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CPSY Policies and Procedures Handbook

Counseling Psychology PhD Program
and M.S. Program

Department of Educational Psychology

KU THE UNIVERSITY OF
KANSAS

This document contains current program policies and procedures for the M.S. and PhD programs in Counseling Psychology at the University of Kansas. This handbook is updated frequently. Students are bound by the handbook as it appears on this website and should be wary of relying on any previously downloaded version.

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POLICIES APPLYING TO ALL STUDENTS

PROGRAM DISCLAIMER

The policies and procedures contained in this handbook have been approved by the counseling psychology faculty at the University of Kansas. Most of the policies and procedures apply to both doctoral and master's programs. It is clearly noted when certain policies and procedures apply to only the doctoral program or only the master's program. All program faculty and students are expected to abide by them. Any request for an exception needs to be discussed and approved by the faculty, and should be documented in writing to be effective through faculty meeting minutes and/or placed in a student's file.

The counseling psychology faculty adheres to the university policies on privacy and does not disclose student information to any third party without the student's consent under normal circumstances. Students should be advised, however, this confidentiality agreement will be breached when the student is deemed to be a danger to self or others and disclosure of the student information will protect either the student or others. Moreover, students should be aware that there will be information exchanges between our program and related institutions, such as practicum and internship sites, for training related purposes.

At times, students find themselves wanting to share things about their personal or academic lives with one or more faculty members. It is important that faculty not find themselves in a position of keeping secrets about students from other faculty. To be as clear as possible, students need to be aware that anything shared with a member of the CPSY faculty may flow through that faculty member to the full CPSY faculty. This especially applies to issues around competence, impairment, and risk and safety to the student, the student's clients, anyone who might be affected through the student's assistantship, the faculty and staff, and the student's peers. If you are not comfortable with this policy, then please do not share the information with us.

The counseling psychology programs hold the highest ethical and professional standards in developing these policies and procedures. It should be noted that consistent with our program value statements and academic assessment policies, students in the program are expected to engage in self exploration and self-reflection, and sometimes counseling can be required of them as part of a remediation plan.

The counseling psychology faculty engages in on-going self-study to ensure quality of training. These policies and procedures are periodically reviewed and revised. When updates and changes are made, such changes will be reflected in the CPSY program meeting minutes, which are distributed to students via e-mail. You are encouraged to make a copy of any changes and update any hard copy of the handbook. All updates and changes will be publicized on our program website and integrated into this document on an ongoing basis. Students are always bound by the current copy of this handbook as it resides on the EPSY website.

Students agree to accept responsibility for both being informed about and for following the policies and

procedures outlined herein, and acknowledge that they will be required to qualify for the degree under established policies. A student's behavior in the program is governed by the policies and procedures operative in this document. If programmatic changes are made (subsequent to the student's first enrollment) that place a significant burden on an individual student, that student may petition to the CPSY faculty for consideration of their case.

During the first semester of enrollment, students are required to review this document and sign an Ethics and Policy Verification Form attesting that they have read it and will abide by these policies and procedures.

PROGRAM GOVERNANCE

The Counseling Psychology programs are governed by the faculty and two student representatives (one from the master's program and one from the doctoral program) via Counseling Psychology Program Committee meetings.

Program Committee Meetings and Meeting Agendas

The program faculty meets regularly during the spring and fall semesters. There are no regular meetings in the summer. The frequency and time of meetings are decided by the faculty on a semester basis and are publicized at the beginning of each semester. Special meetings may be called by the faculty to address needs that regular meetings are not able to accommodate.

The Director of Training for the doctoral program and the Coordinator for the master's program are responsible for assembling and proposing the agenda based on student and faculty input for each meeting. All faculty members and student representatives can submit agenda item requests, and items may be proposed during meetings and added to the agenda by a simple majority vote.

Program Committee Meeting Minutes

Minutes of faculty meetings are prepared by a designated person, and circulated to the faculty and student representatives. Under normal circumstances, one week from the date posted for circulation to the faculty and student representatives the minutes will be considered approved (often with minor changes). If online discussion about minor changes does not resolve concerns about the minutes, then any of the faculty or student representatives can request that the minutes not be considered approved until face-to-face discussion at the next CPSY meeting. After approval, the minutes (redacted of information about issues regarding specific students) are shared with all students via email.

Student Representation at Program Committee Meetings

To increase faculty-student communication in program operations, one student from the doctoral program and one from the master's program, recommended by the Counseling Psychology Student Organization (CPSO), attend the first part of all faculty meetings. Each of the two student representatives has one vote for all non-student related matters at the faculty meeting. To protect privacy and individual

student and faculty rights, any faculty member can call for a meeting or a portion of a meeting to be closed to student representatives. When any other standing or ad hoc committees requires student representation, the committee will draft a brief description of the duties, time commitment and such, and CPSO will recruit and give three names to the committee which will choose from those three nominees.

Voting Policy

The faculty and the student representatives (one vote each) have the privilege to vote on all policy and procedure decisions. Only faculty may vote on decisions about student issues. A majority vote is required to pass any motion, defined as a simple majority at the time when voting takes place.

Voting via Email

There are times when an issue can be addressed via email and voted on by having those included on the email Reply-to-All their vote. Unless otherwise noted, majority rule will be used, and addressees will have 7 calendar days to reply. Non response will be considered a vote of agreement with the proposal. At other times it may be wise to wait for a CPSY meeting so we can discuss sensitive issues face to face. To address this eventuality, any addressee can invoke an electronic filibuster within that same 7 calendar day period, by asking that we not make a decision on an issue via email until we meet face to face for discussion.

KU's Graduate Divisions

Each professional school on the Lawrence campus has a graduate division: Architecture, Business, Education, Engineering, Fine Arts, Journalism, Pharmacy, and Social Welfare. The Office of Graduate Studies serves as the graduate division for the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences. On the Lawrence campus, each graduate division has an Associate Dean or Director of Graduate Studies who serves as the contact person for that graduate division.

Counseling Psychology Student Organization (CPSO)

The Counseling Psychology Student Organization (CPSO) is a campus recognized student organization which is quite active carrying out its primary mission to provide support to students and to serve as a communication channel between CPSY students and faculty. CPSO members and officers work diligently each year to carry out the CPSO mission through biweekly meetings, peer- mentoring program for incoming CPSY students, social activities, and local volunteer opportunities. CPSY students are required to maintain membership in CPSO and at least one other professional organization.

STUDENT BACKGROUND CHECK POLICY

Purpose and Applicability

Increasingly, schools, counseling centers, clinics, hospitals, and other health care agencies are requiring that students submit to criminal background checks prior to their acceptance into practicum, internship, and other field experience placements. In response to the placement policies of these settings on which the Counseling Psychology programs depend for training support, and having a commitment to assure sites and their clients as much as possible that the students we place with them are of good character as well as clinically competent, the faculty of the Counseling Psychology programs have adopted a criminal background check policy applicable to its students.

Policy

To matriculate and enroll as a student in good standing in the KU School of Education & Human Sciences' Counseling Psychology programs and to be placed in clinical practice sites (e.g., practicum, internship, field experience), students in the program must complete and satisfactorily clear a criminal background check with Validity Screening Solutions. Refusal to undergo the background check will result in denial of enrollment or, in the case of students already in the program, denial of clinical site placement.

By May 1st, you need to complete a background check (as instructed below) if you have accepted an offer of admission. You will be contacted only if there is an issue which requires follow-up.

During your tenure in the program, you may be required to re-complete the background check if deemed appropriate by the program faculty. The program will then review the background check to determine if the background check passes program standards. If no disqualifying offenses are identified, the student will be fully admitted into the program. The student will be contacted if there is an issue that needs to be addressed.

If a student receives a GTA appointment, they will be asked to complete another background check, but the student will not be required to pay for the one required by the GTA appointment.

For students already matriculated in the program and who have not had a background check, one must be completed before they may begin their clinical field placement(s). If no disqualifying offenses are identified, the student will be permitted to enroll (or remain enrolled) in practicum/field experience. The student will be contacted if there is an issue that needs to be addressed.

As a part of the background check, students are required to disclose any prior criminal record. Failure to do so could be considered falsification of the application and could result in dismissal from the program.

Any student convicted of misdemeanor or felony charges, subsequent to the criminal background check, must disclose that information within 10 calendar days to the program director. Failure to disclose, or falsification of conviction information, could result in dismissal from the program.

Scope

The background check will be conducted by Validity Screening Solutions and may include but is not limited to the following:

- Social Security Number trace (serves as an address verification tool)
- Criminal search for felonies/misdemeanors and federal records in all jurisdictions reported on the Social Security Number trace for the past seven years
- Multi-State Sex Offender Registry (search of all 50 state registries and the District of Columbia)

Standards

The following offenses, if located on the background check, may preclude enrollment in the program. These offenses may include but are not limited to:

- Felony offenses
- Sexual assault, rape, indecent exposure, lewd and lascivious behavior, unlawful voluntary sexual relations, promoting sexual performance by a minor, aggravated sexual battery, sexual exploitation of a child, habitually promoting prostitution, enticement of a child, criminal sodomy, indecent liberties with a child, incest, child molestation
- Any charge relating to illegal drugs
- Assault or battery
- Murder or manslaughter
- Contributing to a child's misconduct or deprivation, furnishing alcoholic beverages to a minor for illicit purpose
- Robbery
- Theft
- Forgery
- Insurance fraud
- Kidnapping
- Poisoning or attempted poisoning
- Assisting suicide
- Arson
- Failure to report acts of abuse or neglect
- Mistreatment of a dependent adult
- Child abuse or neglect, abandonment of a child
- Registered sex offender

Any conviction of attempt or conspiracy to commit any of the above crimes could also be considered a disqualifying criminal offense.

Procedures

The student must undergo the background check provided by Validity Screening Solutions. No other background check will be accepted due to the variance in quality and type of background checks conducted.

The student will be provided with login information to a Validity Screening Solutions secure website where the student will be provided with a copy of their Summary of Rights. After providing authorization for the background check, the student will provide the information needed to conduct the background check and provide payment if so instructed. The completed background check report will be released to the director of the program, to clinical placement sites if requested and authorized by the student, and also to the student if the student requests a copy upon initiation of the background check. The background check results will not go into the student's file, but will be kept by the program director in their office.

The program will review the background check to determine if it passes program standards. If no disqualifying offenses are identified, the student will be permitted to matriculate in the program.

If the background check has any type of flag, a designated faculty committee will review it to determine if the flag contains disqualifying convictions. If the background check is found to contain any convictions not passing the program's standards, the committee will then take the following into consideration:

- Nature, circumstances and frequency of any offense(s)
- Length of time since offense(s)
- Documented rehabilitation
- Accuracy of the information provided by the applicant in application materials

After these factors have been considered, if the committee considers the student a risk to clients/patients or public safety, the student will then be notified in writing that their admission to the program has been canceled or that they are being dismissed from the program. The student will be provided with the name and contact information for Validity Screening Solutions and will contact this organization directly with any disputes to the information provided. Validity Screening Solutions will then respond to the student's inquiry within 20 days and provide the Counseling Psychology program with an updated report if applicable.

Within 10 days of receipt of the letter informing the student of their dismissal from the program, the student has the right to meet with the Department Chair (or designee) and provide a rebuttal in writing as to why they should be allowed into (or to remain in) the program.

The Department Chair will then forward the appeal and provide the background check and appeal letter to a designated committee for review. This committee will make the final decision and will notify the student in writing of their decision.

Students passing the background check standards for the program will be advised that any crimes must

be reported to any licensing or registry boards and future employers. These licensing or registry boards and any future employers will have their own standards and they may not allow certain convictions. Students will be further informed that neither the University of Kansas nor its Counseling Psychology programs are liable for denial for any professional license or certification by any licensing or registry board. It is the student's responsibility to determine whether or not any information in their background check will prevent them from certification or licensing upon completion of the program. The criminal check and standards apply solely to the University of Kansas Counseling Psychology programs and thus, even if the student passes program standards, they may not be eligible for licensing, certification, or jobs with certain employers based on their criminal history.

Confidentiality

The Counseling Psychology programs will not share any of the information contained in the background check with any other entity besides the clinical field placement setting, and only then if it is a requirement for placement and the student consents to the disclosure. The results of the background check will only be reviewed by limited school officials and clinical facility personnel. All completed background checks are maintained on Validity Screening Solution's secure management system. The student has a right at any time to request a copy of her/his background check directly from Validity Screening Solutions.

EPSY Policies

CPSY Email Policy

EMAIL IS THE OFFICIAL MEANS OF COMMUNICATION FOR KU AND THE EPSY DEPARTMENT

The University routinely uses email for both formal and informal communication, including emergency messages, with faculty, staff and students. Faculty, staff, and students are required to register an email account or utilize a University-provided account during their enrollment or employment at the University. These addresses are used for University business and official University communications. All faculty and students, and all staff who have access to email, are expected to check their email regularly for University communications. Official University communications include, but are not limited to, enrollment information, grade reports, financial statements and other financial information, library overdue notices, and policy announcements.

KU encourages students to maintain separate email accounts and addresses with an Internet Service Provider for personal communication, but students may use the KU account for incidental personal communication as long as it does not interfere with KU operations or generate incremental identifiable costs. At their discretion, students may also routinely forward email from the KU account to a personal account.

While the University policy above states that students should check their email "regularly", the CPSY program policy is that students are responsible for email that has been sent to them within two business days (48 hours) of the date sent.

Professional Conduct as it Relates to Social Media and Electronics

The Counseling Psychology faculty would like to reiterate the importance of professional conduct as it relates to social media and electronics in the classroom and within a student-in-training's professional life in general. Course instructors may allow you to bring your laptop, tablet, phone, etc. to class for note taking or referring to online readings. However, web surfing, texting, Facebooking, messaging, etc. during class is not appropriate professional behavior. In addition, there will be zero tolerance for any form of disrespect such as cyberbullying, unprofessional comments, or taking photos without a classmate's consent. Informal social conversations via text in class are not appropriate and are disrespectful to your classmates and your instructor or GTA. If you have a personal emergency or personal concern which requires you to have your phone out during class, please let the course instructor know in a general way what is going on, and if you need to step out of class to take a call or return a text. We strive to create an inclusive, supportive, and safe professional learning environment for all students within our program and our courses.

Prioritizing Academic Commitments

CPSY students are expected to prioritize their academic commitments and attend all scheduled class sessions. As part of this policy, students are not permitted to schedule client appointments, professional meetings, or any other non-academic commitments during class time. Exceptions to this policy will only be considered under extraordinary circumstances (e.g., illness) and must be approved in advance by the course instructor. Failure to adhere to this policy may result in a reduction of the student's grade and/or a negative impact on the student's annual progress review. Students are encouraged to manage their schedules to ensure full participation in all courses.

FACULTY ADVISING

Advisor Assignment

Upon admission into the Counseling Psychology programs, students are assigned a faculty member as an advisor. This faculty member will advise the student on his or her curricular plans during the student's graduate career. Initial advisor assignments are made by the program faculty based, as much as possible, on the student's research or applied interests—with due consideration given to each faculty member's current number of active advisees.

Changing Advisors

Changes to the student's advisor assignment may be made by consulting the program director. Requests for new advisors may involve, but are not limited to, the student's pursuit of new interests that would be more adequately supervised by a different member of the faculty. Such changes often occur at the time that a student forms a thesis or dissertation committee. If the student's choice of a thesis or dissertation chairperson is different from his or her present advisor, there is, in effect, a change in advisor. When a new advisor has been chosen and all parties have agreed to the change, the student should notify (in writing) the program director, the former advisor, and the new advisor. The letter

should indicate the changes that have been made, and the updated information will be entered into the program database. Keep in mind that many faculty are not under contract with KU during the summer and may not be available for advising and supervising research activities.

ENROLLMENT

The normal full-time enrollment for a graduate student is nine credit hours per semester or six hours per summer session. Many CPSY students enroll for more hours, depending on other responsibilities and the particular courses involved. Students are not normally permitted to enroll for more than sixteen hours in the fall or spring semester, or more than eight hours in the summer session. If a student is a KU employee, the hours of enrollment should be limited accordingly— usually to no more than ten hours for a half-time or six hours for a full-time staff member.

Each semester, it is the student's responsibility to confer with his or her advisor to plan the next semester's schedule. All active students are notified by the University as the enrollment period approaches. The University enrollment process is completed entirely online. For some classes, the student must obtain a special permission number to enroll for the class. These may be obtained through your advisor and with the assistance of departmental office staff. Subsequent changes in enrollment are handled online through add/drop procedures, or with the use of paper forms after the first few weeks of the semester.

It is the responsibility of students to keep their advisor apprised of their activities and to ensure that the advisor is aware of their enrollments and progress. A copy of all significant records pertaining to each student's progress is kept in the student's academic file, which is located in the departmental office in 621 JRP.

The enrollment of those with foreign student (F-1) visas must conform to the minimum established by the regulations of the Immigration and Naturalization Service. International students must conform to the residence requirements of the Office of Graduate Studies.

Full-Time Student Classification and Residence Requirement

The following student loads for course work and/or appointments at KU for teaching or research represent full-time graduate student status for degree-seeking students for purposes of qualifying for fellowship tenure, student loan deferment, and similar certification, and for meeting residence requirements for doctoral degrees.

- 9 credit hours

- 6 credit hours plus a half-time GTA or GRA at KU

These figures are the minimum number of credit hours a student may carry and still be certified as full time. A student may enroll for more hours with the approval of the department or program advisor, within general guidelines.

Degree-seeking graduate students who are employed more than half time must be enrolled for at least 6 hours per semester to be certified as full-time students.

For a student who is a full-time employee at KU to fulfill the residence requirement, the KU employment must contribute substantially to the student's graduate program.

Enrollment Status

- Enrolled
- On Leave (officially recognized after petitioning the faculty)
- Discontinued (were once enrolled, but have not been for one or more semesters.
 - This status requires you to be reactivated which requires a fee)
 - Dismissed (officially acted upon by the faculty)

Add/Drop and Course Withdrawal

Students need to attend to the deadlines for adding or dropping a course, as the deadlines come prior to the last day of the semester. Please visit the website of the University Registrar for important dates, procedures, and forms for enrollment and adding and dropping courses: <http://www.registrar.ku.edu>.

Policy and Procedure for Course Credit Transfer

Up to nine (9) **graduate** credits that have not been used for obtaining another degree can be transferred into the Master's program, with approval of the student's advisor, who should initiate with the departmental office the appropriate course transfer **Progress-to-Degree** form. Students are responsible for presenting their advisor with proof of the course work (e.g., an official transcript showing the courses, catalog description of the course, course syllabus, etc.) and the Progress-to-Degree form. The courses to be transferred have to be substantially equivalent to those at KU to be replaced in your program of study. If the course names are not the same, you may need to present additional information to make a case for demonstrating "equivalence." This should be accomplished in your first semester in the program. No assumptions about transferred credits should be made until formal approval has been received.

Please note: According to the university policy, to complete their degree, students in the master's program must have a minimum of 30 current graduate hours if they are completing a thesis or research project or 36 current graduate hours if electing the non-thesis/project degree option. These minima include transferred hours.

The following exceptions and regulations are to be followed:

1. Credits cannot be transferred into the doctoral program. For **waiving** required coursework based on previous course work, refer to the [Policy and Procedure for Course Waivers](#) ;
2. No lab or practicum coursework will be waived;
3. Courses used to support waivers must have been taken for graduate credit, but may not have

- been used for a prior degree.
4. The course must have been taken from an accredited school in regularly scheduled graduate courses.
 5. A grade of B or better must have been earned in any course to be transferred.

Policy and Procedure for Course Waivers

Students may petition for a waiver of one or more required course(s) based on previous educational experience (typically in the form of completed graduate-level course work). Such petitions need to be submitted by following the procedures listed below and using the [Petition for Course Waiver Form](#) provided in this Handbook.

A petition for waiving a specific course needs to be first reviewed and deemed to be “equivalent” to the KU required course by an instructor for the course at KU. The petition will then need to be reviewed and supported by the counseling psychology faculty before being forwarded to the Graduate Office of the School of Education & Human Sciences for final approval. In submitting petitions for course waivers to the program, responsibility for demonstrating course equivalence belongs to the student. Documentation such as previous course syllabi, readings, texts used, etc. should be provided as supporting materials for a petition. It is our program policy not to waive practicum requirements regardless of previous practica that may have been completed, prior professional work experience, etc. Additionally, electives cannot be waived. All course waiver approvals must be processed within the student’s first year in the program. No assumptions about waivers should be made until formal approval has been received.

In terms of time to completion of the doctoral program, having course waivers may or may not reduce the time for completion depending on how many courses are waived and on the student’s own decisions and circumstances. Due to the structure of the practicum training experiences in the program (a minimum of two full years of practicum are required and additional clinical field experience is encouraged before the full time year-long internship at the end of training), it is not realistic to expect program completion (including internship) in fewer than 4 years.

Waiver of EPSY 740: No online courses can be used to waive EPSY 740.

Waiver of EPSY 875: Only courses offered by accredited universities/colleges and taken in the past three years that contains a strong element of experiential learning and self-reflection can be considered for the purpose of waiver. No online courses can be used to waive EPSY 875.

Waiver of EPSY 880: The EPSY 880 course contains three components – APA Ethics, ACA Ethics, and KS or another state licensure rules and regulations. If a student’s past course work in Ethics does not conclude APA ethics as a major component, EPSY 880 cannot be waived. Those who have taken a course that did contain APA ethics are still responsible knowing about the processes and procedures related to psychologist licensure in Kansas or another state of their choosing. If their course did not include such information, they are invited to sit in EPSY 880 for the one or two class periods when that information is covered. When waiving EPSY 880, students are required to take an alternative ethics course (e.g., PSYC

810: History and Ethics in Psychology) or taking a three-credit college teaching course to serve as a teaching assistant for the course. Both options need to be approved by the faculty.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Financial support for students derives from several sources—only some of which are within the control of the program. The Department has a limited number of teaching assistantships for its students, and these positions are competitively applied for by students across the various programs within the department. The number of these positions does not match the need or interest of our students—in part due to the fact that the department offers only graduate programs within which student teaching appointments generally are not permissible (since they themselves will be taking many of the courses and might end up serving as instructors for their peers). The Department does provide courses in learning, development, classroom management, and assessment within the School's *undergraduate* teacher education program, and students do secure assistantships for these courses.

Within the Department, students may be awarded research assistantships to work with faculty on internally- and externally-funded projects. Most of these positions provide a stipend and a full or partial tuition waiver, though a few provide only an hourly stipend. Program and departmental faculty are encouraged to apply for training and research grants in order to further their own careers and to assist in the financial support and research training of students. In the past few years, we have had several students on program and departmental faculty grants, and several additional students on grants through the School's Institute for Educational Research and Public Service, the Achievement and Assessment Institute, and the University's Center on Developmental Disabilities. Students are eligible for teaching and research assistantships in programs outside of the department, and recent or current students have secured assistantships in the Departments of Psychology, Special Education, Applied Behavioral Science, and within the School of Business. Students also secure positions with various campus offices (e.g., University Career Center).

The Graduate School offers a small number of fellowships for which our students are eligible, principally dissertation fellowships. The SOE annually awards a variety of graduate scholarships, one of which (the Richard M. Rundquist Scholarship) is specifically designated for students in our doctoral program. These annual scholarships generally are in the range of \$500-\$1000. Students are eligible for (and have received) such awards more than once during their tenure at KU.

FORMS AND PETITIONS

This section contains information *about* policies and forms. The policies and forms themselves can be found at these sites:

<http://epsy.soe.ku.edu/documents-and-resources>

<http://soe.ku.edu/documents>

<http://soe.ku.edu/resources/policies-forms/overview>

Course Waivers

See the section above on Policy and Procedure for Course Waivers. The CPSY Course Waiver Forms can be downloaded [here](#).

Progress to Degree Forms

At certain points in your training, forms must be filed with the Office of Graduate Studies. These forms are completed by your advisor and the EPSY office support staff, and forwarded to the Graduate Office in 210 JRP. For further information, go to [Generating a Degree Progress Report | Student Information Systems \(ku.edu\)](#)

Following are points in one's program that require a Progress to Degree Form to be filed:

Master's Degree Credit Transfer. Transfer of courses toward KU Master's degree.

Completion of Master's Exam. Comprehensive Examination OR Thesis/Project Defense. Filed three weeks prior to the date of written comps or the thesis or project defense, to allow the Graduate Office time to verify readiness to sit for the exam. Clearance for the exam must be given prior to the student sitting for the exam and will not be considered if late or after the fact.

[NOTE: It is the student's responsibility to arrange the time and place for any oral examination].

Completion of Comprehensive Oral Exam for Doctorate. Filed three weeks prior to the date of written comps, to allow the Graduate Office time to verify readiness to take the exam, and to ensure the eligibility of all faculty members on the committee. Clearance for the comprehensive exam must be given prior to the student sitting for the exam and will not be considered if late or after the fact.

