



University of North Carolina Chapel Hill

Doctoral School Psychology Program

2023 Cohort Program of Studies Planning Form

Student's Name				Dissertation	
Enrollment Start	Fall, 2023			SP Faculty Chair (Academic Advisor)	
Academic Advisor				Reader #1 (or Research Advisor)	
Track (Check One)	Accelerated*	3 years		Reader #2	
	Standard	4 years		Reader #3	
	Research Focus	5 years		Reader #4	
*Accelerated Plan requires Program Approval				PRAXIS: Date Taken _____ Score _____	

CURRICULUM:

The Ph.D. in School Psychology is an APA accredited program that leads to eligibility for licensure as a psychologist in North Carolina, as well as most other states. Students who intend to work in other states should check the licensure requirements in those states. This program is also approved by NASP and the NC Department of Public Instruction for doctoral level licensure for school psychology. As a result, the Program is responsive to multiple sets of requirements consisting of sequenced and cumulative training experiences across years of training. The Program of Studies timeline illustrates a typical four-year (Standard Track), five-year (Research Track) as well as a three-year plan (Accelerated Track) for students in advanced standing. Most students will follow the four-year track, while the occasional students may be permitted to complete the three-year plan with the approval of the program faculty. Typically, these students on the Accelerated Track (three-year plan) have earned a master's degree in School Psychology. To meet APA accreditation requirements, the program of studies has been designed to include the following: content in the breadth of psychology, including foundations in the biological aspects of behavior; cognitive/affective aspects of behavior; social aspects of behavior; history and systems of psychology; psychological measurement; research methodology; and data analysis. In addition, the POS meets requirements of the APA Implementing Regulations and Standards of Accreditation for Health Service Psychology. The POS must include coursework in the science/methods and theories of practice including individual differences in behavior; human development; dysfunctional behavior/psychopathology; and professional standards. Knowledge and skills are required in assessment and diagnosis; effective intervention; consultation; evaluating the efficacy of interventions; and supervision. Additionally, content on cultural and individual diversity relevant to the above are expected in the curriculum issues of cultural and individual diversity that are relevant to the above are integrated in the curriculum, and expected attitudes essential for lifelong learning, scholarly inquiry, and professional problem-solving are to be included. The Program of Studies meets the NASP standards, including the set of 10 training domains. All students are required to be full-time each semester they are enrolled.

COMPLETING YOUR POS:

Students should complete this form with their academic advisor at the beginning of their first semester of enrollment and update their POS at the end of each academic year. Students should list all courses to be taken or already completed at UNC-CH or at other institutions that will be part of their doctoral program of studies. Students should send their updated POS to their academic advisor and program assistant by the last day of class in their spring semester.

APPROVED COURSES:

Approved courses are listed online under the resources section of the program's website. These course offerings will be updated ~~periodically~~. Confirmation by your academic advisor is required to enroll in a course not currently listed on the "approved course list." http://soe.unc.edu/academics/phd_schpsyc/program_forms.php

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY DOCTORAL MILESTONE CHECKLIST

(This checklist is for the Standard 4-year track.)

