treatment progress and therapeutic relationship, appropriately maintains and modifies style, intervention, and other therapy-relevant behavior in response to supervision, self-reflection, and clinical assessment.</td>
<td>1 2 3 NA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**REFLECTION:**
In the space below, please describe the student’s strengths and areas for improvement within this competency domain. Please use the benchmarks and behavioral anchors above to guide your reflection. Honest feedback is strongly encouraged!

**STRENGTHS:**

**AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:**

___________________________  ___________________________ __________
Student Signature    Supervisor Signature   Date
## Teaching Competencies Rating Form

**Name of Student:**

**Date:**

**Teaching Supervisor:**

### Evaluation Criteria

PLEASE EVALUATE THE STUDENT USING THE SCALE BELOW. PLEASE CIRCLE THE NUMBER THAT BEST DESCRIBES THE TRAINEE’S COMPETENCE. CONSIDER THE TRAINEE’S LEVEL OF TRAINING (E.G., YEAR IN PROGRAM) WHEN MAKING YOUR RATINGS. EACH ITEM MAY INCLUDE SOME SPECIFIC BEHAVIORAL EXAMPLES OF THE COMPETENCE AREA IN QUESTION, WHICH WHILE NOT AN EXHAUSTIVE LIST, SHOULD PROVIDE GENERAL GUIDELINES TO FACILITATE YOUR RATINGS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Competence is below expectations for level of training. Student’s competence may be acceptable at times, but may be inconsistent or her/his skill set is below an acceptable level for her/his year in program. This rating should improve to an acceptable level with further training, remediation, and/or increased student effort.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Competence meets expectations for level of training. The student has shown some basic mastery of the competency or skill and is at a level expected for someone at her/his level of training.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Competence exceeds expectations level of training.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>Not applicable. The competency or skill set is not applicable to the student or there was no opportunity to rate/observe.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMPETENCY AREA</td>
<td>RATING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Valuing teaching – Student demonstrates behavior that is consistent with generally valuing teaching as a component of their training in professional and scientific psychology. For example, the student completes teaching-related assignments on time, is careful in their work (e.g., written work is free of typographical errors), and takes the initiative on teaching-related duties (e.g., student seeks out opportunities to teach rather than waiting for them to be given to her/him).</td>
<td>☒ ☐ ☐ ☐ N 1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Professional interaction – Interacts appropriately with students who she/he is teaching, other teaching assistants, and professors.</td>
<td>☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ N 1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Lecture Development – Develops lectures for a course.</td>
<td>☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ N 1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Exam Development – Develops exams for a course.</td>
<td>☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ N 1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Grading – Grades exams/papers promptly, provides students with feedback and current standing in class.</td>
<td>☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ N 1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Responding to Questions – Responds to questions posed by students and, if necessary, finds answers.</td>
<td>☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ N 1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Availability – Sets office hours and responds to student requests within 48 hours.</td>
<td>☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ N 1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Facilitating Discussion – Sparks class/lab discussions and keeps them going.</td>
<td>☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ N 1 2 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Research Integration – Integrates research into teaching activities, including lectures, readings, and class discussions.</td>
<td>☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ N 1 2 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Some competencies may only be relevant if selected as part of the Doctoral Portfolio teaching requirements and/or if the student has engaged in formal classroom teaching activities (e.g., teaching one’s own course, serving as a Graduate Teaching Assistant, or guest lecturing).
Please comment below on the student’s particular strengths in teaching:

Please comment below on any areas of development for the student in teaching (for example, as indicated by ratings of 1 in any area) and recommendations for the clinical program faculty on how this will be remediated:

Involvement in Teaching:

Contributes knowledge to the field: Below, please indicate each activity during the past semester.

# of workshops on teaching:

Served as a TA: ___Yes ___No

Taught a course: ___Yes ___No

# of guest lectures: ___

Mentored undergraduates in lab: ___Yes ___No

Took and passed a “Teaching Psychology” course: ___Yes ___No

________________________________   ____________________________________
Teaching supervisor’s signature     Student’s signature

The above signatures indicate that the student has read this feedback form and that the supervisor and student have discussed it verbally. The signatures do not necessarily imply total agreement on the student’s performance.
General Information Related to Semester Evaluations and Other Forms

Research Evaluations

Preamble: The purpose of research evaluations is for the faculty member and graduate student to provide feedback to each other in a constructive format and in a systematic way across the Clinical Psychology Program. All graduate students should be involved in research every semester. The purposes of involvement in research are: (1) to learn research by doing research; (2) to become competent as a researcher; and (3) to complete, at a very minimum, a high quality second year/Master’s Thesis project and a dissertation.