Completion of Final Oral Exam for Doctorate. Filed at least three weeks prior to the dissertation defense to allow the Graduate Office time to verify readiness to defend, to ensure eligibility of all committee members, and to notify local news outlets.

Permit to Re-enroll-Domestic Student. Permit to re-enroll is used when a student wants to re-enroll in a graduate program after not enrolling the previous semester(s).

Permit to Re-enroll-International Student. Permit to re-enroll is used when an international student wants to re-enroll in a graduate program after not enrolling the previous semester(s).

Time Limit Extension Request. This form allows a student to petition for an extension of the time limit for a master's or doctoral degree.

Leave of Absence Request. Students may request and departments may grant a leave of absence from a graduate program. Time used during a leave of absence does not count towards the time to degree limit. Use this form to mark the beginning of a leave, and then again to end the leave.

Miscellaneous Functions. This form can be used to track miscellaneous internal items. A few specific instances where the Miscellaneous Functions form must be used include:
Waiver of doctoral coursework based on prior graduate coursework.

Successful petition. If you file a petition and it is approved, the Miscellaneous Functions form is filed along with a copy of the petition.

Residency Agreement -- Residency (in the university's eyes) consists of two consecutive terms of 9 hours or more (excluding Independent Study type courses), and cannot be filed until 30 hours of graduate work (or the master's degree) are completed. **NOTE: KU Residency is not the same thing as the CPSY Program's requirement (based on APA requirements) that students put in 3 years of fulltime study toward the degree, though the definition of 'fulltime' is the same (see the section on [Fulltime Student Classification and Residence Requirement](#)).**

Paperwork for the Dissertation Proposal

Once a dissertation proposal has been accepted by the three-person committee, the advisor should submit the title page of the proposal that includes signatures of the three committee members, along with an electronic copy of the proposal, to the School of Education & Human Sciences Associate Dean for Graduate Studies support staff.

Keeping Track of Important Information

You should make sure that you keep personal copies of all correspondence and documents (e.g., petitions, waivers, practicum logs/summaries, course syllabi) issued during your training at KU. Although the Graduate Office and the department keep student files updated, it is often easier to refer to your own files for certain information. You may look at your department file, but you may not check it out. Your advisor can assist you in reviewing your file in the department. Letters of recommendation that have been submitted to the Department for the purpose of admission are destroyed soon after the student's admission to the program, and are not kept in the files. Your Graduate Studies file is retained by the School of Education & Human Sciences in the Graduate Office, 210 JRP. You may visit the Graduate Office to review that file.

Student Record Policy

The program documents and maintains records of each student's education and training experiences and annual evaluation results. Our current student records are stored digitally. Current students can access and review their current files in the front office when our administrator is present.

Materials Kept in Your EPSY File

Students are allowed to have access to the materials in their file, but the department is not required to (and does not) allow students to make copies of materials in their file or to alter materials in their file.

- **Application/Admissions Materials**
 - Graduate School Application
 - EPSY Department Application
 - GRE Scores
 - Transcripts
 - Department Acceptance Letter
 - Graduate School Acceptance Letter
 - *Does NOT include letters of recommendation, which are shredded after your first enrollment (per advice of KU's Legal Counsel).*
- **Practicum Materials**
 - Practicum Evaluation Forms
 - Practicum Hour Forms (signed by you, the site supervisor, and the practicum instructor)
- **Internship Materials (PhD only)**
 - Doctoral Internship Readiness Form
 - AAPI
 - Internship Placement (acceptance letter)
 - Internship mid-year and final evaluations
- **Progress To Degree Forms**
 - Change in Degree/Change in Plan
 - Completion of Master's Exam or Thesis
 - Completion of Comprehensive Oral Exam for Doctorate
 - Completion of Final Oral Exam for Doctorate (Dissertation Defense)
- **Annual Review Materials**
 - Student Annual Evaluation Portfolio for each year in the program
 - Annual Evaluation Letter for each year in the program
- **Miscellaneous Materials**
 - Program of Study (with all signatures)
 - Signed "Ethics & Policy Verification Form"
- **Remediation Plans and Implementation documentation, if applicable.**

UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS GRADING SYSTEM

The majority of courses in the programs are graded A, B, C, D, F. Courses taken in the School of Education & Human Sciences (including EPSY courses) can be graded using the plus/minus system (e.g., B+, A-).

Certain courses are graded as Satisfactory/Failed/Incomplete (SFI) or Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory/Incomplete (SUI). These include EPSY 842, 897, 948, 949, 995, and 997. Internship hours are assigned a "P" as long as Progress was made during the semester in which the student was enrolled.

Grades of "Incomplete"

The Office of Graduate Studies policy states that "the letter I [Incomplete] is used to indicate coursework that has been of passing quality, some part of which is, for good reason, unfinished." As a general rule,

if you anticipate that you cannot complete the work for the class and do not have a legitimate reason (e.g., a documented medical condition, or some other personal/family condition that prevents completion of the course requirements on time), you should consider withdrawing from the course. In all cases, students are expected to discuss Incomplete grades with the instructor beforehand.

Students occasionally will “over enroll” in courses or commit to too many outside responsibilities and be unable to complete assignments for one or more courses by their due dates. Be advised that to approach a faculty member and explain that your work will be delayed because you have been busy preparing for another course or due to other “more important” work commitments is an affront to the faculty member whose course assignments you opted to put-off. Plan your enrollments with your other courses and work schedules in mind.

If you do take an Incomplete grade, it is your responsibility to assure that any incomplete work is submitted to the instructor as soon as practicable—preferably prior to the beginning of the next academic term, but certainly no more than a month or two beyond the end of the term for which the “Incomplete” was assigned. When the work has been submitted to the instructor, it is your responsibility to verify that the instructor has turned in a change-of-grade for the course. Faculty need time to grade your work. Be sure to check that a grade change has been effected. You can do that by retrieving your DPR form (unofficial transcript) online.

Grades of Incomplete will automatically lapse to F, U, or the grade indicated by the instructor one year after the original due date. Further, doctoral students will not be allowed to take oral comprehensive exams or move to doctoral candidacy with any grade of I on the transcript, and I grades will lapse to F, U or the grade indicated by the instructor at the point of graduation.

School of Education & Human Sciences Thesis and Dissertation Grading Guidelines

Thesis and dissertation hours are assigned a grade of SP, LP, or NP. When the thesis or dissertation is successfully defended, the credit hours for the student’s final enrollment will be graded (A-F) to reflect the quality of the work.

- i. **Satisfactory Progress (SP):** Progress is consistent with the goals for the semester as agreed upon with the advisor; supports timely completion of the degree.
- ii. **Limited Progress (LP):** Progress is less than what was agreed upon with the advisor; may cause delays in timely degree completion. Academic probation may be warranted.
- iii. **No Progress (NP):** The student has provided no evidence of progress on the thesis or dissertation work, or the work completed was insufficient to move the thesis or dissertation project forward.

PRACTICUM GUIDELINES AND INFORMATION

As our doctoral program is APA accredited and our master’s program is MPCAC accredited, , we endorse

for all levels of practicum the guidelines concerning practicum training outlined in the [APA Standards for Accreditation](#) and [MPCAC Standards for Accreditation](#). Practicum is a crucial component of the curriculum, and successful completion of practicum is a prerequisite to applying for a doctoral internship (for doc students) and receiving your degree. In addition to satisfactory performance in practicum courses, students have several responsibilities related to applying for practicum, selecting sites, documenting practicum activities, receiving supervision, and evaluating the practicum experience. Questions about practicum should be directed to the CPSY Practicum Coordinator.

A note about transportation while in the program: Due to the fact that most practicum sites of the programs are off campus and some of the required courses are offered at the Edwards campus of the University of Kansas, students admitted to the program are responsible for transportation to and from training sites and the Edwards Campus.

Students should be aware that at some sites, they may be asked to travel to satellite clinical locations in order to conduct assessments or therapy. They should clarify with their on-site supervisor the type of travel, who they will be traveling with and in whose vehicle, time involved, and the extent of travel expected during a semester. Students should communicate these details to their KU CPSY Practicum instructor. If students feel uncomfortable with the travel arrangements, they need to communicate this with their KU course instructor immediately. KU Faculty will assist the student in working out compromises if needed.

Practicum Application Orientation

There is a **mandatory** practicum application orientation toward the end of the student's initial semester in the program (fall) to discuss practicum placement procedures. Attendance at the orientation may be a requirement of a class, but may meet outside of class time. Addressed in this orientation are the consequences of “non-placement,” student responsibilities with respect to accruing degree-related practicum hours, issues of preparing a vita/resume, interview preparation, professionalism, and preparation to *be* a professional.

Practicum Course Prerequisites

Courses That Must Be Completed Prior To Start Of First External Practicum:

740	Counseling & Interviewing Skills
742	Counseling Theory and Techniques
830	Individual and Group Assessment
880	Legal, Ethical, and Professional Issues
890	Diagnosis and Psychopathology
841a	Seminar in Advanced Counseling Skills

Courses That Must Be Completed Prior To/Or During First External Practicum:

844	Group Theory and Process
846	Career Development

875	Understanding Individual and Cultural Diversity
845	Substance Abuse Counseling (required only for Terminal Track)
956	Theory of Couples and Family Counseling (required only for Terminal Track)

Practicum Sequencing

All students, from both masters and doctoral programs, will have an initial 9-month practicum experience at a single site. In the fall, all students will enroll in EPSY 842 Counseling Practicum. In the spring, all students will again enroll in EPSY 842 Counseling Practicum. Doctoral students will then spend a year at a different site while enrolling in EPSY 948: Advanced Practicum I, followed by a year at yet a third site while enrolling in EPSY 949: Advanced Practicum II. Doctoral students who have already taken 842 at KU or have waived 842 will enroll in 948 both semesters of their first year and 949 their second year.

Minimum Contact Hours

Students are expected to accumulate a minimum of 100 direct face-to-face/clinical hours over the course of the 2-semester practicum, 842a and 842b. Direct client contact can include individual, group, couples, and family therapy. In addition to actual therapy sessions, direct client contact can also include intake interviews, educational and psychological testing (conducted on a one-on-one basis), the taking of psychosocial histories, and anything where there is an interface between the client and the therapist, or collateral contact with the client's family.

At least 25 hours of these 100 must be conducted in one-on-one or couples counseling sessions (not in group therapy and not in assessment). Non-contact hours can fall into a large group of activities like charting, staff meetings, case conferences, supervision, and session preparation. Students failing to meet this contact hour minimum will not successfully complete practicum. Student progress in practicum toward meeting this requirement will be monitored by the practicum instructor and the Practicum Coordinator. If a student has not accrued 50 face-to-face hours by the time grades are submitted in the fall, the instructor will assign a grade of Incomplete. Once the student has reached 50 hours in the spring semester and is progressing adequately in practicum, the grade will be changed to Satisfactory. Some sites start out slower than others, as they have more extensive training or have students observe prior to seeing clients, so it is not uncommon for students to reach the 50 hour milestone early in the spring semester. Students need to be reminded that co-therapy hours are considered direct hours, as long as the student contributes anything to the session, and such sessions are often some of the best hours of training possible. Students are reminded to have a discussion with their site supervisor about needing to contribute at least a bit in order for these hours to count as direct contact.

Documentation of Practicum Hours

It is the student's responsibility to record the hours devoted to the various activities in practicum. Students are required to obtain access to a standard hour storage system such as time2track.com. Students are required to maintain this service every year they are in practicum. This is particularly important for doctoral students and for master's students who may one day pursue a doctoral program,

as the software is designed to track practicum hours and syncs up with the AAPI internship application (for doc students) and allows program directors to collect data and maintain verified contact hours. **At the end of each semester** (in part because site supervisors often change at semester break), students must complete the Hour Log Summary sheet provided by the program and submit two copies of the form to their site supervisor for their signature. These signed forms should then be given to the practicum instructor for their signature, with one copy then retained by the student for their own records, and the other turned in to the Practicum Coordinator who will scan it (as a backup record) and turn the paper copy in to be filed in the student's academic file in 621 JRP. **It is the student's responsibility** to ensure that a copy of their practicum hours summary for each semester of practicum is in their departmental file.

Practicum Hours for On-Call Situations

When at a practicum site, hours spent talking to a client on the phone count as direct contact hours (on the AAPI they would be Other Psychological Interventions-Consultation). Hours on-call but not in contact with a client count as support hours. When at a site that is not an official practicum, these hours cannot be counted.

Liability Insurance

Given the regularity of contacts with clients in practicum and other skills-based courses, both master's and doctoral students need to carry liability insurance the entire time they are in the program. **Students need to have proof of insurance by September 1 each year**, submitted their practicum instructor and Dr. Rasmussen. Student professional liability insurance is available at a nominal cost through the APA Insurance Trust (APAIT) for doctoral students and the American Counseling Association (ACA) for master's students. Student membership in the association is required in order to make use of its liability insurance program.

Evaluation

While evaluation of counseling skills is generally based on specific, but developmentally appropriate, competency goals set by the student, the site supervisor, and the faculty instructor, general guidelines are provided by the evaluation forms used in practicum.

It is the joint responsibility of the student and supervisor to operationalize these areas by setting specific goals at the beginning of each semester of practicum (this also is true for supervised field experiences.) It is the site supervisor's responsibility at formal evaluation sessions to provide specific evidence of the student's progress in these areas. Evaluation of the student's performance is both individualized and normative. It takes into account the student's own baseline and goals, but also estimates the student's performance relative to other students at the same level of training.

While evaluation should be ongoing and formative during the course of a semester, formal summative evaluation takes place at the end of the semester when the student and the supervisor provide the practicum instructor with written evaluation on forms provided by the department. A copy of the form is placed in the student's file. The practicum instructor then assigns a grade based largely on the

evaluation.

Practicum Sites and Application Procedures

Master's students and doctoral students with no previous practicum experience begin their external practicum training with EPSY 842: Counseling Practicum—typically in the fall of their second year. In the spring of that second academic year, students will enroll in a second semester of EPSY 842: Counseling Practicum.

Typically, doctoral students entering with master's degrees begin their practicum training with EPSY 948: Advanced Practicum I - possibly in the fall of their first year (depending on availability and other factors). Each student will be considered individually, with the student needing to demonstrate competencies if they want to waive EPSY 842. This will require a description of their practicum experience, documented hours in the practicum, etc. This may also involve demonstrating competencies through a role play evaluation.

In the academic year following successful completion of EPSY 948, all doctoral students enroll in two consecutive semesters of EPSY 949: Advanced Practicum II.

Students planning to take practicum must apply for sites in the semester preceding their practicum enrollment according to the following procedure:

1. Practicum Application and Deadline: Students planning to take practicum or field experience must file a Practicum and Field Experience Application with the Practicum Coordinator by November 1 for the following academic year (August through May). If students do not submit by the deadline, they will not be allowed to enroll in practicum or Field Experience.
2. The Practicum Coordinator assigns students to practicum sites according to (a) site availability, (b) student-training needs—as determined by the faculty and student, and (c) acceptability of the student to the site.
3. Students dissatisfied with the site assignment may appeal to the Practicum Coordinator or their program director for reconsideration of their assignment.

Expectations of External Practicum Sites

Efforts are made to develop practicum sites at agencies where students will receive experience and training commensurate with the philosophies of the Counseling Psychology training programs.

Counselors and Counseling psychologists are employed in a wide variety of work settings, and the CPSY faculty attempts to provide students with a range of pre-professional opportunities.

External practicum sites are developed for their ability to reflect typical counseling psychology activities, as well as the following:

1. The site will provide appropriate office and support facilities for practicum students.
2. The site will provide appropriate orientation to acquaint practicum students with policies, forms, records, intake procedures, release of information, testing procedures, and confidentiality procedures.
3. The site supervisor will complete the Student Evaluation Form, minimally at the end of the each semester. Forms will be supplied by the CPSY Practicum Coordinator and will be used by the course instructor to help determine the student's course grade.
4. The site supervisor will maintain contact with the practicum instructor, the Practicum Coordinator, and the program director should questions arise about the student or practicum process.
5. The student must spend an equivalent of 16 hours per week on site with an average of 5 direct contact hours per week.
6. The student must obtain a minimum of 100 direct client contact hours over the course of 2 consecutive semesters or 9 months (approximately 50 hours per semester).
7. Direct hours include: Individual, group, couples, and family therapy, Intake interviews, educational and psychological testing.
8. A minimum of 25 hours of 100 must be conducted in one-on-one or couples counseling sessions.
9. Other experiences such as staffing, consultations, workshops, groups, organizational aspects, are all encouraged, but not to the exclusion of one-to-one counseling.
10. Students are to receive a minimum of one hour of weekly individual supervision (provided by an on-site supervisor) which may consist of the supervisor's review of case notes and audio or video- recorded sessions, or live supervision of therapy sessions, and at least one direct observation of a therapy session by the onsite supervisor. It is a new American Psychological Association accreditation requirement that assessment of trainees' competence by supervisors be based, in part, on direct observation; thus, at least one session per semester should be observed by the onsite supervisor. This direct observation can be done through viewing through a one-way mirror, using video recording, or sitting in during the session. Using audio-only does not suffice for this requirement.
11. On-site supervisors are required to be appropriately credentialed mental- health professionals in their field, though not necessarily a counselor or a counseling psychologist. At a few sites this credential is not necessarily a license (e.g., the University Career Center). However, when the site supervisor is not a licensed psychologist, doctoral students need to be enrolled in a practicum section taught by an instructor who is licensed as a psychologist in Kansas.
12. Weekly onsite supervision should be one-on-one with the site supervisor and the practicum student. Group supervision also may be provided as an adjunct to the individual supervision.
13. All practicum students are expected to record every therapy session for review by onsite supervisors, if allowed by the client and the practicum site. Such recording is to take place even if the site supervisor is not listening to all or any recordings. Student review of their own

recordings is an excellent learning tool.

14. When allowed by the site, students periodically will bring a recording of a session to campus to be reviewed as part of a case presentation to the practicum class, or to be reviewed by their practicum instructor or a doctoral student serving as a practicum consultant.
15. Practicum trainees are required to ensure the security of recordings brought to campus or taken off site by practicum students for their own review.

In addition to any specific site requirements students must at a minimum:

- Discuss with their onsite supervisor the recording and removal of any recordings from the site.
 - Students must obtain a locked combination box for transporting tapes from KU's Counseling Psychology Practicum Coordinator for the secure transportation of recordings.
 - Practicum trainees must obtain a signed informed consent statement from the client that specifically gives the student permission to play portions of the recording for their practicum class.
16. The student is expected to provide personal transportation to and from their practicum site.
 17. Paid field experience: With approval of the faculty, it is permissible for students to receive remuneration offered by a practicum or field experience site, as long as the situation meets all of our designated criteria.
 18. Practicum in the summer: EPSY 842: Counseling Practicum students MAY begin the orientation process during the summer before their first practicum enrollment in 842, but they are not allowed to see any clients until the practicum class has met for the first time in the fall.
 19. Practicum in the summer: EPSY 948 and 948 and 995: There is more flexibility for doctoral students enrolled in 948, 949, or Field Experience, though typically the issue is that students continue at a site through the summer. In that case, the practicum instructor for the student's spring enrollment is to assign a grade of P (Progress) until the work is completed. Students can take/receive an Incomplete in order to finish up work at the site they are at in the spring, as long as they are finished with all work by Friday of the first week of classes in June, at which point the spring practicum instructor will assign a grade. If a student needs/wants to continue at their spring site beyond that, or if they wish to work at a different site over the summer, they need to enroll in at least 1 hour of Field Experience for the summer, and that enrollment needs to be under the supervisor at the site, who will be appointed by the EPSY Department as a Graduate Faculty member at KU (with Special status), thus allowing them to have their own course line number. Students should be aware that this will only allow summer placements at sites that have a supervisor who is licensed as a psychologist, who has a doctoral degree (as that is one of the requirements for an appointment as KU Graduate Faculty-Special), and who is willing to be appointed.
 20. In the event that problems or conflicts arise after the student has been placed which would

jeopardize successful completion of the practicum at the site (e.g., not enough clients, concerns about the student's performance, etc.), the site supervisor and/or the student should notify the practicum instructor immediately, who will confer with the program faculty and the Practicum Coordinator.

Field Experience

Frequently students wish to gain more experience or gain experience in an area not afforded them through their practica. Typically those students would enroll in EPSY 895 (for master's students) or EPSY 995 (for doctoral students).

Please note that there is a limit of 5 hours of Field Experience in any one semester, and a limit of 8 hours that can be counted toward one's degree. Field Experience hours beyond that can be taken, and may count for eventual licensure, though the rule for licensure as an LPC in Kansas allows only 6 hours of Independent Study or Field Experience to count toward the 60 total hours.

For ANY Field Experience, students are required to go through Dr. Rasmussen for placement. This is not something students can set up on their own, and if they are interested in a site that does not currently work with our students, they still must work with Heather. Students are responsible for finding and signing up under a faculty member who "sponsors" the field experience. Faculty vary considerably in the type of oversight they provide students they sponsor, with some requiring monthly meetings, and others requiring contact as issues arise. Faculty also set their own limits regarding how many students they are willing to sponsor at any given time.

Most CPSY faculty have several different enrollment line numbers for EPSY 995, one for *Counseling & Psychotherapy*, another for *Psychodiagnostic Assessment*, yet another for *Clinical Consultation* (for doctoral students who have already completed EPSY 945 and their EPSY 996 requirement but who wish to gain further consultation experience), and one for *College Teaching* (for those doc students who have already completed their EPSY 996 requirement but who wish to gain further classroom teaching experience in a course other than Beginning Practicum).

It is the student's responsibility to enroll for the correct EPSY 895/995 line number with the faculty member who is sponsoring them. *Students must secure the permission of the instructor before enrolling. Faculty vary considerably in the type of oversight they provide students they sponsor. Some require monthly meetings, and others require contact as issues arise. Faculty also set their own limits regarding how many students they are willing to sponsor at any given time.*

When a student enrolls for a field experience to gain more clinical hours, their experience closely resembles that of a practicum student. They are placed at a site with an approved on-site supervisor, see clients, and perform other duties consistent with a practicum experience. **Any field experience must be approved in advance by the Practicum Coordinator** (to ensure that sites meet our criteria, and in part to avoid having students looking for sites in competition with the Practicum Coordinator who is placing students in practica). Just as in practicum, professional liability insurance is required, as is on-site

supervision, which should consist of one hour face to face per week, with the same type of supervisor as is required of practicum.

The field experience is different from a practicum in a few important ways. Students do not meet with a practicum class once a week, and the regular ongoing consultation from a KU faculty member varies with the individual faculty member. On the other hand, the student *is* expected to:

1. *Have completed coursework that would be expected at the site.*
 - a. *EPSY 951 Psychodiagnostic Assessment MUST BE COMPLETED before enrolling in EPSY 995 Field Experience: Psychodiagnostic Assessment.*
 - b. *EPSY 885 Projective Assessment should be taken before enrolling in 995 Field Experience: Psychodiagnostic Assessment if the field experience involves administering projective assessments.*
2. Obtain the consent of a faculty member who is willing to serve as the sponsor to the Field Experience.
3. Prepare a learning contract, detailing what you will do during the course of the experience, e.g., specify how many client hours you will put in each week, types of interventions or assessments you expect to use, and other activities you might engage in, like attending rounds or staff meetings, outreach, etc.
4. Log hours just like in practicum, and be evaluated on the same basis as practicum--with a sign off by the site supervisor.
5. Initiate and remain in periodic contact with the sponsoring faculty member.

Enrollment in Field Experience

Field experiences, unlike practica, are intended to be mutually agreed upon clinical training experiences. The CPSY program determines students' eligibility for enrollment in field experiences and oversees the placement of students. However, the details of the arrangement should be negotiated between the student, the site(s), and the Practicum Coordinator. For example, the number of hours that the student is on-site and the type(s) of training experiences that he or she engages in (e.g., assessment, counseling, other) are **not** determined by enrollment in EPSY 895/995 and thus, are constructed by the parties involved. This typically results in a training experience that is unique to each student in the spirit of a student-generated, independent study.

Because there is no weekly classroom meeting for EPSY 895/995, students may erroneously conclude that they are free from oversight, obligation, and consequence. On the contrary, students engaged in a field experience should understand that oversight is provided by the site in the form of supervision and the by the faculty sponsor.

Students typically enroll in a field experience at the end of their training program. By the time students reach the end of their program, they should be able to gauge their academic commitments (e.g.,

comprehensive exams, dissertation, internship application/interviewing, work, and classes) before asking for permission to complete a field experience. Advisors can be very helpful in this regard.

You should determine whether you have the time for a field experience **BEFORE** asking to be placed at a site. You should be able to tell the site how many hours you would like to be at their site. You should be able to tell them when you expect to be absent from the site (e.g., internship interviews during December and January).

Most sites will expect you to complete two consecutive semesters of field experience, and most sites will expect you to set a schedule and adhere to it. While some sites may allow you some discretion in your schedule (e.g., going home when a client cancels), most sites will expect you to spend a certain number of hours at the site. You should plan to discuss the degree of flexibility that you need/want preferably during the interview with the site, but certainly **BEFORE** accepting an offer from a site.