Doctoral Milestone	Prerequisite to Milestone (see handbook for complete requirements)	Date Planned	Date Completed
YEAR ONE (Fall 2023-Summer 2024)			
Review the 2023 School Psychology Handbook		Fall 2023	
Submit your updated POS documenting your year's progress and milestones to your academic advisor and the SP program assistant		Spring LDOC	
Research Topics/Ideas for Dissertation		Summer 2024	
YEAR TWO (Fall 2024-Summer 2025)			
Review the "Dissertation Hub" Resources on Canvas		Fall 2024	
Review the UNC Graduate School Dissertation Handbook		Fall 2024	
Identify School Psychology Dissertation Chair and, if relevant, Research Advisor	<i>Requested and received confirmation from a school psychology faculty member to serve as your Dissertation Chair and, if relevant, another person as your Research Advisor</i>	Spring 2025	
Apply to program to sit for Comprehensive Examinations	<i>Refer to "Application to Sit for the Comprehensive Examination" Checklist (Due 9/1 for Fall Comps & 2/1 for Spring Comps)</i>	Spring 2025	
Register to take the PRAXIS NCSP Exam	<i>Successful completion of first 3 semesters of coursework and registration in fourth semester (or by semester of exams)</i>	Spring 2025	
Written Comprehensive Examination	<i>After applying, approval granted from faculty</i>	Spring 2025	
Oral Comprehensive Examination	<i>Pass written comprehensive exam</i>	Spring 2025	
Apply to program to confirm eligibility to apply for internship.	<i>Refer to "Application to Apply to Internship Sites" Checklist (submit prior by the first day of class fall semester)</i>	Spring 2025	
Submit your updated POS documenting your year's progress and milestones to your academic advisor and the SP program assistant	<i>Refer to preceding milestones. (Make sure to document your scheduled PRAXIS examination date.)</i>	Spring LDOC	
PRAXIS NCSP School Psychology Exam	<i>Successful completion of first 3 semesters of coursework and registration in fourth semester (or by semester of comprehensive exams and before application for internship)</i>	Summer 2025	
APPIC Internship Application Prep	<i>Draft Essays, Statements, Letters of Request to your Recommenders, List of Potential Sites</i>	Summer 2025	
YEAR THREE (Fall 2025-Summer 2026)			
Apply to APPIC Doctoral Internship*	<i>After submitting your application to the program to confirm eligibility and approval is granted (see APPIC program deadlines)</i>	Fall 2025	
Apply to Non-APPIC Doctoral Internship	<i>After submitting your application to the program to confirm eligibility and approval is granted (deadlines based on each site)</i>	Early Spring 2026	
Dissertation Committee Composition	<i>Requested and received confirmation from four additional committee members with approval from your Dissertation Chair</i>		
Dissertation Proposal	<i>Pass Both Comp Exams & EDUC 994 registration</i>	Spring 2026	
History & Systems: 2 Paper Submissions	<i>These 2 papers can be completed at any time prior to internship.</i>	Spring 2026	
Submit your updated POS documenting your year's progress and milestones to your academic advisor and the SP program assistant	<i>Refer to preceding milestones.</i>	Spring LDOC	
Doctoral Internship	<i>History & Systems Papers Proposal Defense Passed by Spring prior to internship*</i>	July 2026-June 2027	
YEAR FOUR (Fall 2026-Summer 2027)			

Dissertation Defense	<i>Dissertation Proposal Passed & EDUC 994 registration</i>	Spring 2027	
Apply for Post-Doctoral Position (if applicable)	<i>N/A</i>	Spring 2027	
Apply for Graduation	<i>Refer to UNC Graduate School Graduation Guidelines.</i>	Spring 2027	
Submit your updated POS documenting your year's progress and milestones to your academic advisor and the SP program assistant	<i>Refer to preceding milestones.</i>	Spring LDOC	

**Note that specific internship sites may require additional prerequisites above UNC's requirements (e.g., some sites require that students have completed dissertation proposals prior to submitting an application).*

Content Area	Course	Course Title	Semester	Year	University	Grade	Approved Transfer Courses	
APA IR C-7 D. Category 1: HISTORY & SYSTEMS OF PSYCHOLOGY								
History and Systems of Psychology	Cross-Course Embedded	History and Systems of Psychology Competencies	Date of Theorist Paper Submission: _____					
			Date of History of School Psychology Paper Submission: _____					
APA Discipline-Specific Knowledge Category 2: BASIC CONTENT AREAS IN SCIENTIFIC PSYCHOLOGY								
Biological Aspects of Behavior (3)	EDUC 763	Biological Bases of Children's Development (EOY)						
Cognitive Aspects of Behavior (3)		Refer to Approved Course List						
Affective Aspects of Behavior	Cross-Course Embedded	Affective Aspects of Behavior Competencies						
Social Aspects of Behavior (3)		Refer to Approved Course List						
Developmental Aspects of Behavior (3)	EDUC 762	Child Development & Disability* (EOY)	Spring	2024				
APA IR C-7 D. Category 4: RESEARCH METHODS, STATISTICAL ANALYSIS, AND PSYCHOMETRICS								
Research Methods (3)	EDUC 824	Fundamentals of Educational Research	Fall	2023				
Statistical Analysis (9)	EDUC 710	Statistical Analysis of Educational Data I	Fall	2023				
	EDUC 784	Statistical Analysis of Educational Data II	Spring	2024				
	Advanced Statistical/Research Course	Refer to Approved Course List						
Psychometrics (3)	EDUC 829	Applied Measurement Theory for Education (EOY)						
APA C-8D. I. RESEARCH								
Doctoral Dissertation (3)	EDUC 994	Doctoral Dissertation: Proposal (Must be completed by the Spring semester prior to Internship)			UNC		N/A	
Doctoral Dissertation (3)	EDUC 994	Doctoral Dissertation: Defense			UNC		N/A	