1. Research goals will be developed each semester for each clinical psychology graduate student. The student will initiate the process by delineating her/his goals and then meet with the faculty supervisor to discuss and, if necessary, modify the goals. Both the graduate student and the faculty supervisor will sign the goal sheet and both will keep copies of it.

2. At the end of each semester, the faculty member will complete an evaluation form on the graduate student. A meeting will occur between the graduate student and the faculty member in which the following occurs in the order specified:
   a. Goals are reviewed and goals for the upcoming semester developed;
   b. The faculty supervisor reviews the evaluation form she/he completed on the graduate student, both sign indicating they have reviewed the evaluation together, and the form is turned into the Director of Clinical Training.

3. At the end of each semester, the graduate student completes an evaluation form on the faculty supervisor and turns it in to the Director of Clinical Training. The Director of Clinical Training will tabulate the responses across all graduate students working with the faculty member and, as long as at least 3 graduate students complete the evaluation, provide feedback to the faculty member without identifying any individual student.
Research Goals and Expectations

Graduate Student Name: ___________________________ Semester & Year: ______

Faculty Member Name: ___________________________

The following goals are set for the (circle one): Semester Year

Graduate Student Goals:

Faculty Member’s Goals for Graduate Student:

Graduate Student Expectations of Faculty Member:

Faculty Member Expectations of Graduate Student:

Signatures: ___________________________ and ___________________________

Date: ___________________________
Mid-Year and End-of-Year Research Evaluation:  
Graduate Student Evaluation of Faculty Mentor

Name______________________________    (Check one)  Mid-Year_______
                                             End-of-Year_______
Research Mentor________________________

Were Research Goals Set?   ____ Yes   ____ No

1. Were your research goals met?   ____ Yes   ____ No

2. What do you like about your research experience and supervision?

3. What do you not like about your research experience and supervision?

4. What are some changes which would improve your research experience and supervision (mid-year only)?

Please complete this form on the primary faculty member with whom you are doing research and leave in the Director of Clinical Training’s box by _________________.

Responses will be tabulated for all graduate students working with a faculty member and provided to the faculty member without identification of individual students.
Clinical Evaluations

Preamble: The purpose of clinical evaluations is for the supervisor and graduate student to provide feedback to each other in a constructive format and in a systematic way across the Clinical Psychology Program. The purposes of involvement in clinical work are: (1) to learn clinical skills by engaging in clinical work; (2) to become competent as a clinician; and (3) to offer services to clients.

1. Clinical placements are typically for 12 months. Clinical goals should be developed jointly by the graduate student and supervisor each six months. The goals should be signed by both the graduate student and faculty member and each should retain a copy of the goals.

2. At 6 months and 12 months, the supervisor will complete an evaluation form on the graduate student. A meeting will occur between the graduate student and the supervisor in which the following occurs:
   a. Goals are reviewed and goals for the upcoming semester developed;
   b. The faculty supervisor reviews the evaluation form she (he) completed on the graduate student, both sign indicating they have reviewed the evaluation together, and the form is turned into the Director of Clinical Training.

3. At 6 months and 12 months, the graduate student completes an evaluation form on the faculty supervisor and turns it into the Director of Clinical Training. The Director of Clinical Training can choose to give feedback to the faculty member as long as anonymity of the student is maintained.
Clinical Goals and Expectations

 Graduate Student Name: _______________________________  Semester & Year: ________

 Faculty Member Name: _______________________________

 Graduate Student Goals:

 Faculty Member’s Goals for Graduate Student:

 Graduate Student Expectations of Faculty Member:

 Faculty Member Expectations of Graduate Student:

 Signatures: _______________________________ and _______________________________

 Date: _______________________________
Evaluation of Clinical Supervisor by Graduate Student
(Turn in to Director of Clinical Training)

Supervisor: ___________________________  Intern: ______________________________

Date: ___________________  (Check one) Mid-Year ___________ or Final ____________

Performance Ratings:  1 – poor; 2 – fair; 3 – average; 4 – very good; 5 – excellent
For Ratings of 1 or 2, please indicate how you attempted to address the issue with your supervisor.