Field experiences, although electives, are not simply “add on's” to one’s program. They are a primary obligation to which one has agreed—obligations that have significant implications for the staff and clientele of the site at which one is placed. Discontinuing a field experience can have significant consequences for a variety of individuals. For this reason, discontinuing a class or reducing one’s other work responsibilities may take precedence over discontinuing an arranged field experience.

Students are not allowed to terminate their field experience at will. If you find that you need to significantly alter or terminate a field experience agreement, you must first consult with the Practicum Coordinator and your faculty sponsor or training director. You should expect to secure the permission of these individuals as well as the permission of your site supervisor(s) before you will be allowed to prematurely terminate your placement. The parties involved may ask you to arrange a meeting during which your termination request will be discussed.

If you fail to meet your obligations to the site, including the professional management of a request for prematurely terminating the field experience agreement, you should be prepared to be dismissed by the site for unprofessional conduct. You should further expect that failing to meet your obligations to a site (regardless of whether or not you are officially dismissed by the site) may result in CPSY taking any or all of the following disciplinary actions(s): (a) permanent suspension of eligibility for clinical placement, (b) a grade of “Unsatisfactory” for the current semester of field experience, and (c) additional consequences as determined by the CPSY faculty, which could include dismissal from the program for unprofessional or unethical conduct.

Practicum Recording Security Procedures

All practica in the Counseling Psychology programs at the University of Kansas are strongly encouraged to require recording of therapy sessions for review by onsite supervisors. When allowed by the site, students periodically will bring a recording of a session to campus to be reviewed as part of a case presentation to the practicum class, or to be reviewed by their practicum instructor or a doctoral student serving as a practicum consultant.

Security of these recordings is absolutely critical, thus every effort must be made to ensure the security

of recordings brought to campus or taken off site by practicum students for their own review. Different practicum sites have their own policies for how such recordings should be tracked, but at a minimum:

1. Students must discuss with their onsite supervisor the recording and removal of any recordings from the site, specifically how to keep track of such recordings, and procedures for bringing recordings to campus.
2. Students must obtain a signed informed consent statement from the client that specifically gives the student permission to play portions of the recording for their practicum class.
3. Students must obtain a locked combination box for transporting tapes from KU's Counseling Psychology Practicum Coordinator for the secure transportation of recordings.
4. Prior to removing a recording from the practicum site, students must ensure there are no markings on the recording or its packaging that in any way identify the client or the site.
5. In many agencies, to further guard against possible problems, the student must go through the recording itself and record over passages that make reference to the client's or anyone else's name, the name of the agency, and any other identifying references.

Possible Language for Informed Consent Statement

<Name of Agency>

<Address of Agency>

Authorization to Audiotape or Videotape Counseling Interviews

[Name of Agency or setting] provides a variety of services to individuals and their families. It also supports the teaching and training mission of the Counseling Psychology program at the University of Kansas.

Because the agency provides a teaching-training function, permission is frequently requested of its clients to audiotape and/or videotape the interviews that are conducted by the staff and our professionals-in-training. However, no recording is ever done unless the client has given permission to do so. In order to assure adequate and effective supervision, these recorded interviews are periodically reviewed in clinical staff meetings and supervision sessions. On a rare occasion, portions of a tape may be played for the student's practicum group, typically 4 to 6 professionals-in-training, meeting with a KU professor. All tapes are erased after they have served their purpose.

Clients may be assured that their contacts remain confidential within this setting except in instances in which (a) the client, in the professional judgment of the counselor, expresses serious intent to harm him/herself or someone else, (b) the counselor learns of or suspects child abuse or neglect, or (c) there is a court order to release information.

Your signature below indicates that you have agreed to be audio/videotaped.

Client signature

Date

Required Functions Outside of Class Time

Students should anticipate that there will occasionally be program-related activities that will require them to attend functions outside of class time. Examples include practicum application, orientation, and interview preparation. In addition, some practicum sites require students to be present at their site over Thanksgiving, Winter, and/or Spring breaks.

Supervision and Consultation of Practicum Students

EPSY 842: Students are to receive 1 hour of weekly supervision (provided by the on-site supervisor) plus one hour of weekly on-campus consultation and skill-building by either the practicum instructor or an assigned doctoral student clinical consultant.

EPSY 948: Students are to receive 1 hour of weekly supervision provided by the onsite supervisor. There is no on-campus supervision/consultation requirement, although practicum instructors are expected to monitor student progress in practicum class, and to meet with students on an as-needed basis.

EPSY 949: Students are to receive 1 hour of weekly supervision provided by the onsite supervisor. Students do not meet with a practicum class once a week, but they do receive regular consultation from the Practicum Coordinator, typically meeting in a small group once per month.

Policy on Dismissal from Counseling Practicum

Students' performance in practica, field experience or internship is an important area of student evaluation. If, upon the recommendation of the student's onsite supervisor and a performance review by the program faculty, a student is dismissed from a practicum, a field experience, or an internship, the student may be dismissed from the program for failure to meet the program's expectations for the quantity or quality of clinical work or supervision during counseling practica or the student's doctoral internship (See Student Evaluation and Retention Policy in this handbook for more information).

When problems of an interpersonal, organizational and/or attitudinal nature threaten the success of a practicum placement, it is the policy of the Counseling Psychology Program to assess the situation and gather other relevant data about the alleged problem or problems. This could include interviewing those involved, which could include the student, practicum supervisor or other related officials, and representatives of the agency. The practicum instructor and the Practicum Coordinator, acting on behalf of the faculty, will make a determination concerning the gravity of the situation and identify opportunities for potential rectification or remediation. If a written plan can be developed with clear guidelines and objectives to correct identified problems, this will be proposed to the faculty for their approval. If a remediation plan fails due to the actions or inaction of a student, a course grade of

"Unsatisfactory" will be assigned to the practicum or field experience, which may lead to dismissal from the program.

When such evaluation results in faculty decision to offer the student a remediation process (see Results of Student Evaluation Section on for information on procedures and outcomes of this remediation process), the faculty will also discuss if the student will be deemed out of "good standing" status, depending on the specific situation. In some cases, the student will be given the opportunity to demonstrate his/her understanding/learning and mend their problematic behavior or achieve satisfactory performance in a limited time period before being removed from "good standing" status. In essence, the student will be deemed in "good standing" while completing the remediation plan, if and only if the faculty is satisfied with the student's attitude and progress in the remediation process.

Students may be dismissed from the practicum site for the following reasons:

1. **Violation of procedures, policies, or ethics of the cooperating practicum agency as judged by the agency or the faculty supervisor.** This would include such behaviors as violations of confidentiality, deliberately and continually disobeying a supervisor, acting in such a way as to put clients or agency staff in physical or emotional jeopardy, acting in such a way as to place the agency in an ineffective or extremely embarrassing position, or other such deliberate and continual acts, misconduct, or infractions of rules.
2. **Acting in an unprofessional manner.** Students may be dismissed for engaging in unprofessional behavior, as judged by the site supervisor or faculty instructor, that severely diminishes the effectiveness of the agency; places clients, staff, or innocent bystanders in physical and/or emotional jeopardy; tends to represent self as having more authority, control, power, credentials, or ability than that of an agency practicum student; or any other unprofessional behavior that seriously calls into question an individual student's ability to handle the demands of the practicum.
3. **Gross incompetence or negligence.** As judged by the site supervisor or faculty instructor, so as to endanger the physical and/or psychological health of clients, staff, or others, having the effect of creating unnecessary risks and dangers for clients, staff, or the general public.

Dismissal for cause (i.e., due to serious ethical or criminal behavior) is often clear-cut and other Student Conduct policies of the University usually come into play. The due process procedures of these policies are followed in such instances. See Policies Governing Due Process elsewhere in this document for more information.

Neither the Practicum Coordinator nor any member of the CPSY faculty has any responsibility to secure a new practicum site for a student who has been dismissed under these circumstances.

Other Circumstances Necessitating Removal from a Practicum Site

1. It can happen that a personality conflict or other understandable set of circumstances can result in a situation where the student is unable to meet the expectations of the site supervisor or agency. Ultimately, if a site supervisor is unable or unwilling to work with a student, the practicum placement will be terminated. Assigning fault in such situations can be challenging; often all parties have some culpability. The student's demonstrated integrity and efforts to make the placement work are relevant for what may happen next. It may be appropriate to allow the student to start anew in a different placement. This "clean slate" allows the student to start over and earn a grade commensurate with his or her effort in the new placement. The Practicum Coordinator will attempt to secure a new practicum site for a student who has been removed from a site under these circumstances.
2. Students may be removed from a practicum site by request of the site supervisor or practicum instructor. An agency may request removal of a practicum student for situational reasons peculiar to that agency (e.g., inability to provide proper supervision). Students should be aware that the faculty instructor may withdraw a student at any time from a practicum if it is felt that the student either is being psychosocially and/or physically damaged by the experience or is being inadequately supervised. The Practicum Coordinator will attempt to secure a new practicum site for a student who has been removed from a site under these circumstances.

Social Media Issues for CPSY Students

Students who use social networking sites (e.g., Facebook, LinkedIn, etc.) and other forms of electronic communication should be mindful of how their communication may be perceived by clients, colleagues, faculty, and other mental health professionals. As such, students should make every effort to minimize visual or printed material that may be deemed inappropriate for a professional counselor or psychologist. To this end, students should consider setting all security settings to "private" and should avoid posting information/photos and avoid using any language that could jeopardize their professional image. Students should consider limiting the amount of personal information posted on these sites and should never include clients, undergraduate or graduate students (for whom they have served as an instructor) as part of their social network, since doing so constitutes a boundary violation. Additionally, any information that might lead to the identification of a client or represent a violation of client confidentiality is a breach of the ethical standards that govern the practice of counselors, psychologists and mental health professionals in training. **Engaging in these types of actions could result in dismissal from the program.**

STATEMENT REGARDING STUDENTS' EMPLOYMENT AS PROVIDERS OF PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES

Questions arise occasionally regarding our students' employment as providers of counseling or psychological services and the conditions surrounding their employment. The CPSY faculty acknowledge and affirm APA's Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct (APA, 2010) and the Guidelines for Psychological Practice in Health Care Delivery Systems (APA, 2013) in regard to providing counseling and psychological services by graduate students in our programs:

1. Graduate students in the CPSY programs are not to engage in providing unsupervised counseling or psychological services for a fee under any circumstances.
2. Graduate students in the CPSY programs who wish to engage in the supervised practice of providing counseling or psychological services should inform the Training Director of their intent and provide documentation of suitable supervisory arrangements prior to engaging in that practice.
3. Even when engaging in permissible practices or consulting activity, graduate students may not use their affiliation with the University of Kansas, the School of Education & Human Sciences, or the department/program as a “professional credential,” either explicitly or implicitly, without the written consent of the faculty.

Specialty guidelines for the delivery of services by Counseling Psychologists. [APA (1981), Specialty Guidelines for the Delivery of Services, Washington, DC: APA.]

PURPOSES AND GOALS OF ACADEMIC INQUIRY

The statement below is part of the University of Kansas statement of mission:

Values. *The university is committed to excellence. It fosters a multicultural environment in which the dignity and rights of the individual are respected. Intellectual diversity, integrity and disciplined inquiry in the search for knowledge are of paramount importance.*

The University recognizes the wide panoply of beliefs and views that comprise our increasingly disparate society. This disparity makes it ever more imperative that the academy remain a place where the acquisition and dissemination of knowledge based on evidence obtained through recognized disciplinary methods are the central purposes of our existence. The classroom should be a place of lively debate where differing opinions are welcome. However, it is the mutual responsibility of the instructor and the students to maintain at all times a civil forum for inquiry and discussion that has as its goal further mastery of the subject matter. It is also the instructor’s responsibility to help students recognize that there are subjects that can be defined by tangible evidence gained through the scientific method and through scholarly research. These subjects are the *raison d’etre* of the academy and are the building blocks upon which new knowledge will be discovered. They must not be confused with matters of faith that are rightly in the realm of individuals’ private beliefs and are not the business of public higher education.

In 1946, Howard Lee Nostrand, Professor of Romance Languages at the University of Washington, wrote: “General education means the whole development of an individual, apart from his occupational training. It includes the civilizing of his life purposes, the refining of his emotional reactions, and the maturing of his understanding about the nature of things according to the best knowledge of our time.” *

While the intervention of 60 years dates the gender choice of this sentiment, the passage of years has not changed by one iota the purpose of higher education. Education remains the hope of society for

advancement and improvement. Contemporary passions must not alter our mission or warp our direction. *Quoted in Henry Rosovsky's The University. An Owner's Manual," W.W. Norton & Company, 1990.

STUDENT EVALUATION AND RETENTION

Professional psychologists and counselors are expected to demonstrate competence within and across a number of different but interrelated dimensions. Training programs also strive to protect the public and the professions. Therefore, faculty, training staff, supervisors, and administrators in such programs have a duty and responsibility to evaluate the competence of students and trainees across multiple aspects of performance, development, and functioning.

It is important for students to understand and appreciate that academic competence in professional psychology programs (e.g., master's, doctoral, and internship programs) is defined and evaluated comprehensively. Specifically, in addition to performance in coursework, scholarship, comprehensive examinations, and related program requirements, other aspects of professional development and functioning (e.g., cognitive, emotional, psychological, interpersonal, technical, and ethical) are also evaluated. Such comprehensive evaluation is necessary in order for faculty to appraise the entire range of student academic performance, development, and functioning.

The CPSY program faculty have a professional and ethical commitment to ensure—insofar as possible—that the students who complete the program are competent to manage future relationships (e.g., client, collegial, professional, public, scholarly, supervisory, teaching) in an effective and appropriate manner. Because of this commitment, the faculty strive not to advance, recommend, or graduate students with demonstrable problems (e.g., cognitive, emotional, psychological, interpersonal, technical, and ethical) that may interfere with professional competence to other programs, the profession, employers, or the public at large.

As such, within a developmental framework, students should know that their faculty and supervisors will evaluate their competence in areas other than, and in addition to, coursework, seminars, scholarship, comprehensive examinations, or related program requirements. These evaluative areas include, but are not limited to, demonstration of sufficient: (a) interpersonal and professional competence (e.g., the ways in which student-trainees relate to clients, peers, faculty, allied professionals, the public, and individuals from diverse backgrounds or histories), (b) self-awareness, self-reflection, and self-evaluation (e.g., knowledge of the content and potential impact of one's own beliefs and values on clients, peers, faculty, allied professionals, the public, and individuals from diverse backgrounds or histories), (c) openness to processes of supervision (e.g., the ability and willingness to explore issues that either interfere with the appropriate provision of care or impede professional development or functioning), and (d) resolution of issues or problems that interfere with professional development or functioning in a satisfactory manner.

This policy is applicable to settings and contexts in which evaluation would appropriately occur (e.g., coursework, practica, supervision), rather than settings and contexts that are unrelated to the formal

process of education and training (e.g., non-academic, social contexts). However, irrespective of setting or context, when a student's conduct clearly and demonstrably (a) impacts the performance, development, or functioning of the student, (b) raises questions of an ethical nature, (c) represents a risk to public safety, or (d) damages the representation of psychology to the profession or public, appropriate representatives of the program may review such conduct within the context of the program's evaluation processes.

Although the purpose of this policy is to inform students that evaluation will occur in these areas, the faculty emphasize that the program's evaluation processes and content:

1. have as their primary goals: [a] facilitating student development, [b] enhancing student self-awareness, self-reflection, and self-assessment, [c] emphasizing strengths as well as areas for improvement, and [d] assisting in the development of remediation plans when necessary;
2. involve more than one source of information regarding the evaluative area(s) in question (e.g., across supervisors and settings); and
3. include opportunities for remediation—provided that the faculty and supervisors conclude that satisfactory remediation is possible for a given student.

Students' academic and professional performance is evaluated on an on-going and continuous basis, through mechanisms including but not limited to coursework evaluation, student annual evaluation, practicum and field experience evaluation, comprehensive exams, and thesis and dissertation projects. Moreover, at any point during the student's matriculation through the program, students can be evaluated and contacted if there are any concerns.

Examples of triggers for ad hoc review include:

1. Unsatisfactory performance in coursework (obtaining lower than B- in required courses).
2. Unsatisfactory performance in counseling practice courses (counseling skills course, practicum, field experience, or internship).
3. Academic dishonesty (e.g., cheating or plagiarism).
4. Unprofessional or unethical conduct (either in clinical or nonclinical settings).
5. Behaviors that obstruct the training or threaten the welfare of others (e.g. substance abuse or violent behavior).
6. Failure to comply with policies or requirements of the program, department, the school, or university (e.g., failure to meet the time limit for degree completion).
7. Behavior or performance that causes the faculty concerns.
8. Criminal conviction for misconduct that affects the ability to practice as a counselor or psychologist or to be licensed as such.

Minimal Levels of Acceptable Achievement

Course grades: Students must receive B- or above (or "Credit" for Credit/No credit courses, "Satisfactory" for Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory courses) for all required courses toward the degree. Grades below this level are not considered passing grades and do not count toward graduation. When a student receives more than two course grades below B-, the student is dismissed from the program. Any course grade below B- automatically triggers a review of their standing in the program. If the course in question is a required part of their doctoral program (and thus represents an area for which they must meet minimal acceptable achievement), the student will be placed on a remediation plan (see below for details) to allow them to acquire competence in the area. The remediation typically involves re-taking the same course, but alternative options may be allowed under some circumstances that faculty deem warrant a remediation action other than retaking the course.

Acceptable grades in graduate level courses: Students must maintain an overall GPA of at least 3.00 and less than that is considered unacceptable performance. For all required courses toward the degree, students must receive "Credit" for Credit/No credit courses, and "Satisfactory" for Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory courses). For master's students, a grade of C is considered acceptable for an individual course, so long as the overall GPA is at 3.00 or above, and only for 1 or 2 such courses. A third course grade of C will trigger dismissal from the program. For doctoral students, ANY grade below B- in a REQUIRED course triggers a remediation plan, which most often requires the retaking of the course; and TWO course grades below B- leads to dismissal from the program.

Practicum, Field Experience, and Internship: In all practica, field experience, and internship, students are required to demonstrate the required minimal level of clinical competency by scoring "Average/Minimum Level of Achievement" or higher in all areas of assessment and obtaining "credit" for all credit/no credit courses.

For specific information on dismissal from practicum, see "Unsatisfactory performance in counseling practica or internship" elsewhere in this document for more information.

Annual evaluation: Students must receive a score of 2 (On Schedule or Meeting Expectations) (unless N/A) or higher on all 16 competencies.

Areas of Assessment

Academic Performance and Performance in Clinical Practice. Based on the Scientist- Practitioner training model, students are evaluated on their coursework, scholarship, clinical competence, comprehensive examinations, dissertation, and other program required work. *At any time when concerns arise or lower than "Acceptable" ratings or grades are given in these areas on the practicum student evaluation form or by relevant course instructors or student advisors, an evaluation of the student is triggered.*

Professional and Ethical Conduct. Students are expected to follow APA ethics principles and codes of conduct, honor our program's value statement, adhere to our program policies and procedures, and act professionally and ethically at all times during their matriculation in the program. Faculty, supervisors,

and other training staff have a professional, ethical, and potentially legal obligation to ensure as much as possible that students graduating from the program are competent to manage relationships with *clients, colleagues, the public, supervisees and students* in an appropriate manner, and do not engage in unethical behaviors such as committing academic dishonesty and neglecting professional responsibilities. Therefore, students' professional development and functioning (e.g., cognitive, emotional, psychological, interpersonal, and ethical) are evaluated on an ongoing and continuous basis. *At any time when concerns arise or lower than Acceptable ratings or grades are given in this area on the practicum student evaluation form or by relevant course instructors or student advisors, an evaluation of the student is triggered.*

Diversity and Cultural Competence. Consistent with our program training values, students are expected to develop diversity and cultural competence through engagement in learning, self-reflection, staying open to supervision, and other processes. Student performance in this area is evaluated on an on-going basis (it is also included in the annual evaluation). *At any time when concerns arise or lower than Acceptable ratings or grades are given in this area on the practicum student evaluation form or by relevant course instructors or academic advisors, an evaluation of the student is triggered.*

Comprehensive Annual Evaluation of Doctoral Students

The Annual Evaluation data consist of both information provided by the student in the *Student Annual Evaluation Portfolio*, and the faculty evaluation of the student. **The review cycle is based on the calendar year.** Information about the annual evaluation portfolio is emailed to students every year in December. Students are responsible for completing and submitting it to their advisor by the first day of class in the Spring semester. The faculty meet to evaluate each student in February/March. The student is responsible for scheduling a meeting with the advisor to receive and discuss the evaluation results by April 15th.

Consistent with the program training goals and objectives, students will be evaluated on the following 11 areas. A rating of 2 or higher in all of the areas (unless "No Basis" due to sequence of training activities) is required. Otherwise, a plan for improvement or a remediation plan or an equivalent action will be taken to address areas of concerns.

- 1= Behind Schedule or Below Expectations
- 2= On Schedule or Meeting Expectations
- 3= Ahead of Schedule or Above Expectations

1. Professional Values and Attitudes
2. Ethical and Legal Standards
3. Individual and Cultural Diversity
4. Research
5. Communication and Interpersonal Skills
6. Assessment
7. Intervention

8. Supervision
9. Consultation
10. Cultural and Identity Essay
11. Case Report

Comprehensive Annual Evaluation of Master's Students

The monitoring of student performance and progress occurs routinely through three mechanisms. First, students must successfully complete the 60 hours of coursework via the terminal master's or doctoral aspirant track. Second, students must display appropriate clinical and professional competency in two semesters of practicum. On-site supervisors complete a written evaluation of each student each semester (see Appendix I) and students are evaluated and assigned a course grade from their practicum instructor. Finally, students must pass one of the three degree completion options (Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Examination - CPCE, Master's Project, or Master's Thesis). The majority of our students choose the CPCE option. Over the past 5 years, our average score has been 102.2, compared to the national average score of 87.7 (SD=15), thus KU's average is about one standard deviation above the national average.

Also, students complete an annual review after their first year in the program. This annual review, distributed by the MS Program Coordinator, includes both a self-evaluation, an individual meeting with the advisor who also completes ratings, and a discussion of each student's progress during a closed portion of a regularly scheduled faculty meeting at the end of the student's first academic year. Most students within our program graduate in 2-3 years, thus, their practicum evaluations and degree completion activities usually serve as evaluation benchmarks during the latter part of their program. Students who extend their programs beyond the norm are monitored by their advisors and each case is addressed individually to best meet the situation of the student. All of these points of evaluation are directed towards assessing competency attainment. The competencies were developed to capture the domains expected for success in graduate school and entry-level readiness for supervised post-master's practice leading to licensure in professional counseling. The sixteen core competencies are listed below with their corresponding MCAC domain in italics.

1. Ability development in integrating theory, research, and practice. *All MCAC domains.*
2. Research skill development. *Traditional and social justice-oriented research & evaluation.*
3. Research involvement. *Traditional and social justice-oriented research & evaluation.*
4. Overall academic performance. *All MCAC domains.*
5. Development of clinical competence. *Practicum/internship experiences (as well as pre practicum training)*
6. Respecting cultural and individual differences. *Ecological, contextual, multicultural, social justice foundations of human development.*
7. Ability development in responding effectively to legal and ethical issues. *Professional Counselor identity, ethical behavior, and social justice practices.*
8. Development of professional identity as a counselor. *Professional Counselor identity, ethical*

behavior, and social justice practices.

9. Interest in developing a specialty area. *Any MCAC domain.*
10. Development of awareness of their own strengths and areas for growth. *All MCAC domains.*
11. Development of life-long learning attitude. *All MCAC domains.*
12. Overall classroom behavior. *All MCAC domains.*
13. Professional behavior. *All MCAC domains.*
14. Interpersonal relationships. *All MCAC domains.*
15. Ability development in collaborating with other professionals. *All MCAC domains.*
16. Receiving & implementing feedback. *All MCAC domains.*

Students are rated across each of the indicators within the competencies during the annual review using the following ratings of competency attainment: (1) Behind Schedule or Below Expectations; (2) On Schedule or Meeting Expectations; and (3) Ahead of Schedule or Above Expectations. In addition, the courses that fall within the domains and which can be used to assess competency throughout the program are also provided earlier in this self-study under Section B – Program Orientation and Core Curriculum. Annual review forms are placed in individual student folders upon the completion of the review process.

Results of Student Evaluation (Both master's and doctoral)

After the annual review, the student will be informed of faculty decisions on their progress via a letter from their academic advisor.

