

LSU School Psychology Ph.D.
Doctoral Degree Requirements

I. Departmental Required Courses

An earned grade of an A or a B is required to have completed these courses.

- o Biological Basis of Behavior (7034)
- o Cognitive Basis of Behavior (7030)
- o Social Basis of Behavior (7040)
- o History of Modern Psychology (4008)

And two of the four methodology courses:

- o Measurement of Behavior (7020)
- o Methodology and Research (7117)
- o Intermediate Statistics (4111)
- o Advanced Statistics (7111)
- ◆ You have two attempts to complete each of these classes.
- ◆ Please check with your major professor regarding the methodology sequence and your career goals. You may be required to take more than two courses from this sequence.
- ◆ If you feel you have a particularly strong background in one or more of the core areas, you may take the final exam in any course in lieu of the course; you will have satisfied the core requirement if you earn a grade of “A” or “B” on the final. You must secure a letter from the course instructor giving your exam grade for inclusion in your file, as evidence of satisfying this requirement.
- ◆ Additionally, the School Psychology program requires all students to complete 4111 and 7117. Based on student background and prior experience they may choose to complete either 7020 or 7111 as the additional advanced statistics course. Their choice must be approved by their major professor.

II. School Psychology Required Courses

You must successfully **complete** (with a grade of A or B) the following courses **before going on internship:**

- o Psychological Assessment I (7125)
- o Psychoeducational Assessment (7165)
- o Cultural Diversity in Counseling and Therapy (7929)
- o Professional Considerations (7999)
- o School Psychological Consultation (7660)
- o School-Based Psychological Interventions (7973)
- o Developmental Disorders and Psychopathology of Children (7171)
- o Child Behavior Therapy (7972)
- o Theories and Concepts of Behavior Analysis (7946)
- o Research Methodology and Applications in Behavior Analysis (7948)
- o Behavioral Perspectives on Child and Adolescent Development (7949)
- o Psychological Assessment Practicum (7688, joint enrolled with clinical students)
- o Practicum in School Psychology (7668, 3 Semesters)
- o Practicum in School Psychology (7669, 3 Semesters)
- o Assessment focused Practicum (7688 or 7625, 1 Semester)
- o Thesis Research (8000, minimum of 2 Semesters & 6 Credits Hours)

You must successfully complete the following courses to complete the PhD in school psychology:

- o Internship in School Psychology (7969, minimum of 2 Semesters)
- o Dissertation Research (9000, minimum of 2 Semesters & 12 Credits Hours)
Any semester you are proposing, conducting, defending, and/or submitting a document for your thesis or dissertation research you must be registered for a minimum of 1 credit hour.

Clinical Core

All students are expected to complete six clinical core courses their first year in the program. These are:

- Professional Considerations (Ethics)
- Cultural Diversity in Counseling and Therapy
- Psychological Assessment I
- Child Behavior Therapy or School-Based Psychological Interventions
- Two Semesters of Practicum

Waiving Required Courses

The Department of Psychology does not permit transfer credit for the department required core courses. Students may either take the course or they can obtain exemption from taking the course by taking the course's cumulative final. If a student takes that final and receives a B or better they will not be required to take that course.

In relatively rare instances students are granted exemption from one or more required courses in the doctoral School Psychology Doctoral training curriculum. In order to be granted an exemption the student is required to have completed substantially equivalent training in another graduate training program that the faculty judges to be sufficient to prepare the student to complete the demanding graduate specialty examination in school psychology and to be sufficient preparation for internship. The prior course of training may be a single course or an entire sequence of courses. The critical consideration is not that the student has a course with the same or similar name to an LSU course, but that the material covered was substantially equivalent to the LSU course and that the level of rigor expected of students was similarly equivalent. Waivers have been granted, but they are uncommon. Students wishing to apply for a waiver must first review their request with their major professor. If the major professor supports the application the student is required to submit the request to the program director along with the syllabus for the relevant courses and any supporting materials the program director may request. If the request is approved a memo to that effect will be placed in the student's departmental folder. Waiver of core courses in the ABA sequence requires successful completion of relevant examinations (PSYC 7946, 7948 & 7949). The following courses will not be waived: Psychological Assessment I (7125), Psychoeducational Assessment (7165), Professional Considerations (7999), School Psychology Consultation (7660), School-Based Interventions (7973), and Child Behavior Therapy (7972).