Knowledge/skill base:

__ Knowledge in relevant areas
__ Has relevant clinical experience

Comments:

Rating: ____________

Professionalism:

__ Maintains and models professional demeanor
__ Demonstrates an interest in and commitment to optimal clinical service
__ Models awareness of ethical issues
__ Maintains appropriate interpersonal distance

Comments:

Rating: ____________

Supervision:

__ Interested in intern’s professional development
__ Understands intern’s professional goals
__ Helps intern develop own style
__ Has clear goals and expectations for intern’s development
__ Promotes autonomy
__ Varies style
__ Gives regular, honest feedback

Comments:
Teaching:

- Imparts basic fund of knowledge
- Teaches technical skills and psychotherapy skills
- Brings together assessment and treatment
- Promotes case/diagnostic formulation
- Serves as clinical model

Comments:

Interpersonal:

- Available
- Approachable
- Supportive
- Respectful when offering criticism

Comments:

Overall, what is your rating of your supervisor/instructor

Rating

Overall, what is your rating of your practicum course?

Rating
Teaching Evaluations

Preamble: The purpose of teaching evaluations is for the supervisor and graduate student to provide feedback to each other in a constructive format and in a systematic way across the Clinical Psychology Program. The purposes of involvement in teaching are: (1) to learn teaching skills by engaging in teaching; (2) to become competent as a teaching; and (3) to provide knowledge to students.

4. Teaching placements are typically for 9 months. Teaching goals should be developed jointly by the graduate student and supervisor each semester. The goals should be signed by both the graduate student and faculty member and each should retain a copy of the goals.

5. At the end of each semester, the supervisor will complete an evaluation form on the graduate student. A meeting will occur between the graduate student and the supervisor in which the following occurs:
   a. Goals are reviewed and goals for the upcoming semester developed;
   b. The faculty supervisor reviews the evaluation form she (he) completed on the graduate student, both sign indicating they have reviewed the evaluation together, and the form is turned into the Director of Clinical Training.

6. At the end of each semester, the graduate student completes an evaluation form on the faculty supervisor and turns it into the Director of Clinical Training. The Director of Clinical Training can choose to give feedback to the faculty member as long as anonymity of the student is maintained.

Please Note: Teaching placements with faculty supervisors who are outside the Clinical Psychology program may be evaluated by other instruments or in other ways.
Teaching Goals and Expectations

Graduate Student Name:______________________________     Semester & Year:__________

Faculty Member Name:______________________________

Graduate Student Goals:

Faculty Member’s Goals for Graduate Student:

Graduate Student Expectations of Faculty Member:

Faculty Member Expectations of Graduate Student:

Signatures:_____________________________________ and __________________________

Date:____________________________
Graduate Student Evaluation of Faculty Supervisor for Teaching Assistant

Name______________________________ (Check one) Mid-Year_______ End-of-Year______

TA Supervisor______________________

Were Research Goals Set? _____ Yes _____ No

1. Were your teaching goals met? _____ Yes _____ No

2. What do you like about your teaching experience and supervision?

3. What do you not like about your teaching experience and supervision?

4. What are some changes which would improve your teaching experience and supervision (mid-year only)?

Please complete this form on the primary faculty member with whom you are doing research and leave in the Director of Clinical Training’s box by ____________.

Responses will be tabulated for all graduate students working with a faculty member and provided to the faculty member without identification of individual students.
**Internship Placement Policy**

The University of Vermont Clinical Psychology Program has a requirement that all students complete an APA-accredited clinical internship. However, we recognize the increasing difficulty of obtaining such an internship. As a consequence, while we maintain our requirement of an APA-accredited internship, we will consider requests to apply to a non-APA-accredited (but APPIC member) internship. These will be considered by the clinical faculty on a case-by-case basis for individuals who do not match in Phase I of the **second year** of internship application.

