

Assessment Report for GSU Educational Programs

Department: Psychology	Contact person: Lindsey Cohen	Cycle/year: 2014-2015
Program: PhD	Email address: llcohen@gsu.edu	Submission date: 11/2/15

Program Mission and Student Learning Goals

The mission of the PhD program in the Department of Psychology is to educate graduate students in various areas of psychology and provide specific training in scholarship, research, clinical, and other skills, consistent with the expertise of the current faculty. Five programs are represented: Clinical Psychology, Community Psychology, Cognitive Sciences, Development Psychology, and Neuropsychology and Behavioral Neuroscience. Our graduate students seek entry to our program hoping to become licensed clinical psychologists; psychologists in community, non-profit, or governmental organizations; college teachers in undergraduate institutions; and researchers in research settings including research universities. Our mission is to provide the appropriate education and training for a PhD psychologist in such settings.

Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives (SLOs)

- Theory and Content* - Students will develop expertise with major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in the field of Psychology, the program area, and the research specialty area.
- Research Skills* - Students will understand and apply research methods including research design, data analysis, and interpretation. Students will demonstrate critical and scientific thinking via written and oral work.
- Communication and Collaboration Skills* - Students will effectively communicate in written and oral formats. Students will work effectively with mentors, colleagues, students, and others.
- Professionalism* - Students will apply principles and skills in professional activities, demonstrate multicultural awareness, behave according to ethical and professional expectations, and reflect values underpinning psychology.

Program Learning Opportunities (optional in 2015-2016)

Assessment Methods and Targets

- Master's thesis defense Graduate Learning Outcome Evaluation 2.0 (GLOE; see below)
 - Assesses all 4 SLOs
 - Target of an average score between a 3 ("Consistently meets Expectations") and 4 ("Exceeds Expectations")
- Dissertation defense GLOE
 - Assesses all 4 SLOs
 - Target of an average score between a 3 ("Consistently meets Expectations") and 4 ("Exceeds Expectations")
- Annual review GLOE
 - Assesses all 4 SLOs
 - Target of an average score between a 3 ("Consistently meets Expectations") and 4 ("Exceeds Expectations")

[add more as needed; for each method, indicate which SLOs are assessed and include a target for each SLO assessed]

Assessment Findings

Department

1. Theory and Content

- Master's thesis defense: N = 53; M = 3.06; SD = .69; Range = 2-4
- Dissertation defense: N= 47; M = 3.17; SD=.87; Range = 1-4
- Annual review: N= 57; M = 2.70; SD= .68; Range =1-4

2. Research Skills

- Master's thesis defense: N = 52; M = 3.00; SD = .77; Range = 2-4
- Dissertation defense: N= 47; M = 3.40; SD =.65; Range = 2-4
- Annual review: N= 57; M = 2.79; SD = .77; Range = 1-4

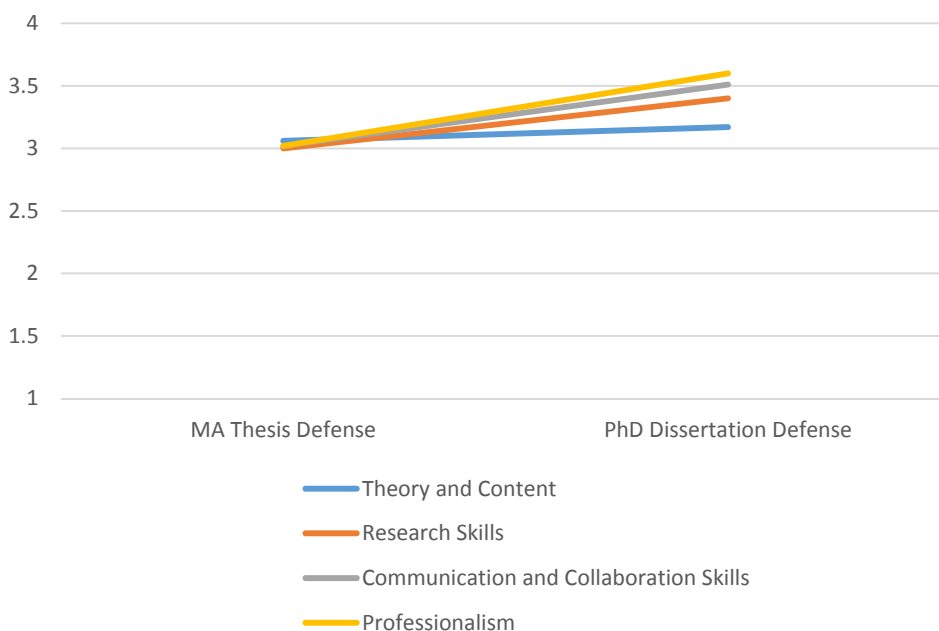
3. Communication and Collaboration Skills

