



University of North Carolina Chapel Hill Doctoral School Psychology Program

2025 Cohort Program of Studies Planning Form

| | | | | | |
|------------------------------|------------|---------|-----|-------------------------------------|--|
| Student's Name | | | | Dissertation | |
| Enrollment Start | Fall, 2025 | | | SP Faculty Chair (Academic Advisor) | |
| Academic Advisor | | | | Reader #1 (or Research Advisor) | |
| Track (Check One) | Standard* | 4 years | | Reader #2 | |
| | Enhanced** | 5 years | | Reader #3 | |
| PRAXIS Exam | Date Taken | | P/F | Reader #4 | |

CURRICULUM:

The Ph.D. in School Psychology is an APA accredited program that leads to eligibility for licensure as a psychologist in North Carolina, and 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* and five-year Enhanced Track**. Students with a master's degree prior to entering the program typically take the Standard four-year track while students without a master's degree should expect to take five years in the Enhanced track. Students interested in academia with a focus on research will also take the Enhanced 5-year track. To meet PA 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 includes 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 are integrated in the curriculum, and expected attitudes essential for lifelong learning, scholarly inquiry, and professional problem-solving are included. The Program of Studies meets the NASP standards, including the set of 10 training domains.

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY DOCTORAL MILESTONE CHECKLIST

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

| Doctoral Milestone | Prerequisite to Milestone <i>(see handbook for complete requirements)</i> | Date Planned | Date Completed |
|--|--|----------------------------|----------------|
| YEAR ONE (Fall 2025-Summer 2026) | | | |
| Review the 2025 School Psychology Handbook | N/A | Fall 2025 | |
| Submit your updated POS to your academic advisor and the SP program assistant | N/A | Spring 2026 LDOC | |
| Research Topics/Ideas for Dissertation | N/A | Summer 2026 | |
| YEAR TWO (Fall 2025-Summer 2026) | | | |
| Review Canvas "Dissertation Hub" Resources | N/A | Fall 2026 | |
| Review UNC Graduate School Dissertation Handbook | N/A | Fall 2026 | |
| Identify School Psychology Dissertation Chair and, if relevant, Research Advisor | <i>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 2027 | |
| Dissertation Summary Proposal and Reading List | <i>Review the UNC Graduate School Dissertation Handbook</i> | Spring 2027 | |
| 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> | 2/1/2027 | |
| 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 2027 | |
| Written Comprehensive Examination | <i>After applying, approval granted from faculty</i> | Spring 2027 | |
| Oral Comprehensive Examination | <i>Pass written comprehensive exam</i> | Spring 2027 | |
| Apply to program to confirm eligibility for internship. | <i>Refer to "Application to Apply to Internship Sites" Checklist</i> | April 1 st 2027 | |
| Submit your updated POS 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</i> | Summer 2027 | |
| APPIC Internship Application Prep | <i>Draft Essays, Statements, Letters of Request to your Recommenders, List of Potential Sites</i> | Summer 2027 | |
| YEAR THREE (Fall 2025-Summer 2026) | | | |
| Dissertation Aims and Study Feasibility Overview | <i>Dissertation Summary Proposal and Reading List</i> | Sept. 1 st 2027 | |
| Apply to APPIC Doctoral Internship* | <i>After submitting your dissertation aims and study feasibility overview, and application to the program to confirm eligibility and approval is granted (see APPIC program deadlines)</i> | Fall 2027 | |
| Dissertation Committee Composition | <i>Requested and received confirmation from four additional committee members with approval from your Dissertation Chair</i> | Fall 2027 | |
| Dissertation Proposal | <i>All students are required to be full-time each semester they are enrolled.</i> | Fall 2027 | |
| Apply to Non-APPIC Doctoral Internship | <i>After submitting your dissertation aims and study feasibility overview, and application to the program to confirm eligibility and approval is granted</i> | Early Spring 2028 | |
| History & Systems: 2 Paper Submissions | <i>These 2 papers can be completed any time before internship.</i> | Spring 2028 | |
| Submit your updated POS 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 2028- June 2029 | |
| YEAR FOUR (Fall 2026-Summer 2027) | | | |
| Dissertation Defense | <i>Dissertation Proposal Passed & EDUC 994 registration</i> | Spring 2029 | |
| Apply for Post-Doctoral Position (if applicable) | N/A | Spring 2029 | |
| Apply for Graduation | <i>Refer to UNC Graduate School Graduation Guidelines.</i> | Spring 2029 | |
| Submit your updated POS 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 their dissertation proposal prior to submitting an application).