**Internship Match Registration Policy**

The Clinical Faculty adopted this policy to ensure that our graduate students who register for the internship match end up participating in the match rather than withdrawing. To register to participate in the APPIC Match, Clinical Psychology graduate students must have already successfully defended their dissertation proposal before their committee by October 15th of the year they intend to apply. The October deadline recognizes that many internship sites have early application deadlines.
Internship Preparation: Reporting Yearly Data and Timeline for Final Six Months

Date:

Name:

Finishing ____ year in Program; applying for internship in fall of _____ year in program

Total # of Intervention hours (face-to-face with actual clients; includes individual/group/family therapy, intake interviews, parent training, and consultation):

Total # of Assessment hours (face-to-face with actual clients; includes administering test instruments and feedback; full tests only):

Total # of integrated reports (complete write-up of intake, history, and 2+ cognitive/personality tests designed to answer specific referral question[s]):

Total # of Supervision Hours:

Return to the Director of Clinical Training

Internship Application Timeline

1. Total intervention and assessment hours and number of integrated reports each May.

2. April/May (before October you are applying for internship):
   a. Attend internship meeting
   b. Begin to identify sites
   c. Review your total hours/number of reports

3. End of July
   a. Have primary sites identified
   b. Begin on essays (pass them back and forth with your mentor)

4. Month of September
   a. Determine who will write your letters of recommendation (ask them by September 1)
   b. Attend internship meetings
   c. Finalize site list by ~ September 15
   d. Complete application form
   e. Complete essays; submit complete drafts to Keith and DCT by September 30

5. Early October
   a. Attend internship meetings
   b. Complete online application (other than essays and cover letters) by October 5, so DCT can fill out required form and letter writers can submit letter of reference

6. Mid-October
   a. Finalize essays and cover letters; proof and submit online application
**Policy on Integrated Reports**

The definition of an integrated report is a report that includes a history, an interview, and at least two tests from one or more of the following categories: personality assessment (objective, self-report, and/or projective), intellectual assessment, cognitive assessment, and neuropsychological assessment.

Please carefully review this definition as it answers the question of what should be included in a report to have it satisfy the requirement of an integrated report.

A decision about whether a report meets the criteria for an integrated report will be made by the clinical supervisor and graduate student.
Psychological Assessment Experience

(From APA Internship Application)

Psychological Assessment Experience
In this section, you will summarize your practicum assessment experience in providing psychodiagnostic and neuropsychological assessments. You should provide the estimated total number of face-to-face client contact hours administering instruments and providing feedback to clients/patients. You should not include the activities of scoring and report writing, which should instead be included in the “Support Activities” section.

Do not include any practice administrations. Testing experience accrued while employed should not be included in this section and may instead be listed on a curriculum vita. You should only include instruments for which you administered the full test. Partial tests or administering only selected subtests are NOT to be included in this accounting. You should only count each administration once.

Adult Assessment Instruments / Child and Adolescent Assessment Instruments
In this section, you should indicate all psychological assessment instruments that you used as part of your practice experiences with actual patients/clients (columns one and two) or research participants in a clinical study (column three) through October 15. If the person you assessed was not a client, patient, or clinical research participant, then you should not include this experience in this summary. Do not include any practice administrations.

You may include additional instruments (under “Other Measures”) for any tests not listed. You can include as many instruments as you would like.

For each instrument that you used, specify the following information:

1. **Number Clinically Administered/Scored:** The number of times that you both administered and scored the instrument in a clinical situation (i.e., with an actual client/patient).

2. **Number of Clinical Reports Written with this Measure:** The number of these instruments for which you also wrote a clinically interpretive report.

3. **Number Administered as Part of a Research Project:** The number of instruments that you administered as part of a research project.

Integrated Reports
In this section, provide the number of integrated assessment reports you have written for adults and the number written for children and adolescents. The definition of an integrated report is a report that includes a history, an interview and at least two tests from one or more of the following categories: personality assessment (objective, self-report, and/or projective), intellectual assessment, cognitive assessment, and neuropsychological assessment. Please carefully review this definition as it answers the question of what should be included in a report to have it satisfy the requirement of an integrated report.
Our Program Requirements to Apply for Internship

In addition to the requirement that you defend your dissertation proposal by October 15 of the year you intend to apply, the UVM Clinical Psychology doctoral program enforces the following in order to apply for internship:

