DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PHD) DEGREE IN THE FIELD OF PSYCHOLOGY AND A MAJOR CONCENTRATION IN PSYCHOMETRICS AND QUANTITATIVE PSYCHOLOGY

Program Learning Outcomes for the PhD Degree in the field of Psychology and a Major Concentration in Psychometrics and Quantitative Psychology

Upon completing the PhD degree in the field of Psychology and a major concentration in Psychometrics and Quantitative Psychology, students will be able to:

1. Apply the statistical and measurement concepts necessary to carry out independent research involving psychological measurement.
2. Communicate research involving psychometric and psychological measurement effectively by writing clearly, concisely, and cogently.
3. Read critically and assess research manuscripts for their psychometric content, across psychological and multidisciplinary arenas.
4. Communicate research by presenting papers and/or presentations.
5. Write an independent and original thesis that includes a strong emphasis in psychometrics and quantitative psychology.

Requirements for the MA and PhD Degrees in the field of Psychology

MA Degree Program

The MA degree is a thesis master’s degree. For general university requirements, please see Thesis Master’s Degrees ([https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-thesis-masters-degrees/](https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-thesis-masters-degrees/)). For additional requirements, regulations, and procedures for all graduate programs, please see All Graduate Students ([https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-all-degrees/](https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-all-degrees/)). Although students are not normally admitted to study for an MA in Psychology, graduate students may earn the MA degree after obtaining approval of their candidacy for the PhD. For general university requirements for PhD degrees, please see Doctoral Degrees ([https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-doctoral-degrees/](https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-doctoral-degrees/)). For both MA and PhD degrees, students must complete a research thesis, including a public oral defense. Required coursework is determined by the student's major concentration. Students must complete an admission-to-candidacy procedure to establish their expertise in their chosen major concentration. Competence in a foreign language is not required.

The requirements listed in the General Announcements (GA) satisfy the minimum requirements for this degree program. In certain instances, courses (or requirements) not officially listed here may be substituted upon approval of the program's academic advisor, or where applicable, the department or program's Director of Graduate Studies. Course substitutions or any exceptions to the stated official curricular requirements must be approved by the Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies ([https://graduate.rice.edu/](https://graduate.rice.edu/)). Students and their academic advisors should identify and clearly document the courses to be taken.

Summary

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<th>Code</th>
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<th>Credit Hours</th>
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PhD Degree Program

For general university requirements, please see Doctoral Degrees ([https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-doctoral-degrees/](https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-doctoral-degrees/)). For additional requirements, regulations, and procedures for all graduate programs, please see All Graduate Students ([https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-all-degrees/](https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-all-degrees/)). In addition, students pursuing the PhD degree in the field of Psychology must:

- Complete all coursework with a minimum grade of B- (2.67 grade points) in each required course.
- Complete all of the course requirements in their major concentration.
- Successfully complete and present the first-year project in May of the first year.
- Successfully complete and present the second-year project in May of the second year.
- Write and defend a thesis. The thesis committee must be in the area of Psychometrics and Quantitative Psychology and be overseen by a Psychology faculty member affiliated with the Psychometrics and Quantitative Psychology Major Concentration.

Students who have not previously completed a master’s degree in Psychology or a related field, must successfully defend a master’s thesis and earn the MA degree in Psychology. Students who come to Rice with a master’s degree in a related field can be exempted from this requirement.

The requirements listed in the General Announcements (GA) satisfy the minimum requirements for this degree program. In certain instances, courses (or requirements) not officially listed here may be substituted upon approval of the program's academic advisor, or where applicable, the department or program's Director of Graduate Studies. Course substitutions or any exceptions to the stated official curricular requirements must be approved by the Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies ([https://graduate.rice.edu/](https://graduate.rice.edu/)). Students and their academic advisors should identify and clearly document the courses to be taken.

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Degree Requirements for the PhD Degree in Psychology and a Major Concentration in Psychometrics and Quantitative Psychology

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<tr>
<td>PSYC 502 / STAT 509</td>
<td>ADVANCED PSYCHOLOGICAL STATISTICS I</td>
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<td>ADVANCED PSYCHOLOGICAL STATISTICS II</td>
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<td>PSYC 507</td>
<td>RESEARCH METHODS</td>
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<td>PSYC 602</td>
<td>PSYCHOMETRICS</td>
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<td>PSYC 631</td>
<td>FOUNDATIONS OF INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES</td>
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Elective Requirements

Select 3 courses from the following: 1

- PSYC 543 Computational Modeling of Cognitive Processes
- PSYC 601 Multivariate Statistics
- PSYC 635 Multilevel Modeling in Psychological Research
- PSYC 637 Meta-Analysis in Psychological Research
- PSYC 638 Structural Equation Modeling

First-Year Project
Second-Year Project
Thesis Requirement
Completion and public defense of a thesis

Additional Coursework as Approved by Department

Total Credit Hours 3 months

Footnotes and Additional Information

1 Elective courses selected must be approved by department.

Departmental Transfer Credit Guidelines

Students pursuing the PhD degree in the field of Psychology should be aware of the following departmental transfer credit guidelines:

- Requests for transfer credit will be considered by the program director on an individual case-by-case basis.

Additional Information

For additional information, please see the Psychological Sciences website: [https://psychology.rice.edu/](https://psychology.rice.edu/)

Opportunities for the PhD Degree in the field of Psychology

Additional Information

For additional information, please see the Psychological Sciences website: [https://psychology.rice.edu/](https://psychology.rice.edu/)

Policies for the PhD Degree in the field of Psychology

Department of Psychological Sciences Graduate Program Handbook

The General Announcements (GA) is the official Rice curriculum. As an additional resource for students, the department of Psychological Sciences publishes a graduate program handbook, which can be found here: [https://gradhandbooks.rice.edu/2022_23/Psychological_Sciences_PhD_Graduate_Handbook.pdf](https://gradhandbooks.rice.edu/2022_23/Psychological_Sciences_PhD_Graduate_Handbook.pdf)

Transfer Credit

For Rice University's policy regarding transfer credit, seeTransfer Credit [https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-all-degrees/#transfer](https://ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-all-degrees/#transfer). Some departments and programs have additional restrictions on transfer credit. Students are encouraged to meet with their academic program's advisor when considering transfer credit possibilities.