Students may receive one of the following five statuses after each faculty evaluation:

1. **Satisfactory:** Students whose performance is deemed by the faculty as satisfactory in all areas at their level will receive a "Satisfactory" rating.
2. **Less than Satisfactory:** Students who are deemed by the faculty as not making satisfactory progress in one or more of the evaluation areas will receive a letter notifying them of the "Less than Satisfactory" evaluation and a suggested course of action from the faculty to address the area(s) of concern. The student is responsible for contacting the advisor within 30 days to develop a concrete plan for improvement or a remediation plan. The advisor will present the plan to the faculty for approval, with a recommendation as to the disposition. Failure to submit or comply with a plan for improvement or a remediation plan will result in the student being placed on probation or dismissed from the program.
3. **Probation:** Students will be placed on probation for a maximum of two consecutive semesters due to:
 - Failure to meet any university requirements for maintaining active standing (e.g., GPA, meeting deadlines for completing requirements, etc.).

- A repeated pattern of Less than Satisfactory evaluation.
 - Failure to achieve acceptable outcomes required by a remediation plan.
 - Failure to pursue or show adequate progress toward the degree after two years from the date of the student's admission to the program.
 - Serious unethical or unprofessional behavior at any time during the student's matriculation in the program (depending on the nature of ethical and professional violations, the student may be dismissed from program without probation).
4. **Involuntary Leave of Absence:** When a student meets one or more of the conditions specified for probation, and the faculty has serious concerns about the student's ability to effectively address all concerns while attending school, the student may be asked to take an involuntary leave of absence for a pre-determined period of time (no longer than two consecutive semesters) as part of the remediation process. While being on leave of absence, the student does not have access to the faculty or other university resources. At the end of the leave of absence period, the student is responsible to make a petition in writing to the faculty for reinstatement. The student also needs to discuss the reasons that s/he should be reinstated and submit evidence of progress, improvement, or growth obtained during the leave. The faculty will review the student's progress and vote to either re-instate the student to satisfactory status or to dismiss the student from the program. This decision requires two thirds vote of the faculty.
5. **Dismissal from the Program:**
- If for any reason a student fails to remove his/her "Probation Status" after two consecutive semesters, the student will be dismissed.
 - If a student receives a permanent "*Unsatisfactory*" grade for a practicum, field experience, or internship, the student will be dismissed.
 - If a student receives more than two permanent grades lower than B- in required courses, the student will be dismissed.
 - If a student fails to pass the comprehensive examination after three attempts, the student will be dismissed.
 - If a student shows a repeated pattern of Less than Satisfactory evaluation ratings and fails to follow through with the remediation plan, the student will be dismissed.
 - If a student exhibits serious unethical or unprofessional behavior in any of the professional areas (e.g., practicum/field experience/internship site, GA work settings, interpersonal relationships with faculty, staff, peers, etc.), the student will be dismissed.

Notes:

1. No faculty vote is necessary to put a student on Probation, Involuntary Leave of Absence, or Dismissal, if the student clearly meets one or more conditions listed under the decision status.
2. In any other circumstances, the program decision to place a student on Probation, Involuntary Leave of Absence, or Dismissal status requires a two-thirds vote of the Counseling Psychology

faculty.

3. For students put on Probation or Involuntary Leave of Absence, a written remediation plan is required to clearly articulate the reasons for the faculty decision and expectations about what the student needs to do to regain Satisfactory status. See Remediation below for details.
4. Dismissal is a terminal decision, no opportunity for remediation will be offered.

Remediation

When a student receives Less than Satisfactory, Probation, or Involuntary Leave of Absence ratings, a remediation plan is to follow unless one or more of the criteria under Dismissal is met. A plan for improvement or a remediation plan may be proposed by the student in consultation with his/her advisor or by the program faculty. The final written plan must be approved by the faculty and accepted by the student with a written response.

After the implementation of the plan, the student is responsible for submitting a written request for faculty review, along with evidence for improvement or success of remediation. Upon review of the student request and the remediation implementation, the faculty may take one of the following actions: (a) agree that the plan has been completed satisfactorily; (b) find the student's completion of the plan unsatisfactory and ask for further remediation; or (c) dismiss the student from the program.

Note: Decisions about all conditions that require remediation will be communicated to the student in writing by the student's advisor or the Director of Training. The student will be informed of the reasons for a plan for improvement or a remediation plan and specific expectations of what he/she needs to do to return to Satisfactory status. At the end of the remediation period, the approval of the advisor and an affirmative majority vote of the Counseling Psychology faculty is required to return the student to satisfactory status.

Student Right to Appeal Faculty Decisions

In all of the above situations, students have the right to appeal faculty decisions and remediation plans. These appeals can be made to the counseling psychology faculty, the EPSY department chair, the Dean of the SOE, or the Dean of the Office of Graduate Studies. In all cases, appeals must be made in writing within the time frame provided. Additionally, please see the current [SOEHS Grievance Procedure](#) for specific steps.

Student Evaluation of the Program

Current students are offered opportunities to provide feedback to the program via course evaluations each semester, one or more annual student town halls hosted by the faculty, and evaluations of their practicum sites. We also have student representatives to our faculty meetings and students participate in the admissions process and the accreditation process.

POLICY REGARDING COMMUNICATION BETWEEN CPSY FACULTY AND SITE

SUPERVISORS

Master's and doctoral training involves collaboration and partnerships with multiple training sites, including practicum placements, doctoral internship training programs, and others, such as research labs and other academic departments. Communication between training programs and these training partners is of critical importance to the overall development of competent new counselors and psychologists. Therefore, it is the position of our training program that regular communication about students' performance and progress must occur between the program faculty and other training partners, and that the content from this communication will contribute to regular evaluation of the student's progress.

POLICIES GOVERNING DUE PROCESS

Policies on Student Conduct

Counselors and psychologists are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner as practitioners, students, and citizens. Any behavior that violates professional ethics or standards (Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct, APA 2010; Specialty Guidelines for the Delivery of Services by Counseling Psychologists, APA, 1981), campus regulations, or local, state, or federal laws will trigger a faculty review of the student's conduct, and may result in actions by the faculty including dismissal from the program. This decision is independent of decisions made at other professional, academic, and legal levels of performance exhibited by the student.

Policy on Class Attendance

CPSY students are expected to prioritize their academic commitments and attend all scheduled class sessions. As part of this policy, students are not permitted to schedule client appointments, professional meetings, or any other non-academic commitments during class time. Exceptions to this policy will only be considered under extraordinary circumstances (e.g., illness) and must be approved in advance by the course instructor. Failure to adhere to this policy may result in a reduction of the student's grade and/or a negative impact on the student's annual progress review. Students are encouraged to manage their schedules to ensure full participation in all courses.

School of Education & Human Sciences Student Academic Misconduct Policy

<http://soe.ku.edu/policies>

School of Education & Human Sciences Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure Summary

<http://soe.ku.edu/sites/soe.drupal.ku.edu/files/docs/documents/academic-misconduct/AcademicMisconductPolicy.pdf>

KU Rules and Regulations on Academic Misconduct

Academic misconduct by a student includes, but is not be limited to, disruption of classes; threatening an instructor or fellow student in an academic setting; giving or receiving of unauthorized aid on examinations or in the preparation of notebooks, themes, reports or other assignments; knowingly misrepresenting the source of any academic work; unauthorized change of grades; unauthorized use of University approvals or forging of signatures; falsification of research results, plagiarizing of another's work; violation of regulations or ethical codes for the treatment of human and animal subjects; or otherwise acting dishonestly in research.

USRR 2.6.2 describes the process that is to be followed in treating work as unsatisfactory if it is a product of academic misconduct. After consultation with the Department Chairperson, an instructor may, with due notice to the student, treat as unsatisfactory (1) any student work that is the product of academic misconduct or (2) a student's performance for a course when there are severe or repeated instances of academic misconduct as defined in Section 2.6.1. If an instructor deems other sanctions for academic misconduct by a student to be advisable, or if a student wishes to protest a grade based upon work judged by an instructor to be the product of academic misconduct, or if a faculty member is charged with academic misconduct in connection with the assignment of a grade or otherwise, the case shall be reported to the Dean of the College or School in which the course is offered and processed in accord with applicable procedures.

The complete text of the USRR on academic misconduct is available [here](#).

DISMISSAL POLICY

The dismissal of a student from the program (M.S. or Ph.D.) is a significant event for both the student and the program faculty and represents the conclusion of the faculty that the student has not demonstrated an adequate level of competence in academic and/or clinical skills, or in other critical areas of professional conduct. Action of the program toward the dismissal of a student is generally the final outcome of several informal and formal communications with the student regarding his or her unsatisfactory progress through the program and, when appropriate, special efforts at helping the student meet program requirements and training objectives. The final program decision regarding whether or not a student should be terminated from the program, or under what conditions a student making unsatisfactory progress will be allowed to continue, is a decision that rests with the program faculty.

The University of Kansas and the faculty of the department are committed to principles of fairness and due process in the implementation of dismissal actions. The University's *Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities* describes the rights of each student at the university. Students should make themselves aware of their rights, as well as their responsibilities. The complete text of the Code is online at [Code of Student Rights & Responsibilities | Student Conduct & Community Standards \(ku.edu\)](#); it is also available at the Office for Student Success, 133 Strong Hall. The university also has policies against racial and ethnic harassment and against sexual harassment, copies of which also may be obtained from the Office

of Student Success. Rules regarding academic misconduct appear in Article II, Sec. 6 of the [Rules and Regulations of the University Senate](#).

Triggers for faculty review that could warrant a remediation plan or dismissal from the program

A student's advancement through his or her academic program from one semester to the next is contingent upon satisfactory progress each semester. Satisfactory progress entails that the student maintains adequate progress in gaining knowledge, skills, competencies, and behaviors required for graduation and professional practice.

Students are formally reviewed by program faculty once each calendar year; however, faculty retain the right and responsibility to review, at any time, any student circumstance or performance that may negatively affect the student's completion of the program, competencies for individual professional practice, or that may threaten client welfare. The following are offered as examples of circumstances or performances that may trigger a review by the faculty that could lead to a remediation plan or may be the basis for dismissal:

- Failure to maintain minimum academic standards
- Unsatisfactory performance in counseling practica courses (e.g., counseling labs, field experiences, practica) or internship
- Academic misconduct or dishonesty
- Criminal conviction of misconduct that affects ability to practice as a counselor or psychologist or to be licensed as such
- Failure to comply with established university or program timetables and requirements
- Unethical practices and/or unprofessional conduct
- Cognitive, affective, and/or behavioral impairments that obstruct the training process and/or threaten client welfare

The following subsections are offered to clarify the above listed bases for student dismissal.

Failure to Maintain Minimum Academic Standards

A student is placed on academic probation by the Office of Graduate Studies whenever her/his cumulative graduate GPA drops below 3.0. Students on probation have one semester to raise their GPA to 3.0 and return to Regular status. A student failing to meet this requirement will not be permitted to re-enroll unless recommended by the Department and approved by the School of Education & Human Sciences Graduate Office.

Within the Counseling Psychology programs, students must maintain a GPA of 3.0 or better in prescribed program course work, or else be placed on "departmental probation." Permission to enroll following placement on departmental probation will be given only if it is numerically possible for the student to

remove her/himself from probation during the next semester through the completion of prescribed program coursework.

As a matter of departmental policy, no "I's" (Incompletes) may accrue during a probationary semester, and any "I's" assigned prior to the probationary period must be completed by the end of the probationary semester.

Also as a matter of departmental policy, students may not accrue more than two grades lower than B- in their graduate program--whether those courses are EPSY courses or courses taken through other departments. A third grade lower than B- in the program will result in the student's dismissal from the program.

Students may not be on probation at the time of enrollment in a practicum or clinical field experience. Any pre-enrollment in a practicum or field experience is contingent on a student maintaining a satisfactory graduate GPA (3.0 or better).

Unsatisfactory Performance in Counseling Practica or Internship

Upon the recommendation of the student's onsite supervisor and a performance review by the program faculty, a student may be dismissed from the program for failure to meet the program's expectations for the quantity or quality of clinical work or supervision during counseling practica or the student's doctoral internship.

Academic Dishonesty

Academic misconduct or dishonesty by a student includes, but is not limited to, disruption of classes, giving or receiving of unauthorized aid on examinations or in the preparation of notebooks, themes, reports or other assignments, or knowingly misrepresenting the source of any academic work, falsification of research results, plagiarizing of another's work, violation of regulations or ethical codes for the treatment of human and animal subjects, or otherwise acting dishonestly in research.

An instructor may, with due notice to the student, treat as unsatisfactory any student work which is a product of academic misconduct. If an instructor deems other judicatory action for academic misconduct by a student to be advisable, or if a student wishes to protest a grade based upon work judged by an instructor to be a product of academic misconduct, the case shall be reported to the dean of the school in which the course is offered. Each school shall establish, at the department level where feasible, appropriate mechanisms for action upon such reports. A copy of the procedures used by the department and the SOE are available in the departmental office.)

The following sanctions may be imposed upon a student for academic misconduct:

1. **Admonition:** An oral statement that his or her present actions constitute academic misconduct.
2. **Warning:** An oral or written statement that continuation or repetition of actions that constitute academic misconduct may be the cause for a more severe disciplinary sanction.

3. **Censure:** A written reprimand for actions which constitute academic misconduct. Censure may include a written warning.
4. **Reduction of grade:** Treating as unsatisfactory any work which is a product of academic misconduct. Reduction of grade may include the awarding of an F in the course.
5. **Disciplinary probation:** Exclusion from participation in specified privileges or extracurricular activities for a period not exceeding one school year.
6. **Suspension:** Exclusion from classes and other specified privileges or activities for a definite period not in excess of two years.
7. **Expulsion:** Termination of student status for an indefinite period. The condition of readmission, if any, shall be stated in the order of expulsion.

More than one sanction may be imposed upon a student for the same offense or offenses.

Criminal Conviction of Misconduct that Affects Ability to Practice or Be Licensed

A student whose conduct, within or outside of the program, has resulted in the conviction of a crime that would preclude licensing in Kansas (as a psychologist, a licensed master's level psychotherapist, or a licensed professional counselor) may be dismissed from the program by a two-thirds vote of the faculty.

Failure to Comply with Established University or Program Timetables and Requirements

The Office of Graduate Studies policy permits master's students seven (7) years from the time of their admission to complete their degree. Doctoral students are permitted eight (8) years from the time of their admission to doctoral study to complete their degree. For master's students, in cases where more than eight years are needed to complete the degree, the appropriate appeals body of the School of Education & Human Sciences will consider petitions for further extensions and, *where evidence of continuous progress, currency of knowledge, and other reasons are compelling*, may grant further extensions.

For doctoral students, in cases in which compelling circumstances recommend a one-year extension of the normal eight-year limit, the Graduate Division of the School of Education & Human Sciences has the authority to grant a one-year time extension on the written advice of the dissertation committee. In cases where more than nine (9) years are indicated, the appropriate appeals body of the School of Education considers petitions for extensions and, *where evidence of continuous progress, currency of knowledge, and other reasons are compelling*, may grant further extensions.

The above notwithstanding, the Office of Graduate Studies permits graduate departments authority to set more stringent rulings regarding program time restrictions for both master's and doctoral programs. The Counseling Psychology Program permits students in either of its programs a limit of six (6) years for the completion of their degree program. Students petitioning the department for an extension are expected to document their "continuous progress" and to show good cause why their work has not been

completed.

Leave of absence. The Office of Graduate Studies allows for student leaves of absence. A Leave of Absence may be granted upon request to the graduate program in advance of leave. A leave of absence may be granted in extraordinary circumstances (e.g. cases of illness, emergency, financial hardship, military leave), to pursue family responsibilities, or to pursue full-time activities related to long-range professional goals.

Appropriate documentation related to these extraordinary circumstances may be requested from the student directly. Evidence of progress towards degree will be a determining factor in the decision to grant an exception. The time taken for a leave of absence does not count against the student's time to degree. However, if the total time for the leave extends more than five years, the student will lose his/her place in the program and must reapply for admission.

To request a leave of absence, a student must first petition her/his program or department; and if supported by the program/department, the program must initiate a Progress to Degree form for approval by the graduate division and the Office of Graduate Studies.

Post-comprehensive time constraints. Under normal circumstances, the doctoral candidacy period between passage of the oral comprehensive examination and the final dissertation defense must last no longer than 5 years. If a student took the oral comprehensive examination more than 5 years prior to the dissertation defense, a re-evaluation of the student's candidacy status is necessary. Re-evaluation of the student's candidacy status can include retaking the comprehensive oral examination. Considerations and decisions concerning exceptions to the policy outlined above will be managed by the graduate affairs office of the school/college in which the student's program resides.

Unethical Practices and/or Unprofessional Conduct

Students are referred to the APA Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct (APA, 2010); the Ethical Standards of the American Counseling Association (ACA, 2005). Also see **KAR 102-1-10** (Unprofessional conduct--licensed psychologists), **KAR 102-3-12** (Unprofessional conduct--licensed professional counselors), and **KAR 102-4-12** (Unprofessional conduct--licensed master's-level psychotherapists). Violations of professional or state licensing board ethical and professional standards may result in dismissal from the program.

Cognitive, Affective, and/or Behavioral Impairments that Obstruct the Training Process and/or Threaten Client Welfare

Student conduct which, in the opinion of the faculty and/or the student's supervisors, is the result of cognitive, affective, or behavioral impairment, and which obstructs, interferes with, or threatens the training of fellow students or the welfare of clients, students, faculty, or supervisors may result in student dismissal from the program or referral for remediation. In the case of referral for remediation, the student may be required to withdraw from classes and may be placed on a Leave Of Absence from the program until such time as the student is able to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the faculty that

s/he is able to return to the program without impairment.

Examples of impairment having the potential for student dismissal or referral include, but are not limited to: substance abuse; dual relationships with clients or students/supervisees for whom the student is responsible; passive-aggressive behavior; anti-social behavior; lying or misrepresenting oneself to clients, faculty or supervisors; failure to refer, or practicing outside of one's area(s) of competence without appropriate supervision; chronic lateness and/or absence from academic and clinical responsibilities; and dysfunctional emotional reactions that interfere with or jeopardize the well-being of clients, students, faculty, or supervisors.

Dismissal Procedures

Unless otherwise provided for in School or University codes, instances of dismissal for academic reasons, such as the failure to maintain minimum academic standards or failure to comply with the timetables and requirements established for the degree, are not appealable beyond the School.

To protect student due process rights, as well as the rights and responsibilities of faculty to uphold the academic and professional standards of the training program, the following steps will be taken as part of the dismissal review process. Nothing in these steps is intended to conflict with the School of Education & Human Sciences Grievance Procedures and Grade Appeal Procedures which have been adopted by the department and the program, nor with any other procedural guarantees accorded the student (see University Senate Code, Article XVI, Sec. 2). In this regard, and in accordance with the School of Education & Human Sciences Grievance Procedures and Grade Appeal Procedures, when a grievance occurs, the grievant (student) should first attempt to resolve the issue with the primary parties involved. If the issue is not resolved, then the parties should attempt resolution with the appropriate supervisor or administrator. If the issue is still unresolved, the next step in the process is to consult the Dean of the School of Education & Human Sciences. The final step in this process is to file a formal grievance in writing with the School of Education & Human Sciences Grievance Committee.

[NOTE: If the student conduct in question involves racial, ethnic, or sexual harassment, the office of [Institutional Opportunity and Access](#) (IOA) is the appropriate office to contact.]

The student will be informed in writing by the Department Chair of any charge, event, performance, or circumstance that may threaten the student's immediate status and advancement within the program. Such charges or complaints may emanate from members of the program faculty, faculty in other departments, clinical supervisors, clients, or professionals and agents outside of the university community.

As part of the above notification, the Department Chair may initially advise the student to seek an informal resolution of the charge or complaint with the accusing party, and to inform the chair of the outcome of this action within 30 days.

If, however, the informal attempts at problem resolution are inappropriate or unsatisfactory, the Department Chair will inform the student, in writing, that a formal hearing of the program faculty will

be necessary to review the nature of the student's status and to determine whether disciplinary action is appropriate. The Department Chair may invite any persons judged to have relevant information to submit such information either in person at the hearing or in writing prior to the hearing. The student will be given copies of all written materials under consideration in advance of the hearing. The student may invite other individuals who have relevant testimony to attend the hearing or to present written information. The student will provide the Department Chair with a list of these individuals at least five (5) days in advance of the scheduled hearing.

Following the presentation of testimony and evidence, the program faculty will convene separately to deliberate and to arrive at a decision regarding the student's standing in the program. This decision may result in one of the following outcomes: (a) dismissal of the charges against the student and a restoration of the student's good standing in the program, or (b) a judgment to allow the student to continue in the program pending satisfactory completion of, or compliance with, specified conditions, or (c) immediate dismissal of the student from the program. The student will be provided with a prompt, written notice of the faculty's decision.

Students may appeal the program faculty decision to the School of Education & Human Sciences Grievance Committee in accordance with the School's Grievance Procedures and Grade Appeals Procedures, which are available on the School of Education & Human Sciences website.

Confidentiality of Actions Taken in Response to Complaints and Grievances

When a student raises a complaint, it is important to realize that discussions, decisions, and actions taken in response to the complaint are confidential, and that in most situations, even the person raising the issue is not likely to hear about how it gets resolved, due to issues of confidentiality that are built into the dispute resolution system.

PROGRAM DUE PROCESS POLICY AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

The Counseling Psychology program at the University of Kansas strives to ensure that students, staff, and faculty are treated fairly and respectfully. The program adheres to its Student Evaluation and Retention Policy, the SOE policies concerning academic misconduct ([University Senate Rules and Regulations \(USRR\) | Policy Library \(ku.edu\)](#)), and the non-discriminatory policy of the University that does not permit discrimination based on age, gender, race, ethnicity, culture, national origin, religion, spirituality, sexual orientation, disability, language, or socioeconomic status ([Nondiscrimination, Equal Opportunity, and Affirmative Action | Policy Library \(ku.edu\)](#)). Further, the program adheres to the University's policy concerning sexual harassment and sexual violence ([Sexual Harassment | Policy Library \(ku.edu\)](#)).

Student Grievance Procedures

If a student has concerns about their rights, they are encouraged to follow these procedures:

1. You may choose to confer with your advisor and/or the program director. Your advisor or

program director may present your concern to the Counseling Psychology faculty. If you are not satisfied after faculty review, you may choose to present your concerns to the Chair of the EPSY department, and beyond that, you may follow the procedures outlined in #2 below.

2. You may choose to follow the School of Education & Human Sciences Policies and Procedures concerning Student Academic Misconduct and the Grievance Procedures and Grade Appeals (outlined below and available at <http://www.soe.ku.edu/policies>).
3. You may also bring your concerns to CPSO and ask the student representatives to bring issues of concern to a faculty meeting.

Faculty and Staff Grievance Procedures

If a faculty or staff member has concerns about his/her rights, he/she should follow the Due Process and Dispute Resolution Policy in the [Handbook for Faculty and Other Unclassified Staff](#) and the [KU Grievance Procedure](#).

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION & HUMAN SCIENCES POLICIES AND PROCEDURES CONCERNING STUDENT ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES & GRADE APPEALS

Pursuant to Article XIV of the University Senate Code and Articles V and VI of the University Senate Rules and Regulations (USRR) of the University of Kansas, the School of Education & Human Sciences establishes the following procedure to hear grievances arising within the School. Subordinate units that report to the Dean may establish unit grievance procedures. If a subordinate unit has a grievance procedure, grievances arising within the subordinate unit must be heard under the subordinate unit's grievance procedure unless exceptional circumstances, as determined by the Dean, make it more appropriate for those grievances to be heard at the School level. Appeal of a grievance heard at a subordinate unit level is to the Judicial Board as required by USRR 6.4.3.2.

For disputes involving alleged academic misconduct or alleged violations of student rights, the initial hearing normally will be at the subordinate unit level, and will be governed by Section 6 of the University Rules and Regulations on Academic Misconduct. There is an option to hold an initial hearing at the Judicial Board level if either party petitions the Judicial Board Chair for a Judicial Board hearing and if the petition is granted. The petition must state why a fair hearing cannot be obtained at the School or subunit level; the opposing party has an opportunity to respond to the petition (USRR 6.4.3.1).

Except as provided in USRR 6.5.4, no person shall be disciplined for using the grievance procedure or assisting another in using the grievance procedure. The Dean's Office shall provide a copy of this procedure to anyone who requests it.

1. To start the grievance process, the complainant must submit a written grievance either to the chair or director of a subunit having a grievance procedure or to the Office of the Dean of the

School of Education & Human Sciences. The complaint shall contain a statement of the facts underlying the complaint and specify the provision(s) of the Faculty Code of Conduct, University Senate Code, the University Senate Rules and Regulations, the Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities, or other applicable rule, policy, regulation, or law allegedly violated. The complaint shall also indicate the witnesses or other evidence relied on by the complaining party, and copies of any documents relevant to the complaint shall be attached to the complaint.