Minimum Number of Intervention Hours: *500*

Minimum Number of Assessment Hours: *100*

Minimum Number of Integrated Reports: *10*
Clinical Students: Graduate College Rules

1. Full-time graduate student status is 9 credit hours for each semester.

2. Funded students must be enrolled for at least 9 credits/semester.

3. If a student has completed enrollment in all course and research credits, but hasn’t yet completed all degree requirements such as dissertation defense/internship (or a course that is not yet offered), the student should register for GRAD 901 (1-4 credits), GRAD 902 (5-8 credits), or Grad 903 (9 credits) to reach the required number of credits and pay the associated continuous registration fee ($100 for 901, $200 for 902, and $300 for 903).

4. For example: If you are taking 0-4 hours of classes in a semester and are funded: You must enroll for 9 or more credits. Only students in Year 3 or beyond would possibly be in this situation, and you will need one credit of 385 Practicum (if you are still seeing clients), then you should take any remaining 491 Dissertation credits, and fill in the rest with GRAD 901/902/903 to reach 9 total.

5. While on internship, sign up for PSYS 389 (0 credits) both semesters and, if you need to defer payment on any student loans, you will probably also need to register for 5 credits of GRAD 902 so you can maintain half-time status. Federal regulations usually require 5 credits (half-time status) to defer loan repayment, even during internship. However, we recommend that you ask Student Financial Services (SFS) how many credits/semester you need to be enrolled in for your particular loans not to go into repayment based on federal regulations.

6. Is it necessary to sign up for GRAD 901, 902, or 903 in summer if you are not taking any course credit hours?

   NO – BUT if you are funded on a 12-month stipend, then FICA comes out of your paycheck if you are not registered for at least 5 credits. So, you can pay FICA in June, July, and August or take GRAD 902 ($200 fee) or take five (5) 491 Dissertation credits if you have not reached 20 total yet. Note: International Students should always clarify their summer registration requirements with the Office of International Education.

7. Comprehensive Exam: Don’t register for Doctoral Comprehensive Exam (GRAD 497). Instead, the Director of Clinical Training will notify the Graduate College when you have completed your comprehensive exam, indicating a successful pass and all revisions were submitted to the mentor’s satisfaction.
Procedures and Criteria for Doctoral Clinical Students Walking in May Commencement

Effective 3/16/2016

Clinical Psychology students who have completed all other program requirements* for the Ph.D. except for completion of the internship, will be permitted to walk in the May graduation ceremony on the following conditions:

- Internship is to be completed prior to August 24th of the same year.
- Students receive an Incomplete for the second semester of Internship, which will be changed to passing upon successful completion.
- Students may not register for any credits or continuous registration in the summer in which they are completing the internship following walking in the ceremony.
- Student names will not be printed in the commencement booklet as they will officially be October graduates.
- If the internship is not completed, students will not graduate.

*Requirements include a successful dissertation defense and uploading a final revised copy of the dissertation to ProQuest and Graduate College approval of that submission by the published deadline of the Graduate College for the May graduation date that term.
A History of the Psychological Science Department at the University of Vermont

November, 2013 --- Prepared by the twelve clinical psychology doctoral students enrolled in Professor Emeritus Robert B. Lawson’s 2013 Seminar on the History of Psychology. The lead author of the text was Victoria Baptiste in collaboration with Meghan Schreck.

Please send comments or questions to Professor Emeritus of Psychology, Robert B. Lawson - Robert.Lawson@uvm.edu

The study and practice of psychology at the University of Vermont (UVM) has, in its 179 year-long history, been marked by evolution, expansion, and innovation. Always true to its roots in scientific inquiry, much of the work that has come from the Department of Psychology focuses on real-world applications that elucidate and improve the human condition. The Department, itself, exudes a spirit of unity, collaboration, and commitment to educating undergraduate and graduate students in Psychology.

The Beginnings and Early Years
The early years of the Department of Psychology at UVM bore witness to and operated under the auspices of an emerging new school of psychology: Functional Psychology. Burlington-born John Dewey (1859-1952, UVM class of 1879) and another Vermont son, James Rowland Angell (1869-1949)—a student of Dewey’s, were the co-founders of the American School of Functional Psychology. They described Functionalism as grounded in systematic research applied to enhance individuals’ adaptive capacities. More than 100 years later, this tenet remains a core feature of the Department of Psychology at UVM.

