

Master of Psychology (Clinical)/Doctor of Philosophy

Academic Program Rules

- 1 There shall be a Master of Psychology (Clinical) and Doctor of Philosophy combined degree program

Rules

- 2.1 The Vice-Chancellor, with authority devolved to her/him by Council, and after receipt of advice from the Research Education and Development Committee, shall from time to time prescribe Rules defining the academic standing required for candidature, eligibility for enrolment, the program of study and research for the combined degree program, the condition of candidature and the assessment for the degree.
- 2.2 Such Rules shall become effective from the date of prescription by the Vice-Chancellor or such other date as the Vice-Chancellor may determine.

Academic standing

- 3.1 The academic standing required for acceptance as a candidate for the combined degree of Master of Psychology (Clinical) and Doctor of Philosophy shall be a relevant Honours degree of Bachelor, with Honours in Psychology of First Class Standard of the University of Adelaide, or a relevant 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 the Research Education and Development Committee.
- 3.2 A person who holds a relevant 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.
- 3.3 Acceptance of a candidate in the combined degree program will also require selection based on the usual entry criteria for the Master of Psychology (Clinical) program which include referee reports and a structured interview to assess suitability for the profession.
- 3.4 Applicants for the combined degree of Master of Psychology (Clinical) and Doctor of Philosophy must satisfy the minimum English language proficiency requirement as set by the University.

- 3.5 Acceptance into the combined degree of Master of Psychology (Clinical) and Doctor of Philosophy is subject to obtaining police clearance in the form of a National Police Certificate (NPC) as reasonably directed by the Discipline of Psychology.

Credit for work previously completed

- 4.1 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.
- 4.2 The Committee may grant credit in the program for research undertaken in another program in the University or in another university or tertiary institution.
- 4.3 In consideration for acceptance under Rule 4.2, the Committee must be satisfied that
- the person is of such academic standing as would be required of other candidates for the degree *and*
 - the person's progress so far has been satisfactory and the research for which credit is granted is of a satisfactory standard.

Enrolment

- 5.1 A person shall not be enrolled as a candidate for the combined degree unless the applicant's proposed field of study and research is acceptable to the Discipline responsible for the supervision of the candidate's work.
- 5.2 Except with the permission of the Dean of Graduate Studies, a candidate may not enrol concurrently in another academic program.
- 5.3 Except with the permission of the Dean of Graduate Studies, a candidate who is permitted to enrol concurrently in another academic program and who is granted leave of absence must intermit all academic programs in which they are enrolled.

Duration of candidature and mode of study

- 6 A candidate may proceed to the degree by full-time study or, if the Head of the Discipline is satisfied that the candidate has adequate time to pursue supervised research under the control of the University, by half-

time study. Except in circumstances approved by the Committee, all coursework, placements and the research thesis shall normally be completed and the thesis submitted:

- (a) in the case of a full-time candidate, not more than four years from the date of commencement of candidature
- (b) in the case of a half-time candidate, not less than four years and not more than eight years from the date of commencement of candidature.

Work for the degree

7.1 A candidate shall pursue an approved program of study and research under the control of the University and under the general guidance of supervisors appointed by the University. At least one supervisor shall be a member of the academic staff of the Discipline in which the candidate is enrolled.

7.2 Unless exempted by the Faculty, all students will satisfactorily complete compulsory courses to the value of 18 units and one elective to the value of 2 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 Discipline of Psychology, and a research project.

7.3 Academic program

Unless exempted there from by the Faculty of Health Sciences, every student for the combined degree shall satisfactorily complete the following four components:

7.3.1 Compulsory courses

PSYCHOL 7101 A/B Adult Clinical Psychology	4
PSYCHOL 7102 Applied Methodology	2
PSYCHOL 7103 Child Clinical Psychology	2
PSYCHOL 7104 Clinical Neuropsychology	2
PSYCHOL 7105 Preparation for Psychological Practice II	2
PSYCHOL 7106 Health Psychology	2
PSYCHOL 7107 Preparation for Psychological Practice I	2
PSYCHOL 7108 Psychological Assessment	2

7.3.2 Elective course

One course from the following:

PSYCHOL 7109 Clinical Geropsychology	2
PSYCHOL 7110 Rehabilitation and Disability	2

7.3.3 Placements

All placements are compulsory:

PSYCHOL 7111 Placement I	4
PSYCHOL 7112 Placement II	4
PSYCHOL 7113 Placement III	4

7.3.4 Research thesis

Research Project in Clinical Psychology.