- Master's thesis defense: N = 52; M = 3.02; SD = .78; Range = 1-4
- Dissertation defense: N=47; M = 3.51; SD=.69; Range=2-4
- Annual review: N=57; M= 2.72; SD=.80; Range = 1-4

4. Professionalism

- Master's thesis defense: N=53; M = 3.02; SD = .64; Range = 1-4
- Dissertation defense: N=47; M= 3.60; SD=.65; Range = 2-4
- Annual review: N=57; M= 2.79; SD=.70; Range = 2-4

Student Learning Outcomes at Thesis and Dissertation Defenses



Clinical Concentration

1. Theory and Content

- Master's thesis defense: N = 11; M = 3.27; SD = .65; Range = 2-4
- Dissertation defense: N =15; M =2.67; SD =1.11; Range =1-4
- Annual review: N =16; M =2.38; SD =.62; Range =1-3

2. Research Skills

- Master's thesis defense: N =11; M =3.09; SD =.70; Range =2-4
- Dissertation defense: N =15; M =2.87; SD =.64; Range =2-4
- Annual review: N =16; M =2.31; SD =.70; Range =1-3

3. Communication and Collaboration Skills

- Master's thesis defense: N =11; M =3.09; SD =.94; Range =1-4
- Dissertation defense: N =15; M =3.07; SD =.80; Range =2-4
- Annual review: N =16; M =2.38; SD =.62; Range =1-3

4. Professionalism

- Master's thesis defense: N =11; M =3.00; SD =.77; Range =1-4
- Dissertation defense: N =15; M =3.07; SD =.80; Range =2-4
- Annual review: N =16; M =2.38; SD =.50; Range =2-3

Clinical/Community Concentration

1. Theory and Content

- ~~-Master's thesis defense: N =; M =; SD =; Range =~~
- Dissertation defense: N =10; M =3.20; SD =.42; Range =3-4
- Annual review: N =1; M =2; SD =0.00; Range =2

2. Research Skills

- ~~-Master's thesis defense: N =; M =; SD =; Range =~~
- Dissertation defense: N =10; M =3.50; SD =.53; Range =3-4
- Annual review: N =1; M =3; SD =0.00; Range =3

3. Communication and Collaboration Skills

- ~~-Master's thesis defense: N =; M =; SD =; Range =~~
- Dissertation defense: N =10; M =3.80; SD =.42; Range =3-4
- Annual review: N =1; M =3; SD =0.00; Range =3

4. Professionalism

- ~~-Master's thesis defense: N =; M =; SD =; Range =~~
- Dissertation defense: N =10; M =4.00; SD =0.00; Range =4
- Annual review: N =1; M =2; SD =0.00; Range =2

Clinical/Neuropsychology Concentration

1. Theory and Content

- Master's thesis defense: N =17; M =3.18; SD =.53; Range =2-4
- Dissertation defense: N =7; M =4.00; SD =0.00; Range =4