The first psychology course at UVM was offered in the mornings of September and October 1834 through the Department of Philosophy. The University charged a yearly tuition of $79, with incidentals (e.g., textbooks) amounting to an additional $25 per year. Although housing was provided free of charge, the fee to board was $50 a year. In 1921, Dr. John T. Metcalf was appointed the first professor of psychology at UVM. As a member of the Department of Philosophy, he administered intelligence tests to all incoming undergraduate students and was involved in the infamous Vermont Eugenics Survey. In 1937, Metcalf was promoted to the rank of Full Professor of Psychology and named the first chairperson of the newly independent Department of Psychology. In 1947, Drs. Heinz Ansbacher and James Chaplin joined the Department; Dr. Chaplin later served as Chair of the Department from 1951 to 1964.

The Forgays Era and Legacy & John Dewey Hall
Dr. Donald Forgays (1926-1993) was hired as Chair of the Department of Psychology in 1964. In addition to his duties as department chair, Dr. Forgays led an active research program studying the effects of sensory deprivation. He also taught the introductory psychology course and, with his multi-disciplinary team, applied the research findings of the Department to problems with inmates at Dannemora State Hospital in New York. As Chair, Dr. Forgays was also tasked with developing two doctoral programs in general/experimental psychology and clinical psychology. The first Ph.D. in psychology at UVM was awarded to Robert Lavalee in 1967; the next year, Patricia Stone became the first female awarded a doctorate in psychology.
The doctoral program in clinical psychology was established in 1969, with Dr. Harold Leitenberg serving as its first director. The clinical program was quickly awarded a National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) Training Grant and the State of Vermont provided yearly stipends for trainees working 20 hours a week at various practicum sites. In 1972, the Department established the Behavior Therapy and Psychotherapy Center (now Vermont Psychological Services; VPS) in order to offer an on-campus practicum site. Drs. Bruce Compas (1982-2005, UVM) and Esther Rothblum (1981-2002, UVM) were an important part of the early scholarly engines for the clinical psychology program. The VPS currently funds six to nine trainees each year from income generated by the pre-doctoral clinicians practicing at the VPS. The program earned full accreditation by the American Psychological Association in 1973, a status it has maintained ever since, most recently receiving a 10-year accreditation under the current Director of Clinical Training, Dr. Rex Forehand. Dr. Karen Fondacaro presently directs the VPS, which has recently developed an internship program for advanced level doctoral candidates, as well as an innovative multi-disciplinary team serving the needs of refugees and asylum seekers in New England.

Among his many successes was Forgays’ acquisition of funds to renovate the former College of Medicine building to house the UVM Department of Psychology. Upon completion of renovations in 1969, the building—which the Department still calls home today—was christened John Dewey Hall in homage to the influential Vermont psychologist.

The Modern Era
The 1990s incited a bourgeoning of the faculty, as the Department welcomed five new members, including Dr. Susan Crockenberg (1990) in the developmental program; Drs. John Hughes (1991) and Stephen Higgins (1992) in the pharmacology cluster; Dr. Hugh Garavan (1991), who obtained a joint appointment in Psychiatry, Psychology, and Family Practice; and Dr. Sondra Solomon (1995) in the clinical program. After the turn of the century, the Department underwent several faculty/staff and leadership changes, acquiring a new Chair of the Department (Dr. William Falls: 2006) as well as several new directors: Director of Clinical Training (Dr. Rex Forehand: 2003), Director of the VPS (Dr. Karen Fondacaro: 2006), and Director of the General/Experimental (G/E) Graduate Program (Dr. Mark Bouton: 2004; Dr. John Green: 2011). In 2012, Dr. Mark Bouton received the first Robert B. Lawson Green & Gold Professor of Psychology award, named for the beloved emeritus professor and former Chair of the Department.