2. At the time the complaint is submitted, the complaining party shall provide a copy of the complaint, with accompanying documents, to the respondent(s).
3. Upon receipt of the complaint, the subunit head or Office of the Dean of the School of Education & Human Sciences shall contact the respondent to verify that the respondent has received a copy of the complaint and to provide the respondent with a copy of these procedures.
4. Pursuant to University Senate Code XIV.2.c, a respondent has the privilege of remaining silent and refusing to give evidence in response to a complaint. The respondent also has the right to respond and give evidence in response to the complaint.
5. The respondent shall submit a written response to the subunit head or Office of the Dean of the School of Education & Human Sciences within 14 calendar days of receiving the complaint. The response shall contain the respondent's statement of the facts underlying the dispute as well as any other defenses to the allegations in the complaint. The response shall also identify the witnesses or other evidence relied on by the respondent and shall include copies of any documents relevant to the response. The respondent shall provide a complete copy of the response to the complaining party.
6. Upon receipt of the response, the subunit head or Office of the Dean of the School of Education & Human Sciences shall contact the complaining party to verify that a copy of the response has been provided.
7. Upon receiving the complaint and response, or if the respondent fails to respond within the 14 calendar day time period, the Office of the Dean of the School of Education & Human Sciences shall either form a committee to consider the complaint or refer it to an appropriate extant committee. The committee members shall be disinterested parties who have not had previous involvement in the specific situation forming the basis of the complaint.
8. Pursuant to USRR 6.8.4.2, the chair of the committee may contact other hearing bodies within the University to determine whether a grievance or complaint involving the underlying occurrence or events is currently pending before or has been decided by any other hearing body.
9. Time limits. To use this procedure, the complainant must file the written complaint within six months from the action or event that forms the basis of the complaint. The six-month time period shall be calculated using calendar days (including weekends and calendar days during which classes are not in session).

10. Upon receiving the complaint, if the chair of the committee determines that any of the following grounds exist, he or she may recommend to the subunit head or Dean that the complaint be dismissed without further proceedings. The grounds for such dismissal are: (a) the grievance or another grievance involving substantially the same underlying occurrence or events has already been, or is being, adjudicated by proper University procedures; (b) the grievance has not been filed in a timely fashion; (c) the subunit or school lack jurisdiction over the subject matter or any of the parties; (d) the grievance fails to allege a violation of a University rule; (e) the party filing the grievance lacks standing because he or she has not suffered a distinct injury as a result of the challenged conduct and has not been empowered to bring the complaint on behalf of the University; or (f) the party filing the grievance has been denied the right to file grievances.
11. If the chair of the committee determines that a grievance on its face properly should be heard by another body, the chair will recommend that the subunit head or Dean send the grievance to the appropriate hearing body without further proceedings at the subunit or school level. The subunit head or Dean will send a copy of the referral to the Complainant (s) and any responding parties.
12. Prior to scheduling a hearing, the parties shall participate in mediation of the dispute unless either party waives mediation. Mediation shall be governed by USRR 6.2.3.
13. If mediation is successful, the mediator will forward to the subunit head, Dean and the Grievance Committee chair, and all parties a letter describing the outcome of the mediation and terms upon which the parties have agreed to resolve the dispute. This letter shall be a recommendation to the subunit chair or Associate Dean. This party will notify the mediator, the committee chair, and the parties that the recommendation has been accepted, modified, or rejected.
14. If mediation is not successful, the mediator will notify the subunit head, Dean, the committee chair, and the parties that mediation has terminated. If mediation is not successful, or if it is waived by either party, the Grievance Committee will schedule a hearing no later than 30 calendar days from the written submission of the complaint. The 30-day period may be extended for good cause as determined by the chair of the committee. The 30-day period shall be suspended during the mediation process. The hearing will be closed unless all parties agree that it shall be public.
15. Each party may represent himself or herself or be represented by an advisor or counsel of his or her choice.
16. Each party has the right to introduce all relevant testimony and documents if the documents have been provided with the complaint or response.
17. Each party shall be entitled to question the other party's witnesses. The committee may question all witnesses.

18. Witnesses other than parties shall leave the hearing room when they are not testifying.
19. The chair of the committee shall have the right to place reasonable time limits on each party's presentation.
20. The chair of the committee shall have the authority and responsibility to keep order, rule on questions of evidence and relevance, and shall possess other reasonable powers necessary for a fair and orderly hearing.
21. The hearing shall not be governed by the rules of evidence, but the chair of the committee may exclude information he or she deems irrelevant, unnecessary, or duplicative. Statements or admissions made as part of the mediation process are not admissible.
22. The committee will make an audio recording of the hearing, but not of the deliberations of the committee. The audio recording will be available to the parties, their authorized representatives, the committee and the subunit head or Dean. If a party desires a copy of the audio recording or transcript of the recording, that party will pay for the cost of such copy of transcript. In the event of an appeal, the audio recording will be provided to the appellate body as part of the record of the case.
23. After the presentation of evidence and arguments, the committee will excuse the parties and deliberate. The committee's decision will be a written recommendation to the subunit head or Dean. The committee shall base its recommendations solely upon the information presented at the hearing.
24. The committee will send its written recommendation to the subunit head or Dean and the parties as soon possible and no later than 14 calendar days after the end of the hearing.
25. Within 14 calendar days of receiving the committee recommendation, the subunit head or Dean will notify the parties of the acceptance, modification, or rejection of the recommendation. The subunit head or Dean will advise the parties of the procedure available to appeal the decision.

Other School of Education & Human Sciences Policies

The website <http://soe.ku.edu/documents/> contains several School of Education & Human Sciences policies and forms, including those addressing Academic Misconduct, Graduate Enrollment, Graduate Degree Milestones & Petitions, GTA/GRA/GA Issues, Graduate Faculty Status, Graduate Programs, and Misconduct & Grievances.

KU Policies Governing the Behavior of Students and Faculty

[KU Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities](#)

[KU Grievance Policy and Procedures for Graduate Students](#)

[KU Statement on Discrimination, Intimidation, and Sexual Harassment](#)

[KU Notice of Nondiscrimination, Equal Opportunity, and Affirmative Action Policies](#)

[KU Sexual Harassment Policy](#)

[KU Policy on Discrimination on the Basis of Race or Ethnicity](#)

[KU Policy on Discrimination on the Basis of Religion or National Origin](#)

[School of Education & Human Sciences Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure Summary](#)

[School of Education & Human Sciences Student Academic Misconduct Policy](#)

[School of Education & Human Sciences Grievance Procedures and Grade Appeals](#)

[School of Education & Human Sciences Grade Appeal](#)

[CPSY Policies and Procedures Handbook](#)

[KU Policy Library](#)

[University Governance website](#)

POLICIES APPLYING TO MS STUDENTS

RESEARCH OPTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE MASTER'S DEGREE

As one goal of the Master's program is to provide students with an opportunity to demonstrate skill in the integration of scientific and practice-related knowledge, students elect to complete one of the research options outlined below. To gain the requisite skills to complete the research options, students are required to complete additional coursework. These classes satisfy the Research Component requirements and are divided between students who choose the Master's Thesis option, students who choose one of the Master's Project options, and students who choose the written comprehensive examination option. The best option for your research component is decided on collaboratively between you and your advisor. The Thesis and Project options all require a defense (of the thesis or the project).

If a student has been taking credits toward the thesis or project, and then decides to take the CPCE instead, they either forfeit the hours of thesis/project (if they do not finish it), or they can switch to Independent Study hours (through Drop-Add) and still receive credit for completing the work.

OPTION	COURSE TITLE	CREDIT
Option 1	EPSY 898: Master's Project <i>Prior or concurrent enrollment in EPSY 715 is a prerequisite for EPSY 898.</i>	3 hrs.
Option 2	EPSY 710: Intro to Statistical Analysis EPSY 711: Intro to Statistical Analysis Lab EPSY 899: Master's Thesis <i>Prior or concurrent enrollment in EPSY 710/711 AND EPSY 715 are required for EPSY 899.</i>	3 hrs. 1 hr. 3 hrs.
Option 3	Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Examination (CPCE) <i>All coursework except electives must be complete prior to or during the semester in which the exam is taken.</i> <i>You must be enrolled during the semester you take the exam.</i> Additional Elective: Chosen in consultation with advisor <i>If you choose the CPCE option, you are required to take at least one elective as part of your program.</i>	3 hrs.

Master's Thesis

This should be a theory-driven empirical test of a specific hypothesis. The design may be quantitative or qualitative and should include the actual collection of data. The thesis culminates in a high-quality manuscript written in APA style. The format generally consists of five chapters: *Introduction, Review of the Literature, Method, Results, and Discussion*. For those who plan to carry on research as a major

component of their career or who plan to pursue a more advanced degree, the thesis option is often recommended. Once defended, students file their thesis on-line.

Instructions for formatting and submitting these documents are at the Graduate Studies website link [Electronic Thesis and Dissertations](#).

Master's Project Option I

Integrative Review of the Literature. To demonstrate the student's integration of science and practice, the student choosing this option should synthesize the available literature on a topic relevant to counseling psychology. In addition, the review must make a contribution by providing new knowledge by articulating connections between ideas or findings where none existed before. The final product should follow APA style and be a minimum of 50 pages and include about 40-50 citations.

Master's Project Option II

Integrative Case Study. For this option, the student chooses a case they have personally worked with in practicum. The student reviews the literature relevant to the primary concern (diagnosis, developmental concern, etc.). The case is discussed relative to the literature findings, conclusions are drawn, similarities and differences are examined, and important research results that can be generalized to other clients with similar problems are discussed. The final product is a 50-page manuscript written in APA style with about 40-50 citations.

Master's Project Option III

Program/Curriculum Development. For this option, the student identifies a specific issue, student profile, type of agency, or type of intervention related to counseling. The student then reviews the relevant literature focusing on developing an intervention which will address the topic. Finally, an intervention or curriculum is proposed in sufficient detail to allow future practitioners to replicate it. The project should be a stand-alone product, such that anyone with similar master's degree training should be able to pick up the manual and provide the intervention.

Examining Committee for MS Thesis or Project

The Master's thesis or Project examination committee consists of 3 members of the faculty. At least 2 must be CPSY faculty members with the other member from any department (including EPSY). No more than 1 committee member may hold an Ad Hoc or Special graduate appointment. CPSY faculty with Special graduate appointments cannot chair the committee, but they can co-chair with a CPSY faculty member who has a Regular graduate appointment.

Note: Regular graduate faculty are tenured or tenure-track faculty at KU. Special graduate faculty are not tenure-track, but teach at KU (Hensley, Rasmussen, and Backer). Ad Hoc graduate faculty are non-KU persons with a doctorate appointed for a specific committee.

Comprehensive Examination Option - CPCE

One of the research options for completing the MS degree includes passing the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Examination (CPCE). As a general rule, the test administration will take place once in the Fall Semester and once in the Spring Semester. This is a nationally administered exam, which is utilized by over 400 universities. The examination takes approximately 2-3 hours and is administered on the Lawrence Campus. It is a 160-item multiple choice examination that covers eight areas. Study materials are on reserve at both the Lawrence and the Edwards campuses. You should also review your EPSY class notes and texts.

Areas Covered in the CPCE

1. Human Growth and Development
2. Social and Cultural Diversity
3. Helping Relationships (and Family)
4. Group Work
5. Career Development
6. Assessment
7. Research and Program Evaluation
8. Professional Orientation and Ethical Practice

- The KU CPSY program cutoff score for passing is one standard error below the national mean of the tests administered over the previous year.
- Students may have no more than 6 credit hours of uncompleted coursework (including Incompletes) in regularly scheduled courses required in their graduate program at the time of the comprehensive exam. Practicum is not counted as part of the 6 hours.
- Students will have two chances to pass the examination. If a student fails twice, he or she will be required to complete one of the other research options.
- Students who pass the CPCE and also complete the thesis or project option can use up to 3 hours of thesis or project as elective hours. If a student is currently enrolled in thesis or project hours and wishes to continue with the research after passing the CPCE, the student should change the research hours to Independent Study in order to have the credits count toward graduation.

The cost of the examination is \$75.00 (subject to change and payable only by money order). For more information about the exam, see these sites:

Center for Credentialing and Education, Inc. <http://www.cce-global.org>

Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Exam <http://www.cce-global.org/Org/CPCE>

National Board for Certified Counselors and Affiliates <http://www.nbcc.org/>

The CPCE Registration Form for the can be found below and at CPSY Program-Related Forms (at

<http://epsy.soe.ku.edu/documents-and-resources>).

On Using M.S. After Your Name

Once you have finished all of the course requirements and passed the CPCE or defended your thesis or project and submitted it electronically, it is appropriate to list M.S. after your name, even though you may not yet have gone through graduation ceremonies or been officially awarded the degree.

CPCE Pre Enrollment Form

Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Examination Please check the appropriate semester and fill in the year.

_____ I plan to take the CPCE in the fall semester of 20_____

_____ I plan to take the CPCE in the spring semester of 20_____.

Name	
KU ID	
Email	
Address	
City, State, Zip	
Home Phone	
Work Phone	

Submit this form to your CPSY advisor at least 1 month prior to the exam.

You will pay for the CPCE via the on-line registration process. The CPSY MS program coordinator will assist you with the registration details. 2018 cost was \$75, however, this may change and is determined by CCE.

Please check the courses you have completed or will have completed by the end of this semester.

- | | | |
|-------|----------|--|
| _____ | EPSY 705 | Human Development Through the Lifespan |
| _____ | EPSY 715 | Understanding Research in Education |
| _____ | EPSY 725 | Educational Measurement |
| _____ | EPSY 740 | Counseling & Interviewing Skills |
| _____ | EPSY 742 | Counseling Theory & Techniques |
| _____ | EPSY 830 | Individual and Group Assessment |
| _____ | EPSY 842 | Counseling Practicum |
| _____ | EPSY 844 | Group Theory & Process |
| _____ | EPSY 846 | Career Development |
| _____ | EPSY 875 | Cross-Cultural Counseling |
| _____ | EPSY 880 | Legal, Ethical, & Professional Issues |
| _____ | EPSY 890 | Diagnosis & Psychopathology in Counseling Psychology |
| _____ | EPSY 896 | Advanced Counseling Skills |

(continued on the next page)

Please list your electives and special courses taken or currently enrolled in to complete either the MS Terminal Track or the Ph.D. Aspirant Track.

I have reviewed the coursework of the student mentioned above and agree that s(he) will have completed all requirements for the Master's degree by the end of the semester.

Signature of Advisor

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES THAT APPLY ONLY TO THE CPSY PH.D. PROGRAM

DOCTORAL PROGRAM MISSION STATEMENT

Our program's mission is preparing multiculturally and professionally competent health service counseling psychologists as educators, practitioners, researchers, and leaders who facilitate and promote flourishing in the personal, interpersonal, educational, and vocational development of the diverse individuals they serve and enhance the environments in which those individuals function.

DOCTORAL PROGRAM TRAINING AIMS

- 1) The program produces graduates who adopt a professional identity as health service psychologists, specializing in counseling psychology.
- 2) The program produces graduates who respect and value cultural and individual diversity and understand the psychological impact of cultural and social contextual factors in individuals' well-being. They are prepared to serve diverse clients in diverse settings and promote individual and societal well-being through their professional services.
- 3) The program produces graduates who are competent in conducting and consuming scientific research, thinking critically about research findings and engaging in culturally effective evidence-based health services.
- 4) The program produces graduates who are lifelong learners committed to the development of individual strengths and professional collaboration and building a positive professional learning environment characterized by cooperation and respect.

PROCEDURES FOR WAIVING COURSES

The CPSY Course Waiver Forms can be downloaded [here](#).

* To petition for a course waiver, you, the student, are responsible to:

1. Inform and work with your academic advisor and acquire his/her approval;
2. In an organized fashion, provide evidence of the prior course work that shows the equivalence to that of the course you are requesting to waive at KU (e.g., course syllabus, completed course assignments, course grade approval, etc.) in addition to completing this petition form.
3. Take the evidence and any other supporting documents to the instructor of record for the course that you are requesting to waive for his/her review and approval.
4. After the course instructor fills out and signs the Course Equivalence Instructor Approval Form, present all relevant material along with the Petition for Course Waiver Form signed by you and your advisor to the faculty (you may ask your advisor to bring the material to the faculty meeting) for final approval.

Waiving of Statistics courses

One graduate course taken at another institution can only be used to waive one course at KU. For example, if a student has taken a statistics course elsewhere that topically covers both regression and

multivariate, they can petition to have one statistics course waived. Upon consultation with one of the REMS faculty, they might decide to waive either Regression or multivariate and take the other, OR they might waive EPSY's Regression and multivariate courses but enroll for a higher level statistics course. In other words, where the program requires two courses, if the student had one elsewhere, they still need to take one course at KU.

Waiving of Elective Coursework

Courses taken toward fulfillment of one degree cannot be used to fulfill elective requirements for the doctoral program. [NOTE: Students admitted to the PhD program who have come through the KU MS 60-hour program will be allowed to waive up to 9 hours of **electives** from their doctoral program].

Continuing Education Courses

Continuing Education courses cannot count toward either the PhD or master's degree program.

Multi-Year Rotation of Courses

The EPSY Department attempts to work from a multi-year rotation of courses. This allows students to better plan their course sequencing. CPSY courses (and most other EPSY courses) are on a 2-year rotation, while a few EPSY courses are on a 3-year rotation.

Annual Review of Doctoral Students

Refer to [Comprehensive Annual Evaluation of Doctoral Students](#) detailed earlier in this document.

Developing and Maintaining Your Official Program Plan

During the first year in the doctoral program, the student develops, with their advisor, their Program Plan of Study. The form for the plan is available at [Forms & Documents | Department of Educational Psychology \(ku.edu\)](#) When completed, the student signs the form, as does the advisor, one additional CPSY faculty member (Regular or Special status), and then the Director of Training, who submits it to the office staff in 621 JRP, who keeps a copy for the department file in 621, and delivers the original to the SOE Graduate Studies office in JRP. It is critical that the student keep this form accurate and up to date, and when any changes are made, a new form is processed, with the same signatures, to replace any previous version of the form. The student is responsible for updating the form when they have chosen specific electives, and at other milestones noted on the form. The program plan is important for verification that the student meets the requirements of the program, and that all necessary requirements have been met at each milestone like the comprehensive examination and the application for internship, and of course for graduation.

Doctoral Program Residency Requirement

- a. A minimum of 3 full-time academic years of graduate study (or the equivalent thereof) plus an internship prior to receiving the doctoral degree;
- b. At least 2 of the 3 academic training years (or the equivalent thereof) within the program from

- which the doctoral degree is granted;
- c. At least 1 year of which must be in full-time residence (or the equivalent thereof) at that same program. Programs seeking to satisfy the requirement of one year of full-time residency based on "the equivalent thereof" must demonstrate how the proposed equivalence achieves all the purposes of the residency requirement.

Completion of a Master's Degree from The University of Kansas or Another University

When students who have begun a master's degree are admitted to our doctoral program, we encourage them to complete their master's degree (whether from KU or from another institution) but we do not require completion.

Doctoral students admitted from the bachelor's level should discuss with the advisor the decision whether to receive the MS along the way, and if so, whether to take the CPCE, complete a Master's thesis, or complete a Master's project.

Verification of Practicum Hours taken Elsewhere

Once a student has been made an offer for our Ph.D. program, we will need verification of successful completion of any practicum experience required for their master's program in order to add those hours to the practicum hours compiled through their doctoral program.

Practicum Placement for those Entering with a Master's Degree

Except in usual circumstances, we generally do not encourage new doctoral students coming from other master's programs to take practicum in the first year.

Counting Hours after Doctoral Admission

Any coursework taken at KU after a student has been admitted to our doctoral program can be counted as part of the doctoral program. For example, if a student is notified in March that they are admitted for the next cohort, courses they take that summer and beyond (even if they are still working toward the MS degree at KU) may be counted toward the doctoral degree. Keep in mind, however, that no course can be counted toward more than one degree. On the other hand, practicum client contact hours accumulated in a practicum (even if taken as part of the MS degree) can be counted as "doctoral client contact hours" at that point, and can also be counted if applying for licensure as an LPC. So credit hours are treated differently than client contact hours.

School of Education & Human Sciences Research Skills Requirement

Doctoral students need to have a minimum of 12 hours of graduate coursework in research skills. This is one area in which the SoE allows student to 'double dip' on credits, such that students can use up to 6 hours of prior graduate coursework in statistics, measurement, design. The SOE further requires that 9 of those 12 hours must be 800-level or above.

Practicum Client Contact Hours & Supervision Requirements

Although the APA does not stipulate a specific number of clinical hours that doctoral students must complete prior to internship, in order to be a competitive intern applicant, students are expected to accrue a minimum of 450 total hours of direct client contact and 100 hours of supervision. Of those 450 total hours, 300 must come from EPSY 948, EPSY 949, and Field Experiences taken as part of the doctoral program in CPSY at the University of Kansas. The 300 must be supervised (on-site or via enrollment) one hour per week by a psychologist licensed either in the jurisdiction where the site is located, or licensed in Kansas. The program has established this 450-hour figure as its minimum for the certification of student readiness for internship. Additional hours of clinical work (counseling, assessment, case conferencing, etc.) may be accrued through enrollment in field experiences. Students are encouraged to consult on-line APPIC (internship) program information for details on the clinical experience expectations of specific sites in which they may have interest, as many of them report more contact hours than these in order for applicants to be considered. Most students have significantly more hours of client contact and supervision prior to applying for internship, both from KU and nationally. For example, over the past five years, our students have been reporting an average of 647 hours of direct intervention, 123 hours of assessment, and 365 hours of supervision. See Table below.

Direct client contact refers to individual, conjoint, and group counseling, as well as assessment. It includes intake interviews and also sessions conducted with another counselor, if the student actively participates (otherwise, it is considered observation). In counting hours, sessions less than 40 minutes equal 1/2 hour; sessions between 40 and 70 minutes equal 1 hour; sessions greater than 70 minutes equal 1 1/2 hours; and so on.

Supervision consists of scheduled, weekly time with an assigned supervisor who is a psychologist, counselor, social worker, or other licensed mental health professional, or in some cases, an advanced doctoral student directly supervised by a Ph.D. level counselor, psychologist, or other licensed mental

health professional. [When supervision is carried out by an unlicensed person, it is considered peer-supervision when it comes to applying for internship]. The supervisor is the professional staff member at the site who holds responsibility for the cases being seen by the practicum student.

AAPI HOURS REPORTED BY KU CPSY APPLICANTS 2012-2016: N=27

<u>Intervention</u>	<u>Assessment</u>	<u>Supervision</u>	
292-881	29-344	144-635	Range
647	123	365	Mean
643	87	387	Median

AAPI HOURS REPORTED BY KU CPSY APPLICANTS 2016: N=10

<u>Intervention</u>	<u>Assessment</u>	<u>Supervision</u>	
452-665	58-150	268-376	Range
665	150	376	Mean
665	64	387	Median

Policy Regarding the Group Experience

1. Doctoral students are encouraged, but not required, to participate in the leading or co-leading of a group experience during the course of their doctoral practicum sequence (EPSY 948a/b, EPSY 949a/b)
2. Co-leading a group with a more experienced therapist is the preferred mechanism for acquiring the group leadership experience.
3. The nature of available group experiences will vary across sites/settings and client populations, and suitable group experiences may not be available at all sites.
4. Group formats may include process/experiential groups, structured groups focusing on a particular theme or issue (e.g., career exploration, marriage enrichment, substance abuse, anger management, parenting, medical compliance, thesis/dissertation support) or reflect a particular therapeutic orientation (e.g., behavioral, client-centered, cognitive, solution-focused).
5. As with the student’s on-site individual counseling/therapy work, supervision of the group experience is the primary responsibility of the on-site supervisor—with campus-based consultation provided by the student’s practicum instructor.
6. As with the student’s individual counseling/therapy (practicum and supervised field experiences), routine recording of group sessions is encouraged. The nature of groups is such, however, that it is understood that recording of sessions may not be possible or practicable.

7. Students wishing to obtain supervised experience leading a group but who are unable to acquire supervised experience in leading a group during practicum, may wish to discuss enrolling in a supervised field experience with the program's Practicum Coordinator.
8. Students are required to have successfully completed EPSY 842 Counseling Practicum and EPSY 844 Theory of Group Counseling prior to participating as a group leader/co-leader, either in a practicum or field experience.

Supervision of Psychotherapy

The Counseling Psychology doctoral training program at KU requires that every doctoral student participate in supervision of master's level practicum students. Doctoral students are required to enroll in one hour of EPSY 996 for 2 consecutive semesters to accomplish this requirement. The experience will be under the direction of a faculty member who is responsible for teaching a section of EPSY 842 (Counseling Practicum) during the same semester.

Note: In cases where the number of students in EPSY 842 will be too few to accommodate the number of doctoral students needing to act as consultants, the requirement for those doctoral students will be just 1 semester of 996, rather than 2, with some acting as consultants in the fall and others in the spring. This determination will be made by the faculty under the guidance of the Practicum Coordinator.

Prior or concurrent enrollment in EPSY 945: Clinical Supervision and Consultation, is a prerequisite for the supervision experience.

