

## **Master's Defense Committee**

The committee consists of three members, and both the advisor and chairperson must be members of the Graduate Faculty. The chairperson must not be a core faculty (i.e., have a primary appointment) or affiliated faculty (i.e., have a secondary appointment) in the Department of Psychological Science (see the department website for a list of core and affiliated departmental faculty) and must not be a core or affiliated faculty in the thesis advisor's department. At least one person must be a core faculty member in the student's academic cluster (i.e., clinical, social, developmental, or biobehavioral\*).

Proposals for Master's research must be approved by the full committee in advance of substantive work on the project. Changes in plans following the proposal 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.

Master's thesis defenses are publicly held. The student must complete the department Intent to Defend Form at least six weeks prior to the defense. The student must follow all Graduate College requirements and deadlines. 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.

\*A core faculty member from any of the academic clusters in the Department of Psychological Science (i.e., clinical, social, developmental, or biobehavioral) will fulfill this requirement for students in the Human Behavioral Pharmacology subprogram.

Approved 9/28/18; Revised 2/7/19