Content Area	Course	Course Title	Semester	Year	University	Grade	Approved Transfer	
							Courses Officially Transferred to UNC	Advisor's Initials
APA C-8D. FIELD EXPERIENCE & II. ETHICAL AND LEGAL STANDARDS								
Field Experience & Ethical and Legal Standards	EDUC 720	School Psychology Professional Doctoral Seminar	Fall	2023	UNC		N/A	
	EDUC 820	School Psychology Professional Doctoral Seminar	Spring	2024	UNC		N/A	
	EDUC 721 I	School Psychology Externship	Fall	2023	UNC		N/A	
	EDUC 721 II	School Psychology Externship	Spring	2024	UNC		N/A	
	EDUC 821 I	School Psychology Externship & Professional Seminar	Fall	2024	UNC		N/A	
	EDUC 821 II	School Psychology Externship & Professional Seminar	Spring	2025	UNC		N/A	
	EDUC 821 III	School Psychology Externship	Fall	2025	UNC		N/A	
	EDUC 821 IV	School Psychology Externship	Spring	2026	UNC		N/A	
	EDUC 822	School Psychology Internship	Fall	2026	UNC		N/A	
	EDUC 822	School Psychology Internship	Spring	2026	UNC		N/A	
APA C-8D. III. INDIVIDUAL AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY								
Individual & Cultural Diversity (3)		Refer to Approved Course List						
Dysfunctional Behavior / Abnormal / Individual Differences (3)	EDUC 762	Child Development & Disability (This course can fulfill "Dysfunction" OR "Development" but not both; offered every other year.)	Spring	2023				
APA C-8D. VII. INTERVENTION & VI. ASSESSMENT								
Intervention & Assessment Core (12)	EDUC 718	School Psychology Intervention & Assessment I	Fall	2022				
	EDUC 719	School Psychology Intervention & Assessment II	Spring	2023				
	EDUC 818	School Psychology Intervention & Assessment III	Fall	2023				
	EDUC 819	School Psychology Intervention & Assessment IV	Spring	2024				
Individual Counseling (3)								

* This course can only fulfill one requirement.

"EOY" This course is typically offered every other year.