The Supervision of Psychotherapy experience includes the following requirements:

1. Meet individually each week with at least 2 different students enrolled in EPSY 842.
2. Attend an early EPSY 842 class to introduce yourself.
3. Meet weekly with the faculty instructor to go over the consultation process you are engaging in with your consultees. Some faculty instructors may require recording of consultation sessions.
4. Read any readings assigned to you by the EPSY 842 instructor.

Licensure of Doctoral Students at the Master's Level

Because of prior training and experience, doctoral students who meet the requirements for licensure as a Licensed Professional Counselor or as a Licensed Master's Level Psychotherapist are encouraged to apply for the appropriate license. In addition, students who have been awarded the master's degree and taken other specified coursework may be eligible to apply for licensure in Kansas as a Temporary Licensed Professional Counselor or as a Temporary Licensed Master's Level Psychotherapist. However, as of this writing, the BSRB is suggesting that students NOT apply for a temporary LPC license, as it could

become a problem for them after graduation, since temporary licenses are not renewable, and it may take longer to complete all of the post-graduation requirements necessary to be eligible for full licensure. The Kansas Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board (KSBSRB) oversees all such licenses in Kansas, and they have a very good website (<http://ksbsrb.ks.gov>).

The Elective Block

The doctoral program has an elective block requirement. These are to be *regularly scheduled courses* (and may include 896 and 998 seminars), taken at KU, thus the requirement cannot be fulfilled using field experiences, college teaching experience*, independent study, etc. A *research* elective is NOT required—but is encouraged (and may be expected by advisors), keeping in mind that students are expected to have the research competencies necessary to successfully complete the dissertation.

*There is an exception for those doc students who have already completed their EPSY 996 requirement but who wish to gain further classroom teaching experience in a course other than Beginning Practicum. In such instances, the student can enroll in EPSY 995 Field Experience in College Teaching, or EPSY 996 College Teaching Experience, and can use up to 3 hours of such an enrollment toward the elective block.

Doctoral Research Practicum

The Counseling Psychology Doctoral Program adheres to the scientist-practitioner model of professional training, emphasizing both research and applied counseling skills. With regard to research skill development, students are required to complete three (3) credit hours of EPSY 901: Research Practicum. One goal of EPSY 901 is to aid in the development of student research projects that may result in professional presentations, journal publications, and the doctoral dissertation.

Research Practicum enrollment must occur over at least two consecutive semesters and must be completed within the student's first two years in the program (three years for students entering the program with a bachelor's degree).

In addition to enrolling in three total hours of EPSY 901, the student must complete a research "product." During the research practicum, the student works with a faculty member (possibly with other students) on a research project that involves the collection and analysis of data and leads to a product. The data collection and analysis may be quantitative or qualitative in nature. Literature reviews, position or conceptual papers, or other non-data-derived projects are not acceptable for fulfilling this particular research requirement.

Satisfactory completion of the product can be demonstrated through one of several means:

1. Receipt of a review of the product from a professional journal's editor.
2. Presentation of the product at a national, regional, or local convention or conference.
3. Presentation of the product at a departmental colloquium.

It is the student's responsibility to seek out faculty members with whom the student shares research

interests and with whom they would like to work. The supervising faculty member determines what level of participation on a particular product will warrant credit for satisfying this requirement, and this will be clarified as early in the research process as possible. Research activity expectations with regard to author listing (first, second, etc.) should be made explicit at that time as well. A student need not be first author of a product in order to have it satisfy this requirement, though that will often be the case.

In order to ensure that students enrolled in EPSY 901 are appropriately engaged in the research process, the supervising faculty member will provide ongoing (at least once each semester) evaluative feedback to students with whom they work.

Noncompliance with research activity expectations will result in a grade of Incomplete, until such time as the research activity expectations have been duly met.

NOTE: The research practicum is a formal part of the doctoral research core requirement and therefore must be completed (as evidenced by the grading of all three hours of the practicum experience, and thus the completion of the research product) prior to taking comprehensive exams. Enrollments prior to completion of the product will be graded P for Progress, and when the product is completed, the assigned grade will be a letter grade (A through F). If the product is completed after the assignment of P in the final semester of 901, the faculty member will execute a Change of Grade from P to a letter grade, which signifies the completion of the product.

DOCTORAL COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION POLICIES AND PROCEDURES (for students entering program prior to Fall 2023)

1. Doctoral comprehensive examinations (“comps”) are administered by the Comprehensive Examination Committee (CEC), composed of two or three program faculty members. The CEC is responsible for writing the common sections of the test, approving an examinee's choice of a Specialty Area, collecting any Specialty Area questions from examinees' advisors, and submitting all to the faculty for final approval. It is expected that the committee will rely heavily on the expertise of the entire faculty in drawing up the exam, although not all faculty members will submit questions each semester.
2. The content of the examination is drawn from the entire body of psychological knowledge for which students are responsible in the program. That is, questions are also written over the domains covered in coursework offered in the Department of Educational Psychology and the Department of Psychology.
3. The examination consists of four sections: (1) Theory, (2) Research, (3) Professional Applications, and (4) a Specialty Area unique to the examinee. Each of the first three sections consists of three essay questions, while the Specialty Area has two options as described below. For each administration at which they write, the examinee must write all sections of the exam that they have not yet passed, e.g., they may not choose to take only the first two sections during their first attempt.

4. The written Doctoral Comprehensive Examination is offered twice each academic year, on Thursday and Friday of the first week of classes in the fall, and on Thursday and Friday in the first week of classes in the spring. The program is structured in such a way that most students take comprehensive exams in the spring semester. This is to encourage better development of dissertation proposals prior to the internship application process.

On rare occasions, students may want to sit for the exam in the fall semester. Students petitioning to take comprehensive exams in the fall semester in which they will be applying for internship must complete a “pre-proposal” of their dissertation by May 1st of the semester before comprehensive exams. This pre-proposal must conform to all guidelines for the dissertation proposal as outlined in the handbook section entitled “Doctoral Dissertation.” Students who successfully pre-propose their dissertation will formally propose their dissertation after completion of comprehensive exams and before being allowed to apply for internship. Please consult your advisor for additional information on this process.

5. Students wishing to take any portion of the exam must register using the CPSY Doctoral Comprehensive Examination Registration Form at [CPSY Program-Related Forms \(Forms & Documents | School of Education & Human Sciences and Human Sciences \(ku.edu\)\)](#) at least four weeks prior to the date set for the exam. On this form, students notify the Training Director of their intent to take the exam, what their Specialty Area is proposed to be, and which option they choose for the Oral Comprehensive Exam. At the same time, the student's Advisor should file the proper Progress-To-Degree form listing the student's five-person Oral Exam committee, as detailed below.
6. To be eligible to sit for the comprehensive exam, you must have completed ALL required program coursework and meet all other school and university eligibility requirements. There may be no more than three courses (9 credit hours) of uncompleted coursework in regularly scheduled courses required in the plan of study at the time of the exam. These courses can be electives or one course that is required by APA but not central to the material covered in comps (i.e., Social Aspects of Behavior, Integration Coursework, or Biological Aspects of Behavior). These remaining credit hours may count toward the required 18 post-comprehensive exam enrollment requirements. No grades of Incomplete or WG may be pending. The required college teaching/practicum supervision (EPSY 996) experience must be completed prior to or during the academic year in which comps are taken. Elective courses outside of the 6 elective credit hours required by the program are not at issue, as they may be taken any time before or after the comprehensive exam. Check with your advisor to ensure your eligibility to sit for the exam and be sure that your advisor has the EPSY office submit the appropriate Progress-to-Degree form (PtD) at least one month prior to the exam. The SOE Graduate Office must certify that you are eligible to sit for the exam.
7. For the Specialty Area, the student will write an article-length review of the literature and method sections of a proposed study in the Specialty Area. The review should be 5-7 pages, and the method should be 5-7 pages, yielding a document that is 10-14 pages long (before references are added),

double spaced, 1-inch margins around, 12-pt Times New Roman font. The format should follow APA style for an empirical study that might appear in the Journal of Counseling Psychology. This is to be turned in on the morning of the first day of written comps, and will replace the last afternoon of written comps. The Specialty Area, while meant to be broad, must be approved by the student's advisor and the CEC as meeting that definition. There is no stipulation that the paper be written at any specific time only that it is to be turned in on the first morning of comps. While it is understood that the student may consult with faculty and other experts regarding what best constitutes the area for review or the best methods for studying a specific research question, there is a clear expectation that the paper will be written independently.

8. Administration of the exam: The questions in each of the sections are offered as a group, with the Research section being offered on the morning of the first day of the examination, the Professional Applications section being offered on the afternoon of the first day of the examination, the Theory section offered on the morning of the second day of the examination. This order can be altered if all examinees agree. For each section, examinees are offered only three questions, each of which must be answered.

Evaluation of the Exam

1. Students' answers will be distributed proportionally among the Counseling Psychology faculty for evaluation. While it is recognized that not all faculty will be “experts” in each area covered by the questions, it is also recognized that this is not a specialty examination. Examinees are expected to perform at the level of the generalist, not the specialist, in each area. At the same time, faculty members have the opportunity and responsibility to serve as readers for questions for which the content is familiar to them.
2. A “Pass” on the examination requires a Pass on all four sections (Theory, Research, Professional Applications, and Specialty Area).
3. Failure of any section(s) will necessitate the retaking of the failed section(s).

4. A Pass on any section consists of passing two of the three questions from the section.
5. A Pass on any question consists of a Pass from at least two of the three readers for that question. (See Appendix for comprehensive examination evaluation standards.)
6. A Pass on Option 2 of the Specialty Area consists of an overall rating of Pass from two of the three readers of the paper.
7. A student who fails either all or part of the written examination must continue in further attempts bound by the procedures in effect at the time they first took any part of the examination.
8. For each of the first three areas, there should be one question which has some consistency from one administration to the next as outlined below.
 - a. **Theory**

There should always be one question calling for the examinee to describe, examine, critique, or justify some aspect(s) of his or her own theory of counseling. The question may also ask the examinee to compare their theory to another theory, or to apply their theory, etc. The constant part is the requirement that the examinees discuss some aspect(s) of their own theory.
 - b. **Research**

There should always be a question calling for the examinee to outline the design for a research study. The specifics of the question may vary, but the constant is that examinees are called on to design a study.
 - c. **Professional Applications**

There should always be a question calling for examinees to conceptualize a case that is presented to them. The case changes with each administration, but the constant is that examinees are called on to do a case conceptualization.

The Oral Comprehensive Examination

The Oral Comprehensive Examination is to be 90 minutes in length and allows for the examinee to be questioned over the entire body of psychological knowledge for which students are responsible in this program. The exam begins with the brief presentation of a counseling case the student has worked with across multiple sessions in a therapeutic setting during a practicum experience. While students are allowed to bring in notes related to their presentation of the case, no other notes are allowed during the exam. One of the goals of the oral exam is to determine whether the student is able to sit in a room and think and talk like a psychologist, and any notes would be props that a psychologist would not typically have on hand.

Ten days prior to the scheduled oral exam, the student will submit a brief case conceptualization summary to the Comprehensive Exam Committee Chair. This case conceptualization will follow the format outlined below, and should be three to four pages in length. The case summary must be redacted to remove or disguise any information that might reasonably allow a reader to identify the client. The Comprehensive Exam Committee Chair will receive the case, and proof it to ensure adequate redaction, and may have the student edit it further to that end. Once the case is deemed ready, the Chair will upload it to KU's secure online system, setting it up to allow only members of the student's oral examination committee access to the case.

At the start of the exam itself, the examinee will be given 10 minutes to present the relevant information about the case to the committee, keeping in mind that the committee has already read the case summary, and will then be expected to answer questions based on the case, and further questions as noted below.

Questions will be posed by the committee and are constrained only by the boundaries of the program itself, using the details of the case as a jumping off point. The Revised Competency Benchmarks in Professional Psychology (APA, 2013) are particularly relevant to how this oral exam relates to the broader set of competencies. Sample questions are available below, and cover the broad areas of theory, research, and applications, multiculturalism, ethical decision making, theories of counseling, assessment, treatment planning, vocational psychology, research design, and empirically supported treatment, among others.

At least 6 weeks prior to the written comprehensive examination, the Comprehensive Exam Committee Chair will meet with students planning to take comps the following semester. At that time students will be notified of at least two specific questions they will be required to respond to during the oral exam. The prepared responses should be no more than 5 minutes each. These questions need not be the same from one administration to the next, but they will be the same for all students taking the exam that semester.

Occasionally students wish to bring simple food items to oral exams or dissertation proposal/defense meetings. While we respect the good intention behind it, the faculty want our students to know that this is NOT required or expected. If you decide to bring food to those occasions, please keep it simple. If you have questions, please consult your advisor.

Case Conceptualization Format

The following provides a general outline for preparing a counseling case conceptualization. Not all of the information may be pertinent to, or available for, a particular case, and the information relevant to the various sections of the case conceptualization will vary depending on the theoretical perspective or orientation brought to bear on the case by the counselor. Although a given client may describe the presenting problem in a particular way, how the counselor understands or conceptualizes that presenting problem (e.g., from a behavioral, cognitive, psychodynamic, or interpersonal orientation) will influence (a) the counselor's description of the problem, (b) the relevant history, (c) the client's interpersonal style, (d) the relevance or significance of environmental, cognitive, emotional, and

behavioral factors, and (e) the counselor's proposed treatment plan.

1. *Identifying Data*: Includes relevant demographic information.
 - Age
 - Sex and gender
 - Race / Ethnicity
 - Sexual orientation
 - Relationship status
 - Living situation
 - Vocational status
 - Physical appearance
 - General self-presentation
 - Context in which the client came to see you
2. *Presenting Problem*: Includes a listing of the problem areas, from the client's perspective, noting particularly the client's view of their order of importance. The summary might consider:
 - Was there a precipitating set of circumstances?
 - How long had the problem persisted?
 - Had this problem occurred before? What were the circumstances at the time?
 - To what did the client attribute the cause of the problem?
 - What had the client already tried to resolve the problem? In what way had this proven to be effective and ineffective?
3. *Strengths*: Describe strengths identified by the client and others, as well as strengths you can identify.
4. *Environmental Factors*:
 - Elements in the environment that functioned as stressors to the client, especially those centrally related to the presenting issue.
 - Elements in the environment that functioned as support for the client: e.g., friends, family, living accommodations, recreational activities, finances.
5. *Relevant History*: This section will vary in comprehensiveness according to length of treatment, and will vary in focus according to theoretical orientation and specific nature of the case.
6. *Interpersonal Style*: Includes a description of the client's orientation toward others in their environment and should include:
 - The overall posture the client typically takes toward others
 - The client's interpersonal orientation toward the counselor
7. *Personality Dynamics*:

- Cognitive factors such as intelligence, insight, judgment
 - Emotional factors
 - Behavioral factors
8. *Diagnostic Possibilities:* Describe your thinking around diagnosis, outlining some of the possibilities you considered initially, and any eventual diagnosis.
 9. *Counselor's Conceptualization of the Case:* Include a summary of your view of the case from your particular theoretical perspective. This is a synthesis of all of the above data and the essence of the conceptualization. It is your "model" of the client: why they functioned this particular way, how they got to be the way they are, what is maintaining their behavior, and ways that counseling might address reasonable goals.
 10. *Treatment Plan:* Based on the above information, describe the plan you followed in this case--as you conceptualized it. In describing your plan, consider (a) your therapeutic relationship with the client, (b) interventions, change strategies, and between-session assignments, and (c) how you evaluated client change and the effectiveness of your counseling.

Sample Questions for Case Presentation or Oral Comprehensive Exam

THEORY

- Outline your theoretical model for how people change. How does client fit with or deviate from this model?
- Pick a theoretical orientation you did NOT apply with this case. How might the application of that theoretical orientation have changed how you worked with this client?
- Why did you pick this particular theory to conceptualize this client? Why did you not pick another theory?
- What information remains unexplained by your choice? Knowing this, what other perspectives might be helpful?
- How has client's relationship to work shaped their experience with the presenting problem?
- Pick a vocational theory to conceptualize this client's relationship to work.
- Pick a developmental framework from which to understand this client's worldview and development.

RESEARCH

- Design a study to determine whether you were being effective with this client.
- Design a randomized-controlled trial for this particular presenting problem.
- What are the limits to RCTs within the framework of scientific study?
- How do you balance rigor and relevance in clinical research?
- Discuss some of the challenges inherent to research in the setting from which this case is taken.

- What research could others do that would have helped inform your practice with this client?

PRACTICE

- What are some of the evidence-based treatments for this problem? Why did you or why didn't you implement these?
- What did your risk assessment look like with this client? What was your response to that?
- What resources did you utilize in working with this client, and why?
- How might you have introduced the idea of a therapy group to the client?
- What role could you see this client adopting within the context of a psychotherapeutic group? How might the group experience have been helpful for your work with this client regardless of whether or not this modality was implemented in treatment?

ETHICS

- What ethical considerations were present with this client? (think small, too –e.g., documenting progress, scheduling, keeping confidentiality, etc.)
- If this client tried to add you on Facebook, how would you respond? How would you address this with the client?
- What if you got a call at 2:00 a.m. from this client? What if this client invited you to attend his/her son's birthday party? What would you do?
- If a client told you they were having unprotected sex with knowledge that they have HIV/AIDS. What would you do?
- If you wanted to use this client as a case study for a journal, what steps would you need to consider?

SUPERVISION

- If you were supervising a person with this client, what kind of questions would you ask? How would you help them conceptualize their work?
- What did you learn about yourself in working with this client? Where do you need to grow as a clinician?
- If your supervisor continually missed supervision meetings with you to discuss a client. How would you respond?
- How did you approach individual or group supervision for this client?
- Pick a model of supervision, and describe how the supervision you received on this case fits with or deviates from this model.
- Did you seek out supervision for this case outside of any pre-designated time? If so, what contributed to your decision to do so, and what was your process for this?

MULTICULTURAL COMPETENCE

- In what stage of identity development do you find yourself at this time?

- How might your own cultural identity have impacted your work with this client?
- How might you approach a client who seems very similar to you in experience or beliefs? What do you need to keep in mind and how do you understand what is your perspective versus the experience of your client?
- What were relevant diversity characteristics for this client, and how did you incorporate that into your treatment plan?
- What are the cultural implications of a given theoretical approach?

ASSESSMENT

- What is your process in evaluating your work with a client? What are important factors to consider within the context of the site at which you worked with this client?
- What kind of assessments would you want to use with client similar to this one? What cultural issues might you run into with those assessments and clients like this?
- If you completed any assessment with this client, how did you choose what to use, how did you approach interpretation of results, and how did you use the results in therapy?
- What are the results of the psychometric research on this chosen assessment?

Doctoral Oral Comprehensive Examination Committee

A student's oral exam committee consists of 5 persons. The composition of the committee must conform to the following:

- (a) Three Regular graduate faculty members from EPSY.
- (b) One Regular graduate faculty member from any KU department outside EPSY (referred to as the "Graduate Studies Representative").
- (c) No more than one "non-Regular" (i.e. Special or Ad Hoc) graduate faculty member.
- (d) Among these, there must be 3 faculty members from the CPSY program.
- (e) The chair of the committee must hold Dissertation Chairing status.

Note: Regular graduate faculty are tenured or tenure-track faculty at KU. Special graduate faculty are not tenure-track, but teach at KU (Hensley, Rasmussen, and Backer) Ad Hoc graduate faculty are non-KU persons with a doctorate, appointed for a specific committee.

Graduate Faculty status can be confirmed online by your advisor at the Graduate Faculty Database. The Progress-To-Degree form for the comprehensive exam should be submitted at least one month prior to the written portion, in part to ensure the correct makeup of the committee, and in part to ensure the student's eligibility to sit for the examination.

1. After successful passage of the written examination, an attempt on the oral examination must be

made during the same semester (as specified by the School of Education & Human Sciences). Failure to make such an attempt during that semester is considered a failed oral examination attempt, and any such failure by forfeiture necessitates an attempt during the next regularly scheduled comprehensive examination period.

2. After a Failed oral examination, the student must wait at least 90 days before they can repeat the oral exam.
3. Students are not permitted to keep their written answers after the exam and evaluation forms have been reviewed by the student. Written exams are retained by the department for one year and then destroyed.
4. Dissertation credits may be accrued during the semester of the comprehensive exam. If the exam is not passed, the dissertation hours do not count toward the required minimum post comprehensive enrollment (see below).
5. Separation of comprehensive exam and dissertation proposal meeting: At least one week must transpire between a student's oral comprehensive exam and dissertation proposal meeting.

School of Education & Human Sciences Post-comprehensive enrollment policy and requirements

After passing the comprehensive examination, the doctoral (Ed.D & Ph.D) candidate must be continuously enrolled (fall and spring, and summer if completing a milestone) until the degree is completed. Students must enroll for at least 6 hours a semester (fall and spring) until they reach 18 post-comprehensive hours or all degree requirements are completed (whichever comes first). At least one of the 6 hours must be in dissertation every term until the dissertation is defended and uploaded. The other hours can be in non-required dissertation related coursework and/or field experience/internship as required by the program. If the dissertation is not completed after 18 hours, then the candidate must enroll in 1 hour of dissertation per term (fall and spring) until they have passed their final oral defense and uploaded their dissertation. Students who have completed the dissertation but still have remaining degree requirements (i.e., internship) must continue to enroll in at least one credit hour each semester (fall and spring) until all degree requirements are met.

Summer enrollment in dissertation hours is required only when students complete major milestones in the summer (i.e., comprehensive examination, proposal meeting, dissertation defense) or require significant faculty time. If students are completing a milestone in the summer prior to earning 18 hours of post-comprehensive exam enrollment, they must enroll in at least 3 dissertation hours in the summer. After completing the 18 hour requirement, summer enrollment requires 1 dissertation hour of enrollment.

Post-comprehensive enrollment may include enrollment during the semester in which the comprehensive examination has been passed. Dissertation hours taken during the semester in which the student passes the comprehensive examination count towards the 18 hour requirement, as does

enrollment in field experience/internship. Other required coursework taken this semester does not count towards the 18 hours. Students who do not pass the examination cannot apply dissertation hours to degree requirements. Dissertation hours taken in semesters prior to passing the comprehensive examination will not count towards the post-comprehensive continuous enrollment requirement.

Non-required coursework that is related to the dissertation and/or internship/field experience credits taken after the comprehensive examination semester may be counted towards the 18 hours post-comprehensive examination requirement. However, students are required to enroll in at least 1 dissertation hour per term (fall and spring) until passing the final oral defense and uploading the dissertation.

Students and their advisors should monitor enrollments to ensure that enrollments are consistent with this enrollment policy. Students failing to comply with the university's post-comprehensive enrollment policy will be required to correct any enrollment deficiencies by adding any missing credit hours prior to receiving approval for the oral defense of the dissertation.

NOTE: Because post-comprehensive enrollments must adhere to the 6 hours per semester rule, if a student is enrolled in fewer than 6 hours the semester they pass comps, they should consider **ADDING** additional credits to raise their enrollment to 6, to allow that semester to count as their first installment of post-comprehensive enrollment hours. In most cases those hours would be additional EPSY 999 credits, but that is not a requirement. See the CPSY PhD Program Plan for additional courses that may be counted toward post-comprehensive enrollment (e.g., field experience, electives, and **one** course fulfilling the Biological Aspects of Behavior, Cognitive and Affective Aspects of Behavior, or Social Aspects of Behavior).

In addition to and in the context of the Graduate Studies policy outlined above, the EPSY Department policy is that students must be enrolled in a minimum of 3 hours of EPSY 999 in the first and last semesters of the dissertation period (typically the semester they *propose* the dissertation, and the semester they *defend* the dissertation).

When the student is on internship and still working on the dissertation, the six hour enrollment should be made up of one hour of EPSY 990 (Internship) and five additional hours—usually of EPSY 999 (Dissertation). Once the dissertation has been successfully defended and electronically submitted, no further dissertation enrollment is required, so a student on internship who has completed the dissertation would typically only enroll for one hour of Internship fall, spring, and summer. **In that case (when a student successfully defends and submits the dissertation before they start internship, or while on internship), the student should have the Director of Training petition the KU Office of Graduate Studies for an exception.** The Office of Graduate Studies has agreed to allow students in this situation to be considered exempt from any further post-comprehensive enrollments other than the 1 hour per term enrollment in EPSY 990 Internship (even though they have not technically satisfied the 18 hour minimum - a bonus for early completion).

