

Master of Psychology (Clinical)/Doctor of Philosophy

Academic Program Rules *

1 Duration of program

Except with the permission of the Faculty of Health Sciences and the Board of Research Education and Development (BRED), the coursework subjects of study and the research thesis shall normally be completed in not more than four years of full-time study.

2 Admission

2.1 An applicant for admission to the program of study for the combined degrees of Master of Psychology (Clinical) and Doctor of Philosophy shall have qualified for an Honours degree of Bachelor, with Honours in Psychology of First Class Standard, at the University of Adelaide, or for an Honours degree of another institution accepted for the purpose by the University. Applications from students with other qualifications will require the approval of the Faculty of Health Sciences and BRED.

2.2 A person who holds a degree of another university may be accepted as a candidate provided that the program of study undertaken and the academic standard reached are equivalent to those required of a candidate who is a graduate of the University of Adelaide.

2.3 Status, exemption and credit transfer

The Faculty of Health Sciences may grant such status as it may determine up to a maximum of 8 units for courses undertaken at another institution, provided that any such coursework has not been presented for another degree.

2.4 Intermission of candidature

A candidate whose work is interrupted for a period of time may be granted an intermission of candidature by the Board. If such an application is approved, the period of candidature specified in Rule 3.1 will be adjusted accordingly by adding the length of the intermission.

2.5 Extension of candidature

A candidate may be granted, by the Board, only one extension of candidature of twelve months beyond the maximum period specified in Rule 3.1. If the thesis has not been submitted by the end of the extended period, the candidature will lapse.

2.6 Lapsed candidature

2.6.1 The candidature of a candidate who has not completed all the coursework and research requirements within twelve months of the approved enrolment duration, will be deemed to have lapsed.

2.6.2 A candidature which has lapsed will be resumed if the completed thesis, which has not departed from the field of study which was being pursued before the candidature lapsed, is subsequently submitted within two years from the date when the candidature lapsed to the Director, Graduate Studies. The thesis will only be accepted if the Department certifies that it is satisfactory to that Department. Any extension beyond the two years shall be determined on a case-by-case basis by the Board in consultation with the relevant Faculty/Department. Approval of the Board is required for resumption of a lapsed candidature under any other conditions. In special circumstances, the Board may approve the resumption of a lapsed candidature for one period of up to six months prior to the submission of the completed thesis.

3 Enrolment

A person shall not be enrolled as a candidate for the combined degrees unless the applicant's proposed field of study and research is acceptable to the Department responsible for the supervision of the candidate's work.

4 Assessment and examination

4.1 Each candidate shall in addition to completing coursework requirements, complete a Structured Program of research activities within the first twelve months from commencement of candidature.

4.2 Continuation of the candidate's enrolment is conditional upon the completion of the research activities to the satisfaction of the Department(s) concerned.

4.3 Such activities will be determined by the Department(s) in which the candidate is enrolled. They will include the completion and the presentation of a research proposal, and other courses or skills training deemed necessary by the Department(s) concerned.

4.4 At the completion of the Structured Program, each candidate shall submit to the BRED a research proposal in such form as the Board may prescribe.

4.5 Review of academic progress

- 4.5.1 A student who fails a course and desires to take this course again, shall attend the lectures and seminars and do such written and practical work as the teaching staff concerned may prescribe. No student shall be permitted to repeat a course more than once without the approval in writing of the Head of the Department concerned.
- 4.5.2 Attendance is required for at least 80% of the sessions in any compulsory or optional course. A student who fails to meet this requirement will be awarded the result of Incomplete Fail unless there are extenuating circumstances.
- 4.5.3 A formal review of a candidate's progress shall be conducted by the Department at least once a year in accordance with guidelines determined by the BRED and outlined in the Code of Practice for Maintaining and Monitoring Academic Quality and Standards in Higher Degrees. A written report of the review (on the prescribed Annual Review of Progress form) must be forwarded to the Registrar, Graduate Studies, by no later than 30 October each year. A candidate's re-enrolment in the following year is conditional upon him/her having attained satisfactory progress in the year of review.
- 4.5.4 If, in the opinion of the Faculty of Health Sciences and the BRED, a student for the combined degrees is not making satisfactory progress, the Faculty may, with the consent of the Council, terminate the candidature and the student shall cease to be enrolled for the degrees.

4.6 Intention to submit thesis

A candidate shall notify the Department of Psychology, in writing, approximately three months before he or she expects to submit the thesis required under Rule 15. A summary of the thesis, together with the proposed thesis title, should be submitted at the same time.

4.7 Assessment

- 4.7.1 There shall be one of two systems of classification of pass in individual courses for the combined degrees: either Satisfactory; or Pass with High Distinction, Pass with Distinction, Pass with Credit, and Pass.
- 4.7.2 On the completion of the approved program of study and research, a candidate shall submit a thesis embodying the results of that study and research, and may submit also, in support of the thesis, other relevant material. No thesis or material presented for any other degree within this or any other institution shall be so submitted. The Board shall prescribe the form in which the thesis shall be submitted and the number of copies to be submitted.
- 4.7.3 The thesis and any other material submitted shall be assessed by examiners external to the University.