Standard Plan 4-Year Program Planning Guide

Year	1 st Year		2 nd Year		3 rd Year		4 th Year			
Semester	FALL	SPRING	FALL	SPRING	FALL	SPRING	SUMMER 2	FALL	SPRING	SUMMER 1
Field Experience	EDUC 721 Externship 3	EDUC 721 Externship 3	EDUC 821 Prof. Sem. & Adv. Externship 3	EDUC 821 Prof. Sem. & Adv. Externship 3	EDUC 821 Externship 3	EDUC 821 Externship 3	EDUC 822 Internship 1	EDUC 822 Internship 2	EDUC 822 Internship 2	EDUC 822 Internship 1
Professional Sem. Ethical & Legal Standards	EDUC 720 Prof. Sem. 3	EDUC 820 Prof. Sem. 3	EDUC 818 Intervention & Assessment III 3		EDUC 819 Intervention & Assessment IV 3					
Intervention & Assessment	EDUC 718 Intervention & Assessment I 3	EDUC 719 Intervention & Assessment II 3								
Research Methods & Statistical Analysis	EDUC 710 Statistics I 3	EDUC 784 Statistics II 3	Advanced Research / Statistical Analysis Course 3	Foundation* 3	EDUC 994 Dissertation 3	EDUC 994 Dissertation 3	EDUC 994 Dissertation 3			
Category 2: Basic Content Areas in Scientific Psychology	EDUC 824 Found. of Educ. Research 3	Foundation* 3	1 of 2 Foundations* 3	Foundation* 3	Foundation* 3	Foundation* 3	EDUC 994 Dissertation 3			
Total Hours	15	12-15	12-15	12	6-9	6-9	1	5	5	1
Milestones	Review the 2023 School Psychology Handbook	Apply for 2nd Year Advanced Externship LDOC Submit Updated POS Summer: Research Topics/Ideas for Dissertation	Register for the PRAXIS NCSP Test Review the "Dissertation Hub" Resources on Canvas Review the UNC Graduate School Dissertation Handbook	Apply for 3rd Year Advanced Externship Apply to take Comps (Submit Checklist) Pass Written Comps Pass Oral Comps Pass the PRAXIS LDOC Submit Updated POS	Apply for Internships (APPIC)	Apply for Internships (Non-APPIC) Pass Dissertation Proposal LDOC Submit Updated POS	Write Dissertation	Write Dissertation	Pass Dissertation Defense Apply for Post-Doc Apply for August Graduation	LDOC Submit Updated POS

* A "Foundation" course may be one of the following: a. Counseling, b. EDUC 829 Measurement / Psychometrics, c. Dysfunction/Abnormal, d. Cognitive / Learning, Social, e. Cultural Diversity, f. Advanced Stats/Research, g. Development, or h. EDUC 763 Biological Aspects

Accelerated 3-Year Program Planning Guide (Program approval required)																
Year	1 st Year				2 nd Year				3 rd Year							
Semester	FALL		SPRING		FALL		SPRING		SUMMER 2		FALL	SPRING		SUMMER 1		
Field Experience	EDUC 721 Externship	3	EDUC 721 Externship	3	EDUC 821 Prof. Sem. & Adv. Externship		3	EDUC 821 Prof. Sem. & Adv. Externship	3	EDUC 822 Internship	1	EDUC 822 Internship	2	EDUC 822 Internship		
Professional Sem. Ethical & Legal Standards	EDUC 720 Prof. Sem.	3	EDUC 820 Prof. Sem.	3												
Intervention & Assessment	EDUC 718 Intervention & Assessment I	3	EDUC 719 Intervention & Assessment II	3	EDUC 818 Intervention & Assessment III	3	EDUC 819 Intervention & Assessment IV	3								
Research Methods & Statistical Analysis	EDUC 710 Statistics I	3	EDUC 784 Statistics II	3	Advanced Research / Statistical Analysis Course	3	Foundation*	3								
Category 2: Basic Content Areas in Scientific Psychology	EDUC 824 Found. of Educ. Research	3	Foundation*	3	Foundations*	3	Foundations*	3								
Total Hours	12-15		12-15		12		12		1	5	5	1				
Milestones	Review the UNC Graduate School Dissertation Handbook Review the "Dissertation Hub" Resources on Canvas				Apply for 2nd Year Advanced Externship Register for the PRAXIS NCSP Test LDOC Submit Updated POS Summer: Research Topics/Ideas for Dissertation & Draft Literature Review				Identify Dissertation Chair / Advisor Apply for Internships (APPIC) Apply to take Comps (Submit Checklist) Pass Written Comps Pass Oral Comps Pass the PRAXIS NCSP Test				Write Dissertation		Write Dissertation	Pass Dissertation Defense Apply for Post-Doc Apply for August Graduation LDOC Submit Updated POS

EDUC 994 Dissertation	3	EDUC 994 Dissertation	3
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* A "Foundation" course may be one of the following: a. Counseling, b. EDUC 829 Measurement / Psychometrics, c. Dysfunction/Abnormal, d. Cognitive / Learning, Social, e. Cultural Diversity, f. Advanced Stats/Research, g. Development, or h. EDUC 763 Biological Aspects