When to take Comprehensive Exams Relative to Internship Application

Students are required to complete their comprehensive exams prior to applying for internship. Each internship site asks for a statement of readiness from the program Training Director. In a letter to the internship site, the Training Director is specifically asked to comment on the status of the student's comprehensive exams. Sites generally are unwilling to consider anyone who has not finished all requirements prior to the February notification date, and in most cases prior to the internship application deadline. In addition, more and more sites are requiring that a *dissertation proposal* be completed and accepted before beginning the internship, and **it is the expectation of the program faculty that students will have a dissertation proposal approved before any internship applications are submitted.**

Suggestions for Review in Preparation for Comprehensive Exam

History of Counseling Psychology

- Be able to distinguish Counseling Psychology from other specialty areas
- Know key names and events
- Future of Counseling Psychology

Counseling Theories and Techniques Personality

- Individual Counseling/Psychotherapy Group Counseling/Psychotherapy
- Career Counseling / Vocational Psychology Family/Couple Counseling Supervision/Consultation
- Ethnic & Racial Diversity Issues Women's Issues
- Outcome Research Process Research

Assessment

- Familiarity with test manual information
- Critique an assortment of tests
- Test interpretation
- Test construction
- Psychodiagnostic assessment

Professional Legal/Ethical Concerns

- Professional Organizations – APA, APS, ACA, AERA, etc. Current Professional Trends and Issues
- Review professional newspapers, newsletters, journals, etc.
- Knowledge of Ethical Standards and Code of Conduct for Psychologists
- Knowledge of Kansas licensing requirements for psychologists, and the administrative rules and regulations governing the practice of psychology
- Knowledge of relevant professional practice guidelines and standards of practice

Research

- Evaluate a Study Design a Study
- Experimental Design Statistical Analyses

Physiological Psychology

Psychology of Human Development

Practical Application

- Given a case study, students should be able to (a) identify problem areas and goals, (b) present a plan of action to reach goals, (c) present and discuss their rationale for the choice of theoretical orientation and techniques used, (d) present a method and rationale for process and outcome evaluation, etc.

Psychopathology

- DSM and other diagnostic systems

Specialty Area

- Developed and identified in conjunction with doctoral advisor.

Scoring Guide for Written Comprehensive Exams

SCORE 6-OUTSTANDING

A 6 answer presents a cogent, well-articulated analysis of the complexities of the issue(s) presented in the question. A typical answer in this category

- develops a position with insightful reasons and persuasive examples, using relevant literature
- sustains a well-focused, well-organized discussion
- expresses ideas clearly and precisely

SCORE 5-STRONG

A 5 answer presents a well-developed analysis of the complexities of the issue(s) and an understanding of the area. A typical answer in this category

- develops a position on the issue with good reasons and/or examples from the current literature
- is focused and generally well organized
- expresses ideas clearly and well

SCORE 4-ADEQUATE

A 4 question presents a competent analysis of the issue and demonstrates adequate knowledge of the subject matter. A typical answer in this category

- develops a position on the issue with relevant reasons and/or examples from the literature
- is adequately organized
- expresses ideas clearly

SCORE 3-LIMITED BUT ACCEPTABLE

A 3 answer demonstrates some competence in its analysis of the issue but is plainly flawed. Knowledge of the subject matter is limited. A typical answer in this category exhibits one or more of the following characteristics:

- is vague or limited in developing a position on the issue
- is weak in the use of relevant reasons or examples
- is poorly focused and/or poorly organized
- has problems expressing ideas clearly

--contains occasional errors of fact or finding

SCORE 2-SERIOUSLY FLAWED

A 2 answer demonstrates serious weaknesses in analytical thinking. A typical answer in this category exhibits one or more of the following characteristics:

- is unclear or seriously limited in developing a position on the issue
- provides few, if any, relevant reasons or examples
- is unfocused and/or disorganized
- contains numerous and/or serious errors of fact or in use of terminology

SCORE 1-FUNDAMENTALLY DEFICIENT

A 1 answer demonstrates fundamental deficiencies in analytical thinking and knowledge base, and provides little evidence of the ability to develop or organize a coherent response to the question.

SCORE 0

Off-topic, or merely restates the topic or question.

Scoring Guide: Perspectives on an Issue

SCORE 6-OUTSTANDING

Demonstrates a cogent, well-articulated critique of the argument and mastery of the subject matter. A typical answer in this category

- clearly identifies important features of the argument and analyzes them insightfully
- develops ideas cogently, organizes them logically, and connects them with clear transitions
- effectively supports the main points of the critique using relevant current literature
- demonstrates solid understanding of the subject matter

SCORE 5-STRONG

Demonstrates a well-developed critique of the argument and a good knowledge of the subject matter. A typical answer in this category

- clearly identifies important features of the argument and analyzes them in a generally thoughtful way
- develops ideas clearly, organizes them logically, and connects them with appropriate transitions
- demonstrates knowledge of the subject matter

SCORE 4-ADEQUATE

Demonstrates a competent critique and demonstrates adequate control of the elements of writing. A typical answer in this category

- identifies and analyzes important features of the argument
- develops and organizes ideas satisfactorily but may not connect them with transitions
- supports the main points of the critique with relevant literature
- demonstrates sufficient knowledge of the subject matter to convey ideas

SCORE 3-LIMITED

Demonstrates some competence in analysis of the issue and in elements of writing but is plainly flawed. A typical answer in this category exhibits one or more of the following characteristics:

- does not identify or analyze most of the important features of the argument
- mainly analyzes tangential or irrelevant matters, or reasons poorly
- offers support of little relevance and value for points of the critique
- contains occasional errors of fact or reasoning

SCORE 2-SERIOUSLY FLAWED

Demonstrates serious weaknesses in analytical writing skills.

A typical answer in this category exhibits one or more of the following characteristics:

- does not present a critique based on logical analysis, but instead presents the writer's views on the subject
- provides little, if any, relevant or reasonable support
- contains numerous and/or serious errors of fact or reasoning

SCORE 1-FUNDAMENTALLY DEFICIENT

Demonstrates fundamental deficiencies in analytical writing skills.

A typical answer in this category exhibits more than one of the following characteristics:

- provides little evidence of the ability to understand and analyze the argument
- provides little evidence of the ability to develop an organized response
- has severe and pervasive errors of fact or reasoning SCORE 0 - off-topic or merely restates the topic

Comprehensive Exam Policy for Students Entering Fall 2023 and beyond

The comprehensive Oral Exam/Dissertation Policy below was proposed and approved by CPSY faculty in September 2022. This new policy makes the comprehensive exam and dissertation proposal more integrated. Students who entered the program in or before 2022 are not bound by it and can elect to adopt it. If you chose to adopt this new policy, you will be exempted from the old comps and dissertation proposal requirements. For students who enter the program fall 2023 or after, this will be our program's only Comprehensive Examination and Dissertation Proposal policy/procedure.

Comprehensive Oral Exam/Dissertation Proposal Policy and Procedure

According to the KU Policy, "When a doctoral aspirant has completed the major portion of the course work at a level satisfactory to the graduate degree program and school and met all other program, school, and general requirements prerequisite to the comprehensive oral examination, including the research skills requirement as appropriately applied and established for the student's particular program, the degree program must request the Graduate Division of its school to schedule **the comprehensive oral examination**" (<https://policy.ku.edu/graduate-studies/doctoral-oral-exams>). Successful completion of this comprehensive oral examination (passed by a preapproved 5 faculty member committee) represents the entry to doctoral candidacy.

KU's dissertation policy states that "The doctoral candidate must present a dissertation showing the planning, conduct, and results of original research and/or scholarly creativity. The purpose of the dissertation is to encourage and ensure the development of broad intellectual capabilities and to demonstrate an intensive focus on a problem or research area. The dissertation itself should be an evident product of the candidate's growth and attainment of the ability to identify significant problems; organize, analyze, and communicate scholarly results; and bring to bear on an area of scholarly or scientific interest a variety of research skills and scholarly or creative processes" (<https://policy.ku.edu/graduate-studies/doctoral-dissertation>).

To ensure the implementation of these policies, the CPSY requires that all students who have completed all required course work and are in good academic standing (3.0 or higher grade-point average) complete the Comprehensive Oral Exam/Dissertation Proposal successfully **BEFORE** applying for their doctoral internship (October 15). Students are responsible to complete the required activities (specified below), and work with their advisors to follow proper steps to form their oral exam committee (See KU policy <https://policy.ku.edu/graduate-studies/oral-exam-committee-composition>) and schedule the oral examination/dissertation proposal. **This oral examination will be two hours long with one hour focusing on the examination and the other on dissertation proposal.** Students have to "pass" the oral examination and obtain committee approval of the proposed study to move forward in the program. If a student fails the oral examination, **they have one chance to repeat it after a minimum of two months.** For the dissertation proposal, the committee may (1) approve the proposal, (2) require the student to make specified improvements before approval, and (3) require the student to start a totally new dissertation proposal.

Required activities for the comprehensive oral examination and dissertation proposal

Students are to complete KU required comprehensive oral examination and program required dissertation proposal in one sitting with a committee that meets the KU requirement of an oral exam committee. To demonstrate their competencies in all required areas comprehensively, students are expected to complete *a systematic/scoping literature review project* on or around their chosen dissertation topic before the oral exam can be scheduled. This review is expected to be the student's independent work (although certain collaboration with others is expected), following the guidelines set by the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) *to the degree possible*. Students may choose between a *systematic review* or a *scoping review* as they see fit for their research questions and goals. The product of this review can be a

publishable literature review paper, Chapter One of the 2-chapter dissertation (Format 2), or a part or all of Chapter 2 of the traditional 5-chapter dissertation (Format 1) proposal. At oral examination, students will be asked questions that are related to this review and tested regarding their mastery of knowledge and skills in various competence areas required by our doctoral program (See sample questions).

The operational process:

(1) Students can work with their advisors to decide on a topic for their dissertation and a focus of the literature review. The advisor can assist the process up to the “Specify the inclusion and exclusion criteria for the review and how studies were grouped for the syntheses” on PRISMA’s check list (<http://prisma-statement.org/PRISMAStatement/Checklist>). Students need to file a Comps Readiness and Topic Appropriateness Form at least **eight months** prior to the targeted date for Oral Exam/proposal meeting (See the Readiness Form below). **Students are responsible to see this step completed on time.**

(2) Students will complete this literature review as their written portion of comprehensive examination INDEPENDENTLY. They may seek assistance from other students in the coding process of the systematic/scoping literature review, but must have open conversations with these team members about independent work.

(3) The finished paper should be reviewed by the student’s oral exam committee prior to the oral exam can be scheduled. Students should provide each member of their committee with a final printed copy (electronic copy if the committee member chooses) of the paper, along with their dissertation proposal. Each committee member will have two weeks to review and rate the paper as “acceptable,” “needs minor revisions,” or “needs major revisions.” If rated as needing major revisions, the committee member giving this rating should provide detailed feedback to the student regarding the nature of the necessary revisions. If a minimum of 4 of the 5 committee members agree that the paper is “acceptable,” the student progresses to the oral exam. If the paper is not deemed acceptable by the committee, the student will have one month to revise the paper in response to the committee’s feedback and re-submit the paper to the committee for reconsideration. Once the revised paper is submitted, the committee shall have two weeks to read and make a determination regarding acceptability. The advisor is responsible for informing the student of the committee’s decision regarding the paper.

(4) For the dissertation proposal, students may consult their advisors on research design (Method Section) and seek feedback on Introduction. The literature review has to be the student’s independent work (as part of their comprehensive examination). Students are also responsible for the quality of their “writing,” including APA style, grammatical correctness, expression accuracy, etc. If needed students may seek writing/editing/proofreading service on and off campus, and in doing so, the student is solely responsible for ensuring the integrity of your independent work and behave ethically and professionally in decision making related to using such services.

Specific Requirements of the Literature Review

1) Students are to follow the steps for a systematic/scoping literature review (consulting librarians and using software to help with the review is allowed) and describe the review procedure clearly. Students are allowed to ask other students for assistance following the review procedure (e.g., screening, coding of articles). The final written product should be a minimum of 25 pages in length and covers Steps 6 to 23d on PRISMA Checklist.

2) Following APA style in writing the review.

3) The last step of the review involving evidence synthesizing, namely summarizing/evaluating /discussing the literature. In this part, students are to discuss implications and make recommendations in **ALL** areas of our

doctoral training including clinical practice (e.g., how to enhance assessment and intervention efficacy), research (e.g., needed areas for future research or ways to correct existing limitations), cultural diversity (e.g., recognizing limitations of current paradigm of research and future development needed in addressing diversity, equity and inclusion) and, and ethical and legal standards (e.g., what ethical issues were involved or overlooked in current literature and how we may address those in the future).

Time Considerations:

Since the types of reviews required take a significant amount of time and effort, students are to start early planning for the review. Students are encouraged to discuss with their advisors early about their dissertation topic area and regarding the sequence of activities (e.g., start designing the study after a bulk of the literature review is completed) to ensure the quality of the dissertation proposal. Developing a timeline early is recommended.

Specifically, if your goal is to complete your comprehensive examination by a spring semester, you need to file your “Comps Readiness and Topic Appropriateness Form” no later than the first day of school in the previous fall, hopefully earlier. If your oral exam can be scheduled before the Spring semester ends, your enrolled credits in that spring semester will count toward the required post-comps enrollment.

If you intend to apply for internship in the fall, the latest time to complete your oral comps and dissertation proposal is October 15th, which means that the latest time by which you have to file your Comps Readiness and Topic Appropriateness Form is Feb. 1, hopefully earlier. In this case, your post comps enrollment starts in the fall semester.

Committee’s Grading/Evaluation of the Review/Oral-Exam/Proposal:

An evaluation rubric will be used for **the written review** in all necessary areas as recommended by PRISMA, including all the elements expected in introduction, method, result and discussion of the paper.

The **oral examination will be graded as “pass” or “fail” by the committee.** a rubric will be used to indicate pass/fail in the following areas: content mastery (research, assessment, and intervention), oral communication skills, professionalism and ethical behavior, and understanding of individual and cultural diversity.

The **dissertation proposal** will be rated as 1) Acceptable, 2) revision is needed, and 3) unacceptable.

Sample Questions for Oral Comprehensive Examination

- 1) In what concrete ways has your review of the literature contributed to your mastery of the knowledge on the topic?
- 2) In what concretely ways has your review of the literature made you a better clinician?
- 3) What are some of the strengths of the research you reviewed that had fundamentally changed/shaped our professional understanding of the topic – use your critical thinking?
- 4) What are some of the weaknesses in the research you reviewed that have significantly limited/biased the development of our understanding of the topic – and what need to be done about it?
- 5) What are the ways in which the literature you reviewed demonstrated potential for its application in diverse cultural contexts?
- 6) What are the ways in which the literature you reviewed exhibited limitations for its application in diverse cultural contexts?
- 7) Using a concrete clinical example to illustrate the learning you acquired from this review and to show how your approach to the case has developed/changed as the result.

8) Using a concrete clinical or social context to illustrate the learning you acquired from this review to conduct culturally, socially and ethically responsible research in related areas.

READINESS FORM FOR COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION PROJECT

Date: _____

Student Name: _____

Student Advisor (Chair for the Comprehensive Exam Committee) _____

Planned Comps Oral Examination Date: _____, _____

Month Year

Note: A minimum of 8 months is required between today and the planned exam date.

Date of Completion of EPSY 901 Project _____

Required Course Work Completion Status at the time of planned oral examination:

Remaining Required Courses:

Do you have a plan to fulfill the “post comps enrollment” requirement? _____

Semester/year in which you plan to apply for internship: _____

Proposed Title for Comps Literature Review _____

A short description of the review project – 50 words

Advisor/Chair’s approval of the title: _____.

Signature Date:

NOTE: This form needs to be submitted to the Director of Training and reviewed by the whole faculty. A copy needs to be in the student file.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Advisor Signature: _____ Date: _____

Resources:

How to develop a protocol -- <https://guides.lib.unc.edu/systematic-reviews/protocol>

CPSY Comprehensive Exam Readiness Checklist

This checklist is intended to help you determine your eligibility to sit for comprehensive exams. Official determination of your eligibility is decided by the School of Education & Human Sciences following a Progress to Degree evaluation. Please consult the CPSY Program Handbook and your advisor when determining your official eligibility to sit for the exam.

<i>Course</i>	<i>Course Number</i>	<i>Term</i>	<i>Grade</i>
COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY CORE			
Ethical and Legal Issues in Professional Psychology	EPSY 880		
Counseling and Interviewing Skills	EPSY 740		
Counseling Theory and Techniques	EPSY 742		
Individual and Group Assessment	EPSY 830		
Theory of Group Counseling	EPSY 844		
Career Development	EPSY 846		
Psychodiagnostic Assessment	EPSY 951		
Adv. Counseling Theory and Research	EPSY 952		
Vocational Psychology	EPSY 954		
Clinical Supervision & Consultation	EPSY 945		
Seminar in Current Issues and Trends in CPSY	EPSY 918		
Counseling Practicum	EPSY 842a		
Counseling Practicum	EPSY 842b		
Advanced Practicum I	EPSY 948a		
Advanced Practicum I	EPSY 948b		
Advanced Practicum II	EPSY 949a		
Advanced Practicum II	EPSY 949b		
College Teaching Experience	EPSY 996 ¹		
COGNITIVE AND AFFECTIVE ASPECTS OF BEHAVIOR			
HISTORY AND SYSTEMS OF PSYCHOLOGY			

<i>Course</i>	<i>Course Number</i>	<i>Term</i>	<i>Grade</i>
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT			
DYSFUNCTIONAL BEHAVIOR/PSYCHOPATHOLOGY			
INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES			
PSYCHOLOGICAL MEASUREMENT			
SOCIAL ASPECTS OF BEHAVIOR/BIOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF BEHAVIOR/INTEGRATION COURSEWORK²			
RESEARCH SKILLS³			
Regression Analysis	EPSY 810		
Multivariate Analysis	EPSY 905		
Research Methods in Counseling Psychology	EPSY 955		
Research Practicum in Counseling Psychology	EPSY 901		
ELECTIVES⁴			

¹Must be taken during the year in which you sit for comps unless faculty have asked you to take this course at a later time.

²At least two of these courses must be completed before/during the semester you sit for comps.

³Three credits of EPSY 901 are required.

⁴Electives may be taken post-comprehensive exams.

Note: There may be no more than three courses (9 credit hours) of uncompleted coursework in regularly scheduled courses required in the plan of study at the time of the exam. These courses can be electives or one course that is required by APA but not central to the material covered in comps (i.e., Social Aspects of Behavior, Integration Coursework, or Biological Aspects of Behavior).

DOCTORAL DISSERTATION

Students are strongly encouraged to begin thinking about dissertation ideas, selection of the committee, and drafting their proposal prior to taking comprehensive exams. While the formal proposal meeting cannot be held until the student has passed the comprehensive exams, this procedure should not prohibit work *toward* the proposal until the exams are completed.

Dissertation Proposal

The purpose of the dissertation proposal is to ensure that the student has a strong understanding of the literature and methods relevant to the intended study, and that the student has used this understanding to develop a high-quality plan for the dissertation. Specifically, the dissertation proposal should highlight the theoretical framework and the rationale for the study and incorporate established research methodology to address the research questions. For the doctoral student, the dissertation proposal represents an opportunity to move from structured research experiences to more independent, original research.

The proposal should consist of, at a minimum: (a) a statement of the research problem/issue to be addressed, (b) the research questions being asked, (c) a comprehensive literature review to be used to support and justify the study and its methodology, (d) any hypotheses to be tested, and (e) the methods and procedures (including the statistical analyses) that will be used in the proposed study. In other words, it is expected that the literature review will be sufficiently complete (detailed and critical) to support and justify the research questions and the methodology. At the proposal meeting, a critical examination of the proposed research is conducted. Any changes recommended by the committee must be incorporated into the proposal before the proposal can be formally approved.

Minimum Requirements for the Traditional Dissertation Proposal

The traditional dissertation proposal consists of the first three chapters of the dissertation: an introduction (why the problem is worthy of study), a comprehensive literature review (what is already known about the problem), and methodology (what you will do in your study). The proposal must be prepared in APA Editorial style. Your advisor will not approve your proposal for distribution to the full committee until it contains enough detail for committee members to make a judgment about its scientific merit. Here are the recommended elements to provide this level of detail:

1. **Introduction** (8-10 pages) concise and focused review of literature, ending with a purpose statement, research questions, and hypotheses. This section must convince readers that this study is worth doing. Take as your model the introductions of articles published in *Journal of Counseling Psychology*.
2. **Literature Review** (length to be determined with advisor and committee members, approximately 20-30 pages minimum)
3. **Method** (10-15 pages)

- a. *For quantitative proposals:*
 - i. Participants: Describe the population you plan to sample, inclusion criteria? Exclusion criteria? Minimum number of participants required – based on an a priori power analysis.
 - ii. Instruments: Describe each measure and provide psychometric information for each, relevant for your intended sample. Present the instruments in an Appendix for your committee to review.
 - iii. Describe the procedure for data collection. Be sure to identify a specific research design. If you are planning an experiment, describe in detail how the conditions will differ and how participants will be assigned. Procedures for obtaining informed consent must also be described. Any equipment, interventions, or research materials should be thoroughly described.
 - iv. Plan for data analysis: Describe step-by-step each quantitative procedure you plan to use. Preliminary data screening procedures should be described. A quantitative test for each hypothesis presented at the end of Chapter 1 should be described in this section. Any follow-up or exploratory analyses should also be described.
 - v. Consistent with program aims, it is expected that you will address issues of cultural and individual diversity. This may be accomplished through sampling procedures, the variables you are exploring, and/or by discussing cultural and individual diversity as it relates to your topic in your literature review.

- b. *For qualitative proposals:*
 - i. The qualitative framework you plan to use should be described (e.g., grounded theory, CQR, phenomenological, mixed-methods). A citation or citations to the source that describes this particular qualitative approach should be provided, together with a justification for why this particular approach is well-suited to the research question you have proposed at the end of Chapter 1. The strongest arguments are based on epistemological considerations [See Ponterotto, J. G. (2005). Qualitative research in counseling psychology: A primer on research paradigms, and philosophy of science. JCP, 52, 126-136.]
 - ii. The method section should describe proposed procedures for establishing the quality and trustworthiness of your findings. [See Morrow, S. L. (2005). Quality and trustworthiness in qualitative research in counseling psychology. JCP, 52, 250-260.]
 - iii. The method should contain a section analogous to a “participants” section in quantitative research, following the requirements of the qualitative method you have chosen. What are the inclusion and exclusion requirements for selection? How do you plan to solicit informants/participants/interviewees? How will you ensure a ‘thick’ description of the data? How will you know that you have

collected enough data?

- iv. Because your completed dissertation research should be of sufficient quality to be published in a peer reviewed scholarly journal, we strongly advise you to consider the guidelines used by expert JCP reviewers to evaluate the quality of manuscripts as you plan your study. These guidelines have been made available as a public document [here](#).
- i. Consistent with program aims, it is expected that you will address issues of cultural and individual diversity. This may be accomplished through sampling procedures, the variables you are exploring, and/or by discussing cultural and individual diversity as it relates to your topic in your literature review.

Dissertation Proposal Committee Structure

After completing both oral and written comprehensive exams, the student is ready to choose a three-person dissertation committee as agreed upon by the student and the advisor. In addition to the advisor (who will have Regular graduate faculty status), at least 1 other member of the committee must have Regular graduate faculty status (not Ad Hoc graduate faculty status, and not Special graduate faculty status). The third member can have any graduate faculty status at KU. In addition to the advisor, at least 1 other member of the proposal committee must be in the EPSY Department.

1. Chair (CPSY faculty member, Regular graduate faculty status)
2. Another EPSY Regular graduate faculty member (e.g. REMS methodologist or another CPSY Regular faculty member)
3. Other graduate faculty member (may be Regular, Special, or Ad Hoc; in EPSY or not)

Note: Regular graduate faculty are tenured or tenure-track faculty at KU. Special graduate faculty are not tenure-track, but teach at KU (Hensley, Rasmussen, and Backer). Ad Hoc graduate faculty are non-KU persons with a doctorate appointed for a specific committee. Graduate Faculty status can be confirmed by your advisor at the Graduate Faculty Database.

Advisor Availability

Most KU faculty have 9-month contracts, which means that they are not obligated to be available from mid-May to mid-August. Although some advisors may be willing to work with you during the summer, it is unlikely that all members of your committee will be available for consultation, proposal, or defense meetings. **Thus, dissertation proposal and dissertation defense must be scheduled during the fall or spring semester.**

Dissertation Proposal Meeting Deadline

Students must submit a full draft of their proposal to their committee by 10/01 and have their dissertation proposal meeting before 10/15 of the calendar year they plan to apply for internship. The proposal must be reviewed by the advisor prior to distribution to the dissertation committee. Following advisor approval, a completed draft of the proposal (meeting the minimum requirements outlined

above) must be sent to the committee for review a **minimum of two weeks prior to the proposal meet.**

Once a dissertation proposal meeting is complete, and the proposal has been accepted by the 3- person committee, the advisor should submit the **title page of the proposal, that includes signatures** of the three committee members, along with an **electronic copy of the proposal**, to the EPSY Administrative Associate, who will submit it to the School of Education & Human Sciences Associate Dean for Graduate Studies support staff, currently Kim Huggett at khuggett@ku.edu.

Dissertation Grades

The School of Education & Human Sciences uses the letters SP (Satisfactory Progress), LP (Limited Progress) and NP (No Progress) for dissertation hours. In the case of a completing student, the grade assigned to the final dissertation hour enrollment must be SP, effective Summer 2017.

