

General Information

Student Name: _____ ID#: _____

Concentration: _____

Comprehensive Examination Committee

Chair: _____ Member: _____

Member: _____ Member: _____

The committee must consist of three psychology faculty members who grade the exam. For Experimental students it is recommended that the committee include two faculty members from within the concentration and one from the area selected to be used to satisfy the additional doctoral requirement. Students must notify the Program Coordinator if there are any changes to the committee prior to defending the comps.

Does the committee meet the requirements set forth by the Department? Yes No

Experimental Students:

Type of examination: Option A*, Written Exam _____ Option B, Scholarly Review Paper _____

Attach a copy of the approved reading list, preliminary exam questions, or outline for your review paper.

Comprehensive Examination due date: _____

*Note: Option A is not available for Evolutionary/Developmental Students

Clinical Students

Type of examination: Option A, Position Statements _____ Option B, Scholarly Review Paper _____

Attach a copy of the approved reading list, preliminary exam questions, or outline for your review paper.

Comprehensive Examination due date (in 5 months): _____

Comprehensive Examination defense date (at least three weeks after due date): _____

Comprehensive Examination proposal approved? Yes No (if no, please comment below)

Comments/Changes

Signature of Committee Chair

Date

Signature of Department Chair

Date

The Comprehensive Examination

As required by the University, all doctoral students must pass a comprehensive examination. There are several steps you must complete before you are eligible to take the comprehensive exam. Although requirements differ somewhat across areas within the department, students typically may choose between an option of responding to questions posed by a committee, or an option of writing a review paper in their area.

Qualifications to Take the Comprehensive Examination

Upon completion of the thesis, and 12 credit hours of coursework in residence for those students transferring coursework in, a student can request to initiate the comprehensive examination process. In order to qualify to take the comprehensive exam, students must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 at the time of the exam. The department requires students to form a comprehensive exam committee and initiate a comprehensive exam meeting prior to taking the exam.

Comprehensive Exam Committee

In consultation with your Faculty Mentor, you will select a comprehensive exam committee. The committee must consist of three psychology faculty members who grade the exam. For non-clinical students it is recommended that the committee include two faculty members from within your concentration and one from the area you have selected to use to satisfy the additional doctoral requirement. Once selected, the student will schedule the Comprehensive Exam Proposal Meeting.

Comprehensive Examination Proposal

An initial meeting with the Comprehensive Examination Committee is convened by the student and starts the timeline for completion of the examination. The purpose of the meeting, and the procedures followed subsequently vary somewhat based on which of the two options of the exam has been selected by the student in consultation with their advisor.