4.8 Appointment of thesis examiners

- 4.8.1 Candidates shall have the right to submit objections to the appointment of potential examiners of their thesis. Any such objections should be submitted to the Department of Psychology, at the same time as the notification of intention to submit required under Rule 14.
- 4.8.2 The BRED shall appoint two thesis examiners who are external to the University, taking account of any objections raised under Rule 16.1 and the recommendations of the Head of the relevant Department.
- 4.8.3 The examiners shall be requested to report in such form as the Board will determine and to recommend one of the alternatives listed in Rule 18.
- 4.8.4 After consideration of the reports of the examiners, the Board may appoint a third external examiner and/or an external arbitrator.

4.9 The thesis

- 4.9.1 The thesis shall:
- display original and critical thought
 - be a significant contribution to knowledge
 - relate the topic of research to the broader framework of the discipline within which it falls *and*
 - be clearly, accurately and cogently written and be suitably illustrated and documented.

4.10 Examination results

- 4.10.1 After consideration of the reports of the examiners and such other information as it thinks fit, the Board shall determine that:
- the candidate be awarded the degrees *or*
 - the candidate be awarded the degrees but that minor amendments be made to the thesis *or*
 - the candidate be awarded the degrees subject to (i) specified amendments being made to the thesis *or* (ii) satisfactory performance in an oral or written examination *or*
 - the candidate be not awarded the degrees but be permitted to re-submit the thesis for examination in a revised form *or*
 - the candidate be awarded the appropriate degree of Master *or*
 - the candidate be awarded the appropriate degree of Master upon making suitable amendments to the thesis *or*
 - the candidate be not awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy or the degree of Master.

5 Qualification requirements

- 5.1 Unless exempted therefrom by the Faculty, all students will satisfactorily complete compulsory courses to the value of 12 units, elective courses to the value of 8 units, three 18-week periods (of 5 half-days per week or equivalent) of supervised placement (12 units) in institutions or organisations offering clinical psychological services approved by the Head of the Department of Psychology, and a research project (64 units).
- 5.2 A candidate shall pursue an approved program of study and research under the control of the University and under the general guidance of one or more supervisors appointed by the University. At least one supervisor shall be a member of the academic staff of the Department of the University in which the candidate is registered.
- 5.3 **Academic program**
Unless exempted therefrom by the Faculty of Health Sciences, every student for the combined degree shall satisfactorily complete the following four components:
- 5.3.1 **Compulsory courses**
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|-----------------------------------------------------|---|
| PSYCHOL 7008 Preparation for Psychological Practice | 2 |
| PSYCHOL 7019 Clinical Child Psychology | 2 |
| PSYCHOL 7020 Applied Methodology | 2 |
| PSYCHOL 7101A/B Adult Clinical Psychology | 4 |
| PSYCHOL 7108 Psychological Assessment | 2 |
- 5.3.2 **Elective courses**
Four courses from the following:
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|---------------------------------------------------------|---|
| PSYCHOL 7003 Psychological and Health Aspects of Ageing | 2 |
| PSYCHOL 7004 Rehabilitation and Disability | 2 |
| PSYCHOL 7005 Health Psychology | 2 |
| PSYCHOL 7012 Clinical Neuropsychology | 2 |
| PSYCHOL 7015 Preparation for Psychological Practice II | 2 |
- 5.3.3 **Placements**
All placements are compulsory:
- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| PSYCHOL 7111 Placement I | 4 |
| PSYCHOL 7112 Placement II | 4 |
| PSYCHOL 7113 Placement III | 4 |
- 5.3.4 **Research thesis**
PSYCHOL 7002A/B Research Project in Clinical Psychology 64
- 5.4 **Absence from the University**
Except for remote candidates, the Board, on the recommendation of the Department concerned, may permit a candidate to pursue, away from the University,

work connected with the research for the degrees. Such permission may only be granted when the candidate has completed or deemed to have completed the Structured Program.

5.5 **Completion of thesis outside the University**

A candidate who has completed all the coursework required for the combined degrees and whose research progress is sufficiently well advanced to permit the satisfactory completion of the thesis outside the University, may be granted permission by the BRED to complete the writing-up of the thesis outside the University. If such an application is approved, the candidate will be allowed either twelve months or until the end of any extension of candidature, which has been granted under Rule 11, whichever is the lesser, to submit the thesis. If the thesis has not been submitted by the end of the writing-up period, the candidature will lapse.

5.6 **Graduation**

Subject to Chapter 89 of the Statutes, candidates who have satisfied the requirements for any award of the University shall be admitted to that award at a graduation ceremony for the purpose.

6 Thesis

6.1 **Deposit of thesis in the library**

Such number of copies of a thesis and any other material on which the degree is awarded shall be deposited in the Barr Smith Library or elsewhere in the University as determined by the Board. Unless otherwise determined by the Board, the copies shall be available for loan and photocopy.

6.2 **Loan or photocopy of thesis**

A candidate who does not wish to allow the thesis to be lent or photo-copied when it is deposited in the Library under Rule 19 shall make written application to the Registrar, Graduate Studies, at the same time as he or she notifies his or her intention to submit under Rule 14. The withholding of such permission and the period of time involved shall be determined by the Board.

* Please note that these rules are currently under review.