Research Track 5-Year Program Planning Guide													
Year	1 st Year		2 nd Year		3 rd Year		4 th Year		5 th Year				
Semester	FALL	SPRING	FALL	SPRING	FALL	SPRING	FALL	SPRING	SUMMER 2	FALL	SPRING	SUMMER 1	
Field Experience	EDUC 721 3 Externship	EDUC 721 3 Externship	EDUC 821 3 Prof. Sem. & Adv. Externship	EDUC 821 3 Prof. Sem. & Adv. Externship	EDUC 821 3 Externship	EDUC 821 3 Externship	EDUC 821 3 Externship	EDUC 821 3 Externship	EDUC 822 1 Internship	EDUC 822 2 Internship	EDUC 822 2 Internship	EDUC 822 1 Internship	
Professional Sem. Ethical & Legal Standards	EDUC 720 3 Prof. Sem.	EDUC 820 3 Prof. Sem.	EDUC 818 3 Intervention & Assessment III	EDUC 819 3 Intervention & Assessment IV	EDUC 994 3 Dissertation	EDUC 994 3 Dissertation	EDUC 994 3 Dissertation	EDUC 994 3 Dissertation	EDUC 994 3 Dissertation	EDUC 994 3 Dissertation	EDUC 994 3 Dissertation	EDUC 994 3 Dissertation	
Intervention & Assessment	EDUC 718 3 Intervention & Assessment I	EDUC 719 3 Intervention & Assessment II		EDUC 819 3 Intervention & Assessment III		EDUC 994 3 Dissertation	EDUC 994 3 Dissertation	EDUC 994 3 Dissertation		EDUC 994 3 Dissertation	EDUC 994 3 Dissertation	EDUC 994 3 Dissertation	
Research Methods & Statistical Analysis	EDUC 710 3 Statistics I	EDUC 784 3 Statistics II		EDUC 819 3 Intervention & Assessment III		EDUC 994 3 Dissertation	EDUC 994 3 Dissertation	EDUC 994 3 Dissertation		EDUC 994 3 Dissertation	EDUC 994 3 Dissertation	EDUC 994 3 Dissertation	
Category 2: Basic Content Areas in Scientific Psychology	EDUC 824 3 Found. of Educ. Research	Foundation* 3 or Research Course		Foundation* 3 or Research Course		Foundation* 3 or Research Course	Foundation* 3 or Research Course	Foundation* 3 or Research Course		Foundation* 3 or Research Course	Foundation* 3 or Research Course	Foundation* 3 or Research Course	
Total Hours	15	12-15	12-15	12-15	6-9	6-9	6-9	6-9	1	5	5	1	
Milestones	Review the 2023 School Psychology Handbook	Apply for 2nd Year Advanced Externship LDOC Submit Updated POS Summer Research Topics/Ideas for Dissertation	Review the "Dissertation Hub" Resources on Canvas Review the UNC Graduate School Dissertation Handbook	Apply for 3rd Year Advanced Externship Identify Dissertation Chair / Advisor LDOC Submit Updated POS	Register for the PRAXIS NCSP Test	Apply for 4th Year Advanced Externship Apply to take Comps (Submit Checklist) Pass Written Comps Pass Oral Comps Pass the PRAXIS NCSP Test LDOC Submit Updated POS	Apply for Internships (APPIC)	Apply for Internships (Non-APPIC) Pass Dissertation Proposal LDOC Submit Updated POS	Write Dissertation	Write Dissertation	Pass Dissertation Defense Apply for Post-Doc Apply for August Graduation LDOC Submit Updated POS		

* A "Foundation" course may be one of the following: a. Counseling, b. EDUC 829 Measurement / Psychometrics, c. Dysfunction/Abnormal, d. Cognitive / Learning, Social, e. Cultural Diversity, f. Advanced Stats/Research, g. Development, or h. EDUC 763 Biological Aspects.