- 7.4 The candidate shall present the context and importance of the research at a School/Discipline seminar.
- 7.5 The Head of Discipline shall certify that the thesis is worthy of examination.

Assessment

- 8.1 There shall be one of two systems of classification of pass in individual courses for the combined degree: either Non Graded Pass; or Pass with High Distinction, Pass with Distinction, Pass with Credit, and Pass.
- 8.2 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.
- 8.3 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 Committee shall prescribe the form in which the thesis shall be submitted and the number of copies to be submitted.
- 8.4 The thesis and any other material submitted shall be assessed by examiners external to the University.

Required program of activities at the commencement of candidature

- 9.1 Each candidate (including those on remote candidature) will be enrolled on a provisional basis for the first twelve months of the degree.
- 9.2 Continuation of enrolment at the end of this period will depend on overall academic progress and the completion of set activities to the satisfaction of the Discipline.

These activities will form part of a Structured Program of activities extending through the candidature.
- 9.3 Such activities will be determined by the Discipline and in the first year will include the completion and presentation of the research proposal and other

programs and skills training deemed necessary by the Discipline. In the case of international students, completion of the Integrated Bridging Program is also required, except in those cases where an exemption has been granted.

- 9.4 The research proposal will be agreed and submitted to the Adelaide Graduate Centre preferably within nine, but no later than twelve months from the commencement of candidature.
- 9.5 A major review of progress after twelve months will recommend confirmation of candidature, termination, or the extension of provisional status. In the case of extension, a further review after a clearly defined period, normally three but not in excess of six months would form the basis for confirmation or termination or change to a single program enrolment.

Remote candidature

- 10.1 Enrolment as a remote candidate may be permitted for some periods of the candidature associated with the research project on the conditions that the Discipline can ensure, and the Research Education and Development Committee is satisfied, that appropriate external supervision, with appropriate affiliation, and facilities are available.
- 10.2 A remote candidate will be required to complete periods of residence in the University of Adelaide as determined by the Research Education and Development Committee in consultation with the Discipline.
- 10.3 Notwithstanding Rule 10.2, a remote candidate will normally be required to undertake their candidature in an internal attendance mode until such time as the Core Component of the Structured Program has been completed.
- 10.4 In accordance with Rule 6 a remote candidate may proceed to the degree either by full-time or half-time study.
- 10.5 On the recommendation of the Discipline, the Committee at any time may permit an enrolled student to enrol as a remote candidate subject to the conditions specified in 10.1, 10.2, 10.3 and 10.4 above.
- 10.6 A remote candidate may be permitted to convert to an internal mode of attendance and shall be subject to the conditions normally applied.
- 10.7 Notwithstanding Rules 10.1 to 10.6 above, remote candidates are also required to abide by the other Rules and guidelines for the degree of Master of Psychology (Clinical)/ Doctor of Philosophy.

Review of academic progress

- 11.1 The Committee or Faculty may review the progress of a candidate at any time during the program and, if the candidate's progress is unsatisfactory, may terminate the candidature and the student shall cease to be enrolled for the degree.
- 11.2 A formal review of the candidate's progress shall be conducted by the Discipline at least once a year in accordance with the guidelines determined by the Research Education and Development Committee and outlined in the *Research Student Handbook*.
- 11.3 A formal review and confirmation of candidature will occur twelve months after enrolment (see 9.5 above). Additional reviews will occur around October each year with written reports forwarded to the Dean of Graduate Studies. A candidate's re-enrolment in the following year is conditional upon satisfactory progress in the year of the review.
- 11.4 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 Discipline concerned.

Absence from the University

- 12 Except for remote candidates, the Committee, on the recommendation of the Discipline concerned, may permit a candidate to pursue, away from the University, work connected with the research for the degree. Such permission may only be granted under special circumstances during provisional candidature.