The Department also hired 18 new psychologists, including, in the clinical department, Drs. Michael Zvolensky (UVM 2002-11), Timothy Stickle (2003), Kelly Rohan (2005), Betzy Hoza (2005), Alessandra Rellini (2007), Keith Burt (2008), Antonio Cepeda-Benito (2013; also Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences), and Matthew Price (2013); in the bio-behavioral cluster of the G/E program, Drs. John Green (2003) and Donna Toufexis (2008); in the developmental cluster of the G/E program, Drs. Dianna Murray-Close (2007), Jamie Abaied (2010), and Alice Schermerhorn (2011); in the social cluster of the G/E program, Dr. Elizabeth Pinel (2007); and in the pharmacology cluster, Drs. Stacey Sigmon (2004) and Sarah Heil (2006). In an effort to promote a multi-disciplinary approach to psychology, the Department also hired faculty with joint appointments: Drs. Robert Althoff (2001) and Alexandra Potter (2008) in psychology and psychiatry; and Dr. Eugene Delay (2005) in psychology and biology.

As new faculty members joined the ranks of the psychology department, many retired, including Dr. George Albee, after more than 20 years of service to UVM (1971-95); Drs. Joseph Hasazi (UVM 1970-
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1965-2001); Harold Leitenberg (UVM 1965-2001); Bruce Kapp (UVM 1971-2001); David Howell (UVM 1967-2002); Lawrence Gordon (UVM 1970-2003); Herbert Leff (UVM 1971-2003); James Rosen (UVM 1976-2003); Phyllis Bronstein (UVM 1981-2004); Richard Musty (UVM 1968-2006); Marc Kessler (UVM 1969-2006); Sara Burchard (UVM 1977-2007); Justin Joffe (UVM 1969-2009); Stephanie McConaughy (UVM 1981-2009); Robert Lawson (UVM 1966-2010); and Susan Crockenberg (UVM 1990-2011). Additionally, several professors passed away while still in service to UVM, including, Dr. Donald Forgays (1993); Dr. John Burchard (1936-2004, UVM 1970-2004); and Dr. Dharam Yadav (1939-2013, UVM 1970-2012), after an impressive 42 years of teaching at UVM.

Emeriti Faculty, Departmental Chairs, and Program Directors
Emeriti Faculty
Over the course of the Department’s history, 20 retired faculty members have held the status of emeriti faculty. Emeriti faculty members describe the atmosphere of the Department as exciting, changing, expanding, and collegial. The late 1960s and early 1970s, specifically, were noted as times of exhilaration, growth, and development due to the increase in the faculty. Moving forward, the Department emphasized both teaching and research among faculty and graduate students.

Departmental Chairs
Dr. Richard E. Musty joined the Department in 1967 and served as Chair from 1975 to 1987. Earning the title of longest-serving Chair, he guided and represented the Department expertly through periods of robust growth. Dr. Bruce Kapp, a colleague of Musty, stated that the overall atmosphere of the Department was one of cooperation and camaraderie as the faculty worked extremely well together and the students, both undergraduate and graduate, were of the highest quality, particularly during the time when the University was recognized as a "public ivy" school. However, Dr. Kapp remembered times during his 30 years of service to UVM when the atmosphere became "cloudy," primarily because funds at both local and federal levels were difficult to come by and due to rapid turnover of leadership in the president's office. Nevertheless, Kapp suggested that the murkiness did not distract from the agreeable spirit of the Department.

Prior to Dr. Falls, (2006-present), the successive Chairs of the Department include Dr. Metcalf, who led the Department for 14 years; Drs. James Chaplin (1951-64); Donald Forgays (1964-73); Robert Lawson (1970-71 & 2002-2006), also Associate Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate College (1978-1986) and co-founder of the Master of Public Administration Program (1986); (John Burchard (1973-74); Richard Musty (1974-81 & 1982-87); Lawrence Gordon (1981-83 & 1988-90); David Howell (1987-88, 1990-92, & 2000-02), who also served as President of the Faculty Senate (1993-95) and Acting Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences (1988-90); and Justin Joffe (1992-2000), also President of the Faculty Senate (2005-07).

Program Directors
Currently, Drs. Rohan, Green, and Fondacaro head the Clinical Training Program, General/Experimental Program, and VPS, respectively. In describing the Department as collegial and extremely supportive of a broad array of research interests, they echo the words of Dr. Falls and their predecessors. Both new and existing faculty members have built and sustained active and systematic research programs. Since 2001, the Department has continuously held the largest percentage of University Scholars of any department at UVM, with many faculty members holding additional titles of distinction. For students, the course offerings at both the undergraduate and graduate level have been revised and improved over the last
several years, allowing the Department’s programs to remain in high standing across the University. However, graduate student funding and space concerns continue to be challenges for the Department.