REGISTERING FOR DISSERTATION AND INTERNSHIP:

- **Dissertation:** A minimum of 6 total credit hours of doctoral dissertation is required for graduation. Students must be registered for dissertation during the semesters they formally propose and defend. This is a non-variable credit course (3 credit hours). As registration for dissertation credit any semester confers "full-time status" for that semester students should register for this course during the entirety of the internship.
- **Internship:** Internship credits do not confer full-time status by themselves. Given that students are required to be full-time in each semester they are enrolled, they are also required to be registered for dissertation. A minimum of 6 total credit hours of doctoral internship over the course of a 10 or 12-month internship is required for graduation. For example, 12-month internships may be as follows: 1 credit (2nd summer), 2 credits (fall), 2 credits (spring) and 1 credit (1st summer). A 10-month internship may be as follows: 3 credits (fall), 2 credits (spring) and 1 credit (1st summer).

TRANSFER CREDIT: Refer to the following Graduate School Link for the Procedures.

<https://handbook.unc.edu/coursecredit.html>

APA Discipline-Specific Knowledge Category 2: Basic Content Areas in Scientific Psychology

Discipline-specific knowledge serves as a cornerstone of identity as a psychologist and orientation to health service psychology. Therefore, all students in accredited doctoral programs shall demonstrate knowledge in the discipline of psychology, broadly construed. This discipline-specific knowledge base shall include: 1) the history and systems of psychology, 2) basic knowledge in scientific psychology, 3) integrative knowledge in scientific psychology, and 4) methods of inquiry and research.

Category 1: History and Systems of Psychology

- History and Systems of Psychology, including the origins and development of major ideas in the discipline of psychology.

Category 2: Basic Content Areas in Scientific Psychology

- **Affective Aspects of Behavior**, including topics such as affect, mood, and emotion. Psychopathology and mood disorders do not by themselves fulfill this category.
- **Biological Aspects of Behavior**, including multiple biological underpinnings of behavior, such as neural, physiological, anatomical, and genetic aspects of behavior. Although neuropsychological assessment and psychopharmacology can be included in this category, they do not, by themselves, fulfill this category.
- **Cognitive Aspects of Behavior**, including topics such as learning, memory, thought processes, and decision-making. Cognitive testing and cognitive therapy do not, by themselves, fulfill this category.
- **Developmental Aspects of Behavior**, including transitions, growth, and development across an individual's life. A coverage limited to one developmental period (e.g., infancy, childhood, adolescence, adulthood, or late life) is not sufficient.
- **Social Aspects of Behavior**, including topics such as group processes, attributions, discrimination, and attitudes. Individual and cultural diversity and group or family therapy do not, by themselves, fulfill this category.

Category 3: Advanced Integrative Knowledge in Scientific Psychology

- Advanced Integrative Knowledge of Basic Discipline-Specific Content Areas, including graduate-level scientific knowledge that entails integration of multiple basic discipline-specific content areas identified in Category 2 (i.e., integration of at least two of: affective, biological, cognitive, social, or developmental aspects of behavior). Advanced integrative knowledge in Category 2 areas can be acquired in either of two ways: 1) an evaluated educational experience that integrates at least two Category 2 content areas that have been previously covered through other methods; or 2) an evaluated educational experience that provides basic coverage in two or more areas and integration across those areas.

Category 4: Research Methods, Statistical Analysis, and Psychometrics

- **Research Methods**, including topics such as strengths, limitations, interpretation, and technical aspects of rigorous case study; correlational, experimental, and other quantitative research designs; measurement techniques; sampling; replication; theory testing; qualitative methods; mixed methods; meta-analysis; and quasi-experimentation.
- **Statistical Analysis**, including topics such as quantitative, mathematical modeling and analysis of psychological data, statistical description and inference, univariate and multivariate analysis, null hypothesis testing and its alternatives, power, and estimation.
- **Psychometrics**, including topics such as theory and techniques of psychological measurement, scale and inventory construction, reliability, validity, evaluation of measurement quality, classical and

contemporary measurement theory, and standardization.