Leave of absence

- 13 A candidate whose work is interrupted for a period of time may be granted cumulative leave by the Committee of up to twelve months. If an application for leave is approved, the minimum and maximum periods specified in Rule 6 will be adjusted accordingly by adding the length of the approved leave.
- 14 In exceptional circumstances, the Committee may grant a candidate cumulative leave in excess of 12 months. Where a student is granted this exceptional leave, the University will endeavour to ensure, but cannot guarantee, that appropriate supervision and resources will be available to support the student on return from leave.
- 15 In some fields of study, time plays a critical role in the currency of the research. In such cases, the research

project may no longer be current following leave and the University may not be able to secure supervision in an area where currency is compromised. Additionally, the University may not be able to accommodate an amendment to the research project. Under these circumstances, continuation of candidature may not be possible and the only options will be:

- (i) withdrawal by the candidate or
- (ii) termination of candidature by the University.

16 The candidature of a student who takes leave from the University without approval will be suspended immediately, on notification of the Adelaide Graduate Centre.

17 A candidate granted leave must inform the Adelaide Graduate Centre in writing of resumption of candidature within two weeks of the approved date of return.

18 A candidate seeking to extend a period of leave must apply in writing for an extension of leave at least one week prior to the originally approved date of return

Withdrawal from candidature

19 A student may withdraw from candidature at any time. Candidature may be reinstated at a future date without academic consequences, subject to the continuing currency of the research undertaken prior to withdrawal and the currency of the research skills of the candidate. The approval of the Head of Discipline and the ongoing availability of appropriate supervision and resources are also required.

Suspension of candidature

20 A student's candidature may be suspended for failure to comply with any formal requirement of candidature, including:

- (i) Failing to abide by the responsibilities of research candidates as detailed in the *Research Student Handbook*
- (ii) Failing to undertake a required review of progress by the due date or extended due date
- (iii) Failing to respond to any University correspondence sent to the nominated mailing address or campus email address within two months of the requested date of response
- (iv) Failing to accept reasonable offers of supervision facilitated by the University
- (v) Taking leave without prior approval
- (vi) Failing to return from leave on the agreed date
- (vii) Failing to notify the Graduate Centre of return from leave within two weeks of return
- (viii) Non-payment of University fees and charges.

Termination of candidature

- 21 A student's candidature may be terminated where:
- (i) progress is unsatisfactory following a review of progress, whether programmed or otherwise *and*
 - (ii) where candidature has been suspended for more than twelve months.
- 22 A terminated candidature may only be reinstated following a successful appeal.

Extension of candidature

23 A candidate may be granted, by the Committee, only one extension of candidature of twelve months beyond the maximum period specified in Rule 6. If the thesis has not been submitted by the end of the extended period, the candidature will lapse.

Completion of thesis outside the University

24 A candidate who has completed the equivalent of two years of full-time work under the control of the University and who has completed the required experimental work, coursework, and placements 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 Committee to complete the writing-up of the thesis outside the University. If such permission is granted the candidate will be allowed either twelve months or until the end of candidature, 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.

Lapsed candidature

- 25.1 A candidature that has lapsed will be resumed if the completed thesis, which has not departed from the field of study that was being pursued before the candidature lapsed, is subsequently submitted to the Manager, Graduate Administration and Scholarships. The thesis will only be accepted if the Discipline certifies that it is satisfactory to that Discipline.
- 25.2 Approval of the Committee is required for resumption of a lapsed candidature under any other conditions.
- 25.3 In special circumstances, the Committee may approve the resumption of a lapsed candidature for one period of up to six months (whether full- or half time) prior to the submission of the completed thesis.

Intention to submit thesis

- 26 A candidate shall notify the Manager, Graduate Administration and Scholarships, in writing, approximately three months before he or she expects to submit the thesis required under Rule 27. A summary of the thesis, together with the proposed thesis title, shall be submitted at the same time.

Submission of thesis

- 27.1 On completion of the approved program of study and research, including all coursework and placement requirements, 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.
- 27.2 The thesis shall:
- (a) display original and critical thought
 - (b) be a significant contribution to knowledge
 - (c) relate the topic of research to the broader framework of clinical psychology *and*
 - (d) be clearly, accurately and cogently written and be suitable illustrated and documented.
- 27.3 The Committee shall prescribe the form in which the thesis shall be submitted and the number of copies to be submitted.