| Content Area | Course | Course Title | Semester | Year | University | Grade | Approved Transfer Courses | |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|--|------|------------|-------|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| | | | | | | | Officially Transferred to UNC | Advisor's Initials |
| APA IR C-7 D. Category 1: HISTORY & SYSTEMS OF PSYCHOLOGY | | | | | | | | |
| History and Systems of Psychology | Cross-CourseEmbedded | 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-CourseEmbedded | Affective Aspects of Behavior Competencies | | | | | | |
| Social Aspects of Behavior (3) | | Refer to Approved Course List | | | | | | |
| Developmental Aspects of Behavior (3) | | Refer to Approved Course List | | | | | | |
| APA IR C-7 D. Category 4: RESEARCH METHODS, STATISTICAL ANALYSIS, AND PSYCHOMETRICS | | | | | | | | |
| Research Methods (3) | EDUC 824 | Fundamentals of Educational Research | Spr | 2026 | | | | |
| Statistical Analysis (9) | EDUC 710 | Statistical Analysis of Educational Data I | Fall | 2025 | | | | |
| | EDUC 784 | Statistical Analysis of Educational Data II | | | | | | |
| | AdvancedStatistical/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: <i>Proposal (Must be completed by the Spring semester prior to Internship)</i> | | | UNC | | N/A | |
| Doctoral Dissertation (3) | EDUC 994 | Doctoral Dissertation: <i>Defense</i> | | | 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 | 2025 | UNC | | N/A | |
| | EDUC 820 | School Psychology Professional Doctoral Seminar | Spring | 2026 | UNC | | N/A | |
| | EDUC 721 I | School Psychology Externship | Fall | 2025 | UNC | | N/A | |
| | EDUC 721 II | School Psychology Externship | Spring | 2026 | UNC | | N/A | |
| | EDUC 821 I | School Psychology Externship & Professional Seminar | Fall | 2026 | UNC | | N/A | |
| | EDUC 821 II | School Psychology Externship & Professional Seminar | Spring | 2027 | UNC | | N/A | |
| | EDUC 821 III | School Psychology Externship | Fall | 2027 | UNC | | N/A | |
| | EDUC 821 IV | School Psychology Externship | Spring | 2028 | UNC | | N/A | |
| | EDUC 822 | School Psychology Internship | Fall | 2028 | UNC | | N/A | |
| | EDUC 822 | School Psychology Internship | Spring | 2028 | 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 | Diagnosis of Psychological Disorders and Treatment Planning | Spring | 2026 | | | | |
| APA C-8D. VII. INTERVENTION & VI. ASSESSMENT | | | | | | | | |
| Intervention & Assessment Core (12) | EDUC 718 | School Psychology Intervention & Assessment I | Fall | 2025 | | | | |
| | EDUC 719 | School Psychology Intervention & Assessment II | Spring | 2026 | | | | |
| | EDUC 818 | School Psychology Intervention & Assessment III | Fall | 2026 | | | | |
| | EDUC 819 | School Psychology Intervention & Assessment IV | Spring | 2027 | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| 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 I |
| 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 | | | | | | | | |
| 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 ³ | Foundation* ³ | EDUC 994 Dissertation ³ | EDUC 994 Dissertation ³ | | EDUC 994 Dissertation ³ | EDUC 994 Dissertation ³ | |
| Category 2: Basic Content in Scientific Psychology | EDUC 824 Found. of Educ. Research ³ | Foundation* ³ | Foundation* ³ | Foundation* ³ | Foundation* ³ | Foundation* ³ | | | | |
| Total Hours | 12-15 | 12-15 | 12 | 12 | 6-9 | 6-9 | I | 5 | 5 | I |
| Milestones | ⇒ Review the edit 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

5-Year Program Planning Guide
Research Track OR Students entering without a Masters degree

| 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 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 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 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 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 | 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* or Research Course ³ | Foundation* or Research Course ³ | Foundation* or Research Course ³ | Foundation* or Research Course ³ | Foundation* or Research Course ³ | Foundation* or Research Course ³ | Foundation* or Research Course ³ | | | | | |
| Total Hours | 12-15 | 12-15 | 12-15 | 12-15 | 6-9 | 6-9 | 6-9 | 6-9 | 1 | 5 | 5 | 1 | |
| Milestones | ⇒ Review the 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.

COMPLETING YOUR POS:

Students should complete this form with their academic advisor prior to 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 are required to send their updated POS to their academic advisor and program assistant, by the last day of each spring semester. All students are required to be full-time each semester they are enrolled.

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

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 3 credits of dissertation during the semesters they formally propose and defend. This is a non-variable credit course (3 credit hours). Registration for dissertation credit any semester confers "full-time status" for that semester.

- **Internship:** Internship credits do not confer full-time status by themselves. A minimum of 6 total credit hours of doctoral internship over the course of a full-time (10 or 12-month) or part-time (up to 24 months) internship is required for graduation. Interns must register for internship credits aligned to the time of the internship, typically requiring credits during fall, spring, and one or both summer sessions. Note that for summer months, if your internship occurs during the month of June, you must register for at least one Summer I credit; if your internship occurs during the month of July, you must register for at least one Summer Session II credit. For example: a typical 12-month internships may be as follows: 1 credit (2nd summer), 2 credits (fall), 2 credits (spring) and 1 credit (1st summer); a typical 10-month internship may be as follows: 3 credits (fall), 2 credits (spring) and 1 credit (1st summer).

TRANSFER CREDIT: If your academic advisor has approved courses from your previous master's work to fulfill courses on your POS, they will need to be formerly transferred to UNC. 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.