The success of the Department is due in no small part to the overwhelming support and dedication of its staff, who together represent more than 152 years of service to the Department (and 185 years to the University at large). Students and faculty alike owe a debt of gratitude in particular to Ms. Kelly Allen (34 years), Mr. Michael George (33 years), Ms. Mary Gauvin (Psychology 19 years, UVM 21 years), Ms. Diana St. Louis (18 years), Ms. Gail Kirby (Psychology 14 years, UVM 33 years), Ms. Holly Olmstead (Psychology 13 years, UVM 26 years), Ms. Sue Martel (11 years), and Ms. Irene Knight (10 years).

Faculty Firsts
Dr. George Albee, who joined the UVM Department of Psychology in 1972, was the first member of the Department to serve as President of the American Psychological Association (APA). Dr. Albee also served as President of APA Division 12, Clinical Psychology; Dr. Ansbacher, one of the earliest faculty members of the UVM Department of Psychology, served as President of APA Division 24, Theoretical and Philosophical Psychology.

In 1981 and 1988, respectively, Dr. Lynne Bond became the first female professor of psychology to earn tenure and to be promoted to Full Professor status; Dr. Bond also served as Dean of the Graduate College (1988-94), Director of the G/E program (2000-04), Director of Undergraduate Programs in Psychology (2005-12), Director of UVM’s Faculty Mentoring Program (2007-12), and uniquely, Interim Chair of the Departments of Anthropology and Art and Art History (2011-12). Today the psychology faculty represents a near-even split between males and females, with a total of 15 women having achieved tenure status over the course of the Department’s history. In 1995, Dr. Sondra Solomon, a graduate of the Ph.D. program in clinical psychology, joined the Department as the first person of color to be hired for a faculty position; she received tenure in 2007 and remains the only person of color in the Department to do so to date.

UVM Psychology Students: 1937 to 2012
In addition to the growth and change of the psychology department faculty, the student body also thrived. At present, the UVM Psychology programs rank among the top three undergraduate and graduate programs across the entire university in terms of both enrolled students and graduates. It is estimated that the Department has awarded well over 6,000 undergraduate degrees, with the number of bachelor’s of arts degrees having increased from 108 (81 females, 27 males; 98% Caucasian, 2% people of color) to 162 (111 females, 51 males; 91% Caucasian, 7% people of color) between 1990 and 2012. During the 2011-12 academic year, the Department boasted a total of 561 undergraduate Psychology majors (157 males, 404 females; 83% Caucasian, 12% people of color, 1% international students). Since 1990, the graduate programs have admitted an average of 12 students per year (4 women per cohort) and 268 students have passed their dissertation defenses (average of 11 defenses per year). Over time, the Department of Psychology has granted a total of 187 master’s degrees and 456 doctoral degrees.

Memorable Moments
On Saturday, December 15, 2001, Administrative Assistant Diana St. Louis arrived at John Dewey Hall to find the second floor of the building covered in two feet of water. A water purification system which had been incorrectly installed on the fourth floor leaked 16,000 gallons of water throughout the building
overnight, causing $470,000 in damage. Although described as a “horrendous” experience that “threw off” the Department for three years, the incident demonstrated the resiliency of the Department and the unity of the faculty/staff and students.

**Future of the Psychology Department**

The future climate of the Department looks to be highly collaborative and multi-disciplinary, with emphasis on research, teaching, and neuropsychological substrates. Funding and space are anticipated as ongoing challenges. Looking ahead, the Department hopes to achieve more tenured faculty, increase collaboration between the clinical and experimental programs and across Departments within the University system, and strike a balance between teaching, research, clinical practice, and service. Lastly, Dr. Barry S. Anton, a graduate of the University of Vermont in 1969, has been elected 2015 President of the American Psychological Association (APA). Dr. Anton joins with Dr. John Dewey (1859-1952, UVM class of 1879), who was elected President of the American Psychological Association in 1899. Dr. George Albee, who served on the UVM faculty from 1971 to 1991, was president of the American Psychological Association in 1970.