Appointment of thesis examiners

- 28.1 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 Manager, Graduate Administration and Scholarships, at the same time as the notification of intention to submit required under Rule 26.
- 28.2 The Committee shall appoint two thesis examiners who are external to the University, taking account of any objections raised under Rule 28.1 and the recommendations of the Head of the Discipline.
- 28.3 The examiners shall be requested to report in such form as the Committee will determine and to recommend one of the alternatives listed in Rule 29.
- 28.4 After consideration of the reports of the examiners, the Committee may appoint a third external examiner and/or an external arbitrator.

Examination results

- 29.1 After consideration of the reports of the examiners, the Committee shall determine that:

- (a) the thesis meets criteria for the Doctor of Philosophy and the candidate therefore be awarded the Master of Psychology (Clinical)/ Doctor of Philosophy *or*
- (b) the thesis meets criteria for the Doctor of Philosophy and the candidate therefore be awarded the Master of Psychology (Clinical)/Doctor of Philosophy but that minor amendments be made to the thesis *or*
- (c) the thesis meets criteria for the Doctor of Philosophy and the candidate therefore be awarded the Master of Psychology (Clinical)/Doctor of Philosophy subject to specified amendments being made to the thesis *or*
- (d) the thesis does not meet criteria for the Doctor of Philosophy and therefore the candidate be not awarded the Master of Psychology (Clinical)/Doctor of Philosophy but be permitted to re-submit the thesis for examination in a revised form *or*
- (e) the thesis meets criteria for the Master of Medical Science *or*
- (f) the thesis meets the criteria for the Master of Medical Science upon making suitable amendments to the thesis *or*
- (g) the thesis does not meet the criteria for the Master of Medical Science

- 29.2 In the event of an examination outcome of (e), (f) or (g), providing that all coursework and placement requirements have been completed satisfactorily, the candidate may be permitted on the recommendation of the Head of the Discipline to re-enrol in the Master of Psychology (Clinical) and to present additional aspects of research to satisfy requirements for award of the Master of Psychology (Clinical) degree.
- 30 In the case of a thesis presented for re-examination as provided for in Rule 29.1(d), the thesis will, as far as possible, be assessed by the original examiners.
- 31 A thesis presented for re-examination will not be submitted for further re-examination.

Thesis amendments following examination

- 32 The time limits for revision of the thesis are:
- (i) three months where the examination result is to award the degree following minor amendments to the thesis (see Rule 29.1(b)), or where the examination result is to award the degree subject to the specified amendments being made to the thesis (see Rule 29.1(c)) *and*

(ii) twelve months where the examination result is not to award the degree but to permit resubmission of the thesis in a revised form (see Rule 29.1(d)).

- 33 Candidates who require additional time to complete revisions must apply to the Dean of Graduate Studies for permission, stating the reasons for the request. The request should be approved by the principal supervisor and the Head of Discipline or the Postgraduate Coordinator.

Deposit of thesis in the library

- 34 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 as determined by the Committee. Unless otherwise determined by the Committee the copies shall be available for loan and photocopy.

Loan or photocopy of thesis

- 35 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 34 shall make written application to the Manager, Graduate Administration and Scholarships, at the same time as he or she notifies his or her intention to submit under Rule 26. The withholding of such permission and the period of time involved shall be determined by the Committee.

Posthumous award

- 36 If a person dies after completing, or in the opinion of the Committee, substantially completing the requirements of the award, the University may confer the award posthumously.

Revoking the award

- 37 If the Committee is satisfied that, when the Master of Clinical Psychology/Doctor of Philosophy was conferred on a person, the person
- (a) did not possess the relevant qualifications; or
 - (b) had not completed the necessary requirements,
- the Vice-Chancellor with authority devolved to her/him by Council may revoke the award.

Upon revocation, the person is taken never to have received the award.

Return of documents

- 38 If requested by the Dean of Graduate Studies, the recipient of a Master of Clinical Psychology/Doctor of Philosophy must deliver to the University the documents certifying or evidencing the award

General

- 39 When, in the opinion of the Research Education and Development Committee, special circumstances exist, the Committee on the recommendation of the Discipline may vary any of the provisions in Rules 1-38 above.