Enrollment in Dissertation Credits

Students must enroll in no fewer than 3 dissertation credits during the semesters in which the dissertation is proposed and/or defended.

Dissertation Proposal and Internship Application

Students are not permitted to proceed with applications for internship until their dissertation proposal has been approved.

Dissertation Oral Defense Committee

A student's dissertation oral exam committee shall consist of 5 persons. The composition of the committee must conform to the following:

- (a) Three Regular graduate faculty members from EPSY.
- (b) One Regular graduate faculty member from any KU department outside EPSY (referred to as the "Graduate Studies Representative").
- (c) No more than one "non-regular" (i.e. Special or Ad Hoc) graduate faculty member.
- (d) Among these, there must be 3 faculty members from the CPSY program.
- (e) The chair of the committee must hold Dissertation Chairing status.

Note: Regular graduate faculty are tenured or tenure-track faculty at KU. Special graduate faculty are not tenure-track, but teach at KU (Hensley, Rasmussen, and Backer). Ad Hoc graduate faculty are non-KU persons with a doctorate appointed for a specific committee. Graduate Faculty status can be confirmed online by your advisor at the Graduate Faculty Database. Students do not have access to this database.

Dissertation Oral Defense

The University requires that at least one month transpire between the comprehensive oral examination and the dissertation defense. The defense is open to the public, and students are encouraged to attend their colleagues' defenses to gain experience or knowledge of the process. A copy of the final dissertation should be distributed to all examination committee members at least two weeks prior to the oral defense. Also occurring one month prior to the defense, the advisor and EPSY office support staff must file a Progress-to-Degree form, which notifies the School of Education & Human Sciences to

send out the appropriate notice of the defense, and allows a final check on the student's eligibility to defend, and a check on the makeup of the committee.

In conducting the oral defense, the chairperson of the dissertation committee convenes the examination by introducing the candidate, summarizing the student's background, and indicating the format of the procedures to be followed. In general, the candidate will give a short overview of the project, findings, etc., after which the candidate is then questioned by members of the committee in a way that requires a genuine defense of both the dissertation and its research procedures. All members of the committee will have read and thoroughly familiarized themselves with the dissertation before the examination, and copies of the document will be available for reference during the examination.

When ample opportunity has been given for questions, the candidate and any observers should be dismissed from the room while the committee deliberates and comes to a decision regarding the adequacy of the candidate's performance. Some faculty advisors excuse all observers immediately after the formal presentation and prior to questions from the committee. When a decision is reached, the candidate is informed and the committee chairperson notifies the Associate Dean for Graduate Programs & Research in the School of Education & Human Sciences of the committee decision via a Progress-to-Degree form.

Occasionally students wish to bring simple food items to oral exams or dissertation proposal/defense meetings. While we respect the good intention behind it, the faculty want our students to know that this is NOT required or expected. If you decide to bring food to those occasions, please keep it simple. If you have questions, please consult your advisor.

Dissertation Format

The writing style and format for organization of the dissertation is described by the APA Publication manual, and [guidelines specific to KU](#) are available from the Office of Graduate Studies. Of special importance: The dissertation title page and acceptance page require very specific formatting. Please attend to the [guidelines for those pages](#), available from the Office of Graduate Studies, and bring two copies of each of these pages to the defense for signatures.

There are two acceptable structures for the dissertation.

- a. The traditional 5-chapter dissertation comprised of the following chapters:
 1. Introduction
 2. Review of the Literature
 3. Method
 4. Results
 5. Discussion

- b. The 2-chapter dissertation comprised of the following chapters:
 1. A review of the literature that could stand alone as a journal article
 2. A journal article-length manuscript of the study

A possible advantage to the 2-chapter structure is that once the student has successfully defended them (as a combination) at the oral examination, they would have two manuscripts ready for submission to journals for publication (pending changes required by the committee). For this option, each of the two manuscripts should have its own reference list. The entire dissertation document that gets submitted to Graduate Studies should include the 2 title pages (the specially formatted pages as described by Graduate Studies), an overall abstract that covers both manuscripts, a Table of Contents, any acknowledgements, the stand alone Review of the Literature chapter (which will have its own abstract page), the Study chapter (which will have its own abstract page), and any appendices (e.g., measures used in the study).

Formatting of Tables in the Dissertation

1. Number all tables consecutively with Arabic numbers.
2. Do not mix Arabic and Roman numbers.
3. Insert a table after the paragraph in which it is first mentioned. If a table cannot fit on the space remaining on the page, continue the text to the bottom margin, placing the table at the top of the next page.
4. If the table does not begin a new page, triple-space from the end of the paragraph to add the Table Heading.
5. The table heading includes the table number and is followed by a table caption.

Dissertation Copies

The dissertation must be submitted electronically in PDF format to ProQuest on or before the date specified by the Office of Graduate Studies. The [Graduate Studies for doctoral students page](#) has detailed information on everything you need to do when completing the dissertation, submitting it electronically, and submitting the correct forms to the Graduate Studies website and to the School of Education & Human Sciences. The wording on the title page and submission page is critical, so please study it carefully. Occasionally students bring in a title page to their defense so that it can be signed (when all members are present), only to find they must rewrite the title page and get each member's signature at a later date. One bound copy of the dissertation is to be provided to the student's dissertation chairperson to be archived by the program.

Survey of Earned Doctorate and Successful Submission via e-mail

Doctoral graduates must also complete the on-line Survey of Earned Doctorates. The survey can be found on this [Graduate Studies webpage](#). When they complete and submit the survey online, they will be taken to a successful submission page. The student will also receive a successful submission e-mail. The student is instructed to print the successful submission page or the e-mail message and turn it in to the School of Education & Human Sciences office, along with their signed title and acceptance pages and the ETD release form (also on the ETD quick link).

Deadline for Submission of Final Copy

Students must enroll during any semester in which they are engaged in work related to the dissertation. The only exception is that the first two weeks of classes of a term are considered part of the previous term for this purpose. In other words, if a student defends the dissertation, makes any necessary changes, and submits the final work to ProQuest (and the final forms to the School of Education & Human Sciences office) during the first two weeks of a term (see graduate calendar for dates), they are not required to enroll for dissertation credit that term. If they do not turn in all the materials until week three, they DO need to enroll in at least one hour of dissertation credit for that term.

Doctoral Internship

Students may not apply for internship until the dissertation proposal has been approved. This is in addition to other internship readiness program requirements, including: satisfactory completion of EPSY 949 (Advanced Practicum II), satisfactory completion of comprehensive exams (written and oral) and any coursework prerequisite to those exams, and the support of the program faculty.

There are annual updates in the way that internship application information is gathered and managed. As students approach the internship application stage of their program, they should subscribe to the APPIC Match-news listserv and familiarize themselves with APPIC policies. To subscribe to this e-mail list, simply send a blank e-mail to: subscribe-match-news@lyris.appic.org.

There are also numerous listservs to join through APAGS. This website describes those: <http://www.apa.org/apags/resources/listservs/index.aspx>

The APPIC website [www.appic.org] provides considerable information regarding policies governing the internship application and interview process, and about the internship matching process and policies. Information about the APPIC Application for Psychology Internship (AAPI) can be found at this site.

The Counseling Psychology program is a member program of APPIC. However, students must themselves pay to subscribe to the APPIC Matching service. Students who entered the Match in 2015 paid \$110 plus an additional \$20 to access the online directory. In terms of the application process itself, the cost was \$50 for the first application plus \$25 for each additional application up to 15. Beyond 15, the price goes up again, but most students apply to 15 or fewer sites. These prices were for the 2014-2015 year, so check online for the most up to date costs.

Consistent with policies adopted by the Council of Counseling Psychology Training Programs, of which KU's program is a member, students must have completed all program requirements prerequisite to the internship prior to the deadline set annually by APPIC for applicants' submission of their internship rankings. Any student who has not completed the necessary program requirements cannot submit a rank ordering of internships or, in the case that a student may have already submitted his or her list, must withdraw that ranking prior to the deadline.

As noted above, and worthy of special attention, *students may not apply for internship until the dissertation proposal has been approved*. Failure to comply with this requirement jeopardizes other program applicants and is grounds for disciplinary action by the program.

When students are ready to apply for the Match, they must file the Doctoral Internship Readiness Form with the Director of Training.

Policy on Internship Readiness

APPIC has come out with a statement on what students would ideally have prior to applying for internship. Our policy on the matter is below:

Consistent with our program training goals and objectives and the position of APPIC and the various training councils for training and education in professional psychology, students are expected to have met the following competencies before receiving the faculty endorsement of being ready for internship (before your first deadline for application to internship):

1. Satisfactory completion of all practicum requirements.
2. Satisfactory completion of research practicum with an evaluated project (e.g., a presentation at a conference, a publication, or a grant proposal).
3. Satisfactory completion of comprehensive examinations.
4. Having an approved and properly filed dissertation proposal.
5. Satisfactory completion of all required coursework. Check with the Director of Training if you have any questions about courses that will not be complete by the time of your first application.
6. Having accumulated a minimum of 450 total hours of direct client contact and 100 hours of supervision. Of those 450 total hours, 300 must come from EPSY 948, EPSY 949, and Field Experiences taken as part of the doctoral program in CPSY at the University of Kansas. The 300 must be supervised (on-site or via enrollment) one hour per week by a psychologist licensed either in the jurisdiction where the site is located, or licensed in Kansas.
7. Having received Satisfactory annual evaluation ratings for all years in the program or having satisfactorily fulfilled any remediation plans and/or addressed any concerns raised by the faculty in any annual evaluation.

Enrollment in Internship Credits

Students are required to enroll in a total of 3 credits of EPSY 990: Internship in Counseling Psychology, 1 credit for fall, one for spring, and one for a summer. The summer enrollment must be the last internship credit.

If you have defended and turned in your dissertation, and your internship does not start until fall, you must enroll in at least 1 credit over the summer in order to stay continuously enrolled, a requirement of

the Office of Graduate Studies, or you can take a Leave of Absence for the summer session.

You are required to be enrolled during the semester you are graduating, which typically will be the summer session.

Doctoral Internship Application and Site Requirements

CPSY's doctoral internship requirements incorporate the standards of three credentialing bodies, [APA](#), [APPIC](#), and the [National Register of Health Services Providers in Psychology](#). Students must be able to meet the requirements at a given clinical site in order to complete their degree, obtain post-doctoral training positions, obtain licensure in psychology at the doctoral level and meet membership criteria for the National Register of Health Service Providers in Psychology and the American Psychological Association. Students are required to pursue sites that are accredited by [American Psychological Association \(APA\)](#).

Requirements for EPSY 990 Internship in Counseling Psychology

Students are required to seek internship training from an APA or a CPA (California Psychological Association) accredited internship site (for a complete list, click [here](#)). All applying students need to sign up and use National Matching Services (NMS) for an internship placement. Please note that APPIC member programs are not always APA or CPA accredited. If, due to circumstances, you are not able to secure an accredited site and wish to complete your internship training with a non APA or CPA accredited site, you need to submit a petition, along with detailed internship program information, to the faculty for review and approval. In the petition, please clearly state that you will accept full responsibility for pursuing a non APA or CPA accredited internship program, if approved by the faculty, and accept any possible consequences of this placement in the future. The faculty's approval of the site will be contingent upon the site meeting the following minimum requirements:

1. All interns on site must complete a formal 2000-hour internship for the purpose of training advanced students as professional psychologists.
2. The internship can be one year full-time or two years half-time.
3. The internship program must be an organized training program (with training needs as priority over revenue generation), comprised of a planned, programmed sequence of training activities.
4. The internship site must have two or more psychologists on the staff as supervisors, at least one of whom must be a licensed psychologist.
5. Internship supervision must be provided by a licensed psychologist on staff in the agency or by an affiliate who carries clinical responsibility for the cases being supervised.
6. There must be a minimum of two doctoral level psychology interns during the intern's training period.
7. At least 25% of the intern's time must be in direct client/patient contact (minimum 500 hours).
8. There must be an administrative structure that coordinates and directs the training activities and resources. This should include a Training Director who is licensed by the State Board of

Psychology of the state in which the internship is located

9. A minimum of two hours per week of regularly scheduled, formal, face-to-face individual supervision must be provided, whether or not the internship is full or half-time.
10. There must be a minimum of two additional hours per week in learning activities such as: case conferences, seminars dealing with clinical issues, co-therapy, group supervision, or additional individual supervision.
11. The intern must have a title of “psychology intern.”
12. It is highly desirable that the internship agency pays an intern stipend that is appropriate for the region.

In sum, it is the student’s responsibility to seek internship training with a quality program, either APA or CPA accredited or an “equivalent” site that meets all the requirements listed above. Additionally, the student takes full responsibility for any foreseeable or unforeseeable consequences this decision may have in the future. If a CPSY student represents the first intern at a site, it is expected that the site is planning to maintain an internship program in future years.

Approval of non-APA internships is made only on a very limited basis and the CPSY internship criteria must be met by all sites.

Internship is NOT simply supervised experience or on-the-job training.

In the event that an internship site is **non-APA** accredited, the CPSY Training Director overseeing internship evaluates whether the site is designed to be in compliance with the above criteria. It is an additional requirement of such internships that an evaluation from the site supervisor be submitted half-way through the internship experience as well as at the completion of internship.

Note that internship programs may use their own forms to evaluate interns.

ALL internship completion documentation must be submitted a minimum of 30 days prior to the expected date of graduation.

Financial Considerations

Completion of a minimum of 12 months of full time (or 24 months of half-time at the same site) internship must be clearly indicated on the transcript. To this end, the intern must register for internship, EPSY 990, every semester during which internship hours are being accumulated (Fall, Spring, & Summer (one credit each semester or term) and submit documentation of hours and supervision (initialed by supervisor) each semester.

Most internships pay a stipend. Students must secure faculty permission to accept internships that are offered without a stipend. The CPSY faculty are concerned about possible financial exploitation of students during internship, and the internship program must provide clear information regarding why a stipend cannot be offered.

Resident status during internship. Kansas resident status may be retained during the internship period. The CPSY program training director will work with the Office of Research and Graduate Studies and the Office of Student Financial Aid to assist with this.

Before beginning internship you are encouraged to apply to the National Psychologist Trainee Register (NPTR) created by the National Register of Health Service Providers in Psychology. You can apply online at <http://www.nationalregister.org/apply/doc-postdoc-2/>.

University Employment During Internship

Doctoral students complete a full-time, 2,000-hour predoctoral internship as the culminating clinical training experience in the Counseling Psychology Ph.D. Program. Consistent with the program's responsibility to ensure high-quality clinical training and professional development during this intensive year, **students enrolled in internship may not hold Graduate Teaching Assistantships (GTAs), Graduate Research Assistantships (GRAs), Graduate Assistantships (GAs), or any other form of university employment for the duration of the internship year.**

The internship year requires a full-time commitment, typically involving 40 or more hours per week of clinical service, assessment, crisis intervention, supervision, and didactic training. Additional employment is incompatible with meeting these responsibilities at a high standard and may interfere with the developmental tasks expected at this stage of training. Although APPIC does not formally prohibit outside employment, the internship year is widely understood across training settings as a period requiring full professional engagement. Competing work obligations may compromise clinical performance, increase the risk of exhaustion or impairment, or interfere with meeting site expectations.

Many APA- and CPA-accredited internship sites **discourage or prohibit** additional employment, citing conflicts with training schedules, supervision requirements, and overall professional responsibilities. Aligning program policy with these common expectations helps ensure clarity for students and prevents contradictions between program requirements and internship site policies.

Upon Successful Completion of the Internship

When you have completed the internship successfully, the Internship Training Director must send a letter informing the CPSY director of Training that you have done so.

ADMISSIONS POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The counseling psychology faculty at the University of Kansas is committed to offering the best training toward the growth and development of the next generation of counselors and counseling psychologists. We respect and value cultural and individual diversity, and do not discriminate against anyone on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, age, ancestry, disability, status as a veteran, or other individual differences. We particularly encourage those from underrepresented groups/classes to apply.

Admissions Cycle

Applications are accepted only for the fall semester each year. The admission deadline is **December 1 for the Doctoral program** and **January 1 for the Master's program**, and the admission decision is no later than **April 1** to begin course work in the following summer or fall.

Doctoral Program Admission Criteria

The Counseling Psychology Doctoral program at KU accepts approximately six to eight students each year. Both bachelor's level and master's level applicants are considered for admission.

Recommended minimums when applying to Ph.D. program with a bachelor's degree:

- The completion of a bachelor's degree in psychology or a related field.
- An overall undergraduate GPA of 3.00 covering all college credits taken prior to the bachelor's degree, or 3.25 for the *major courses* or the last 60 credits of the bachelor's degree.

Recommended minimums when applying to Ph.D. program with a master's degree:

- The completion of a Master's degree in counseling or a closely related field.
- Graduate GPA of 3.50 or above.

Master's Program Admission Criteria

The Counseling Psychology Master's program accepts up to 15 students each year.

Recommended minimums for applicants to the Master's program:

- The completion of a bachelor's degree in psychology or a related field.
- An overall undergraduate GPA of 3.00 covering all college credits taken prior to the bachelor's degree, or 3.25 for the *major courses* or the last 60 credits of the bachelor's degree.

Academic Preparation and Admission Requirements

There is an expectation that students entering either the doctoral or master's program will have at least 15 hours of undergraduate coursework in behavioral sciences, including measurement, statistics, research methods, social psychology, personality, etc. First level graduate coursework (e.g., EPSY 710 and EPSY 725) can be used to remediate areas not already covered.

Alternative Admissions Criteria

Applicants *MAY* be admitted under alternative criteria provided there is evidence that the regular criteria do not adequately reflect the student's potential to succeed in the program. The faculty will review and make decisions on such applications on a case-by-case basis.

The faculty reserves the right to require those who are admitted under the alternative criteria to take some background core courses in psychology before or during the first year of their training in the areas of general psychology, theories of personality, tests and measurement, abnormal psychology, experimental psychology, and introductory statistics. This decision will be made by the admissions committee and the student's assigned advisor, and communicated to the student before he/she accepts admission to the program.

Transportation Consideration

Due to the fact that most practicum sites of the program are off campus and some of the required courses are offered at the Edwards campus of the University of Kansas, students admitted to the program are responsible for transportation to and from training sites and the Edwards Campus.

Information Regarding any Master's Level Practicum Experience

Once a student has been made an offer for our Ph.D. program, we will need verification of successful completion of any practicum experience required for their master's program in order to add those hours to the practicum hours compiled through their doctoral program.

Additional Fees

Courses at the Edwards Campus have additional fees for that location, and a variety of courses in our master's and doctoral programs have additional fees for materials used in those courses.

Background Screening

To matriculate and enroll as a student in good standing in the KU School of Education & Human Sciences's Counseling Psychology programs and to be placed in clinical practice sites (e.g., practicum, internship, field experience), students in the program must complete and satisfactorily clear a criminal background check with Validity Screening Solutions. Initial screening will take place after admission but prior to first enrollment. Refusal to undergo the background check will result in denial of enrollment or, in the case of students already in the program, denial of clinical site placement. The full details of this policy appear later in this handbook in the section, [student background check policy](#).

Application Procedures

The application process is completely online. Have these materials ready and on hand when you go online to fill out the application:

1. Statement of Intent, outlining your background and professional objectives.
2. Resume
3. A personal email address that you know will still be active one year from the time you apply (Some colleges make a student's email address inactive upon graduation).
4. Email addresses for three persons who can submit online recommendations.
5. Official transcript from each college or university where coursework was completed.
6. Degree in psychology, education, or a related field.
7. Undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or higher OR Graduate GPA of 3.5 or higher.
8. For international students, see [Ph.D. Program Admission Policies and Procedures](#) for information concerning English proficiency requirements and a personal financial document as required by the U.S. government in order to issue the DS-2019 or I-20. Further information for international applicants regarding documentation of proof of financial support can be found [here](#).

PLEASE NOTE: If you do not meet one or more of the above criteria, please consult our Alternative Admission Criteria under Ph.D. Program Admission Policies and Procedures.

HOW TO APPLY

KU Graduate School Information and Application

This link takes you to the [KU Graduate School online application](#). Click on “Educational Psychology.” This will lead you to the choice of Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology or M.S. in Counseling Psychology.

On the last page, you will have an opportunity to upload your Statement of Intent and additional materials.

Application for Graduate Teaching Assistantships

[GTA Application for EPSY](#) – This document contains an application and undergraduate and graduate course descriptions for graduate teaching assistants. *This application process is separate from the admission process* and must be submitted separately as indicated in the instructions.

Additional Counseling Psychology documents to study prior to application

[Counseling Psychology PhD Program Requirements for the current academic year](#) (these could change before the upcoming academic year). This includes core courses and other helpful information.

[Counseling Psychology MS Program Requirements for the current academic year](#) (these could change before the upcoming academic year). This includes core courses and other helpful information.

[Ph.D. Program Admission Policies and Procedures](#)

[M.S. Program Admission Policies and Procedures](#)

Contacts

If you have questions, contact:

University of Kansas – [Office of Graduate Studies](#)
450 Jayhawk Blvd., Rm 300 Strong
Lawrence, KS 66045-7535
(785) 864-6161

The KU Graduate School application and official transcripts are processed directly by the University of Kansas Graduate School.

Department of Educational Psychology *Attn: Graduate Applications*
1122 West Campus Road, Rm 621 JRP
Lawrence, KS 66045-3101
(785) 864-3931 phone; (785) 864-3820 fax
epsy@ku.edu

Applying to the PhD Program with a Master's Degree

If the applicant has completed a practicum in counseling or a related area, one recommendation should be completed by the practicum supervisor.

Once a student has been made an offer for our Ph.D. program, we will need verification of successful completion of any practicum experience required for their master's program in order to add those hours to the practicum hours compiled through their doctoral program.

When students who have begun a master's degree are admitted to our doctoral program, we encourage them to complete their master's degree (whether from KU or from another institution) but we do not require completion.

Additional Requirements for Students whose First Language is not English

Students' oral expression and communication skills play an important role in their success in counseling psychology training programs. Therefore, the counseling psychology programs require that all non-native English-speaking applicants (international or domestic applicants) demonstrate their English proficiency by following the guidelines listed below **before** their applications are reviewed by the admissions committee.

A: Verification that the applicant's native language is English, as shown to a high degree of probability by citizenship in an English-speaking country such as Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand, or English-speaking provinces in Canada.

B: Graduation with a baccalaureate degree or higher from an accredited U.S. institution in one of the countries listed above whose medium of instruction is English.

C: Receipt of the applicant's Internet Based Test of English as a Foreign Language (iBTOEFL) or Test of Spoken English (TSE) scores achieved no more than two years before the semester of admission.

iBTOEFL* – all part scores at least 26 TSE – Minimum score of 50

** Please note: the score requirement for admission to KU is set by KU's Office of Graduate Studies*

D: Zoom interviews or interviews through other on-line media will be required if the applicant cannot appear for an in-person interview in the admission process.

E: All students who are not native speakers of English must visit the Applied English Center (AEC) on arrival for verification of their English language proficiency (by taking both KU's English Proficiency Test and KU's [Speak Test](#)). Until all the AEC tests are satisfactorily passed (per AEC standards), the student will not be allowed to take degree-required courses or be employed as a GTA or GRA.

PhD Admissions Review and Selection Process

Applicants will be evaluated using the following criteria:

- Academic merit and potential
- Evidence of potential for conducting research Specific research interests
- Personal and interpersonal characteristics
- Contribution and commitment to Professional identity, goals, and interests

The Admissions Committee will consist of two or more faculty members and one or more student members. The student members will NOT review application materials.

Using the aforementioned criteria, the PhD Admissions Committee will select approximately twenty candidates to be interviewed by the faculty and current students. Applicants may choose between campus interview and phone (or Skype or other media) interview.

All faculty members and current students will have opportunities to do interviews. For applicants who choose a campus interview, both group and individual interview activities will be conducted by faculty and current students on Interview Day, which is usually a Friday in early February.

Admissions decisions will be made by the faculty as a whole shortly after Interview Day. A list of candidates to be offered admission and a list of rank-ordered alternates will be decided and candidates and alternates will be notified.

Candidates for both Master's and doctoral programs will be notified of the admission decision no later than April 1.

Candidates who are offered admission are required to “accept” or “decline” the offer no later than April 15th. A reply earlier than April 15th is strongly encouraged, as applicants on the alternate list need to be informed of their status.

If a candidate on the alternate list receives an admission offer near April 15th, he/she has 7 days to act on the offer. If the offer is made on or after April 15th, the candidate has 3 days to make a decision.

Note: The counseling psychology faculty abides by University of Kansas policies and does not discriminate against anyone on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, age, ancestry, disability, or status as a veteran. We particularly encourage those from underrepresented groups/classes to apply.

Change Log

Added Comprehensive Exam Requirements for Students Entering Program in Fall 2023

Updated admissions requirements to remove GRE

Fixed broken links

11/12/24: Added CPSY Attendance Policy following faculty vote to approve as official policy.

12/10/2024 Updated Doctoral Program Training Aims