-Annual review: N =9; M =2.67; SD =.50; Range =2-3

2. Research Skills

-Master's thesis defense: N =16; M =3.00; SD =.73; Range =2-4

-Dissertation defense: N =7; M =4.00; SD =0.00; Range =4

-Annual review: N =9; M =2.67; SD =.50; Range =2-3

3. Communication and Collaboration Skills

-Master's thesis defense: N =16; M =3.31; SD =.48; Range =3-4

-Dissertation defense: N =7; M =4.00; SD =0.00; Range =4

-Annual review: N =9; M =2.44; SD =.53; Range =2-3

4. Professionalism

-Master's thesis defense: N =17; M =3.18; SD =.53; Range =2-4

-Dissertation defense: N =7; M =4.00; SD =0.00; Range =4

-Annual review: N =9; M =2.56; SD =.53; Range =2-3

Cognitive Sciences Concentration

1. Theory and Content

-Master's thesis defense: N =7; M =2.71; SD =.76; Range = 2-4

~~-Dissertation defense: N =; M =; SD =; Range =~~

-Annual review: N =4; M =2.50; SD =.58; Range =2-3

2. Research Skills

-Master's thesis defense: N =7; M =3.00; SD =.58; Range =2-4

~~-Dissertation defense: N =; M =; SD =; Range =~~

-Annual review: N =4; M =2.75; SD =.96; Range =2-4

3. Communication and Collaboration Skills

-Master's thesis defense: N =7; M =2.86; SD =.69; Range = 2-4

~~-Dissertation defense: N =; M =; SD =; Range =~~

-Annual review: N =4; M =2.75; SD =.96; Range =2-4

4. Professionalism

-Master's thesis defense: N =7; M =3.00; SD =.58; Range =2-4

~~-Dissertation defense: N =; M =; SD =; Range =~~

-Annual review: N =4; M =2.50; SD =1.00; Range =2-4

Community Concentration

1. Theory and Content

-Master's thesis defense: N =4; M =2.50; SD =.58; Range =2-3

~~-Dissertation defense: N =; M =; SD =; Range =~~

-Annual review: N =1; M =1; SD =0.00; Range =1

2. Research Skills

-Master's thesis defense: N =4; M =2.50; SD =1.00; Range =2-4

~~-Dissertation defense: N =; M =; SD =; Range =~~

-Annual review: N =1; M =1; SD =0.00; Range =1

3. Communication and Collaboration Skills

-Master's thesis defense: N =4; M =2.00; SD =.82; Range =1-3

~~-Dissertation defense: N =; M =; SD =; Range =~~
-Annual review: N =1; M =1; SD =0.00; Range =1

4. Professionalism

-Master's thesis defense: N =4; M =2.75; SD =.50; Range =2-3
~~-Dissertation defense: N =; M =; SD =; Range =~~
-Annual review: N =1; M =2; SD =0.00; Range =2

Developmental Concentration

1. Theory and Content

-Master's thesis defense: N =11; M =2.82; SD =.75; Range =2-4
-Dissertation defense: N =11; M =3.27; SD =.79; Range =2-4
-Annual review: N =24; M =3.04; SD =.62; Range =2-4

2. Research Skills

-Master's thesis defense: N =11; M =2.82; SD =.87; Range =2-4
-Dissertation defense: N =11; M =3.64; SD =.50; Range =3-4
-Annual review: N =24; M =3.21; SD =.66; Range =2-4

3. Communication and Collaboration Skills

-Master's thesis defense: N =11; M =2.73; SD =.65; Range =2-4
-Dissertation defense: N =11; M =3.36; SD =.67; Range =2-4
-Annual review: N =24; M =3.13; SD =.80; Range =2-4

4. Professionalism

-Master's thesis defense: N =11; M =2.73; SD =.65; Range = 2-4
-Dissertation defense: N =11; M =3.55; SD =.52; Range =3-4
-Annual review: N =24; M =3.25; SD =.61; Range =2-4

NBN Concentration

1. Theory and Content

~~-Master's thesis defense: N =; M =; SD =; Range =~~
~~-Dissertation defense: N =; M =; SD =; Range =~~
-Annual review: N =2; M =3.00; SD =0.00; Range =3

2. Research Skills

~~-Master's thesis defense: N =; M =; SD =; Range =~~
~~-Dissertation defense: N =; M =; SD =; Range =~~
-Annual review: N =2; M =3.00; SD =0.00; Range =3

3. Communication and Collaboration Skills

~~-Master's thesis defense: N =; M =; SD =; Range =~~
~~-Dissertation defense: N =; M =; SD =; Range =~~
-Annual review: N =2; M =2.50; SD =.71; Range =2-3

4. Professionalism

~~-Master's thesis defense: N =; M =; SD =; Range =~~
~~-Dissertation defense: N =; M =; SD =; Range =~~
-Annual review: N =2; M =3.00; SD =0.00; Range =3

Analysis of Assessment Results
Across learning outcomes/objectives and measurement time points, scores fell around “Consistently meeting expectations” (3). The lowest scores fell across domains at annual review. This might reflect that the assessment is conducted in a different way using different sources of data. There is an upward trajectory on scores from master’s thesis defense to doctoral dissertation defense, supporting expected developmental improvements across domains.
Sharing and Discussion of Assessment Findings (optional in 2013-2014)
The findings were discussed with the Graduate Program Committee (GPC: Chairs of the 5 concentrations in Psychology) to determine future courses of action. Findings will be shared with all faculty in the department.
Use of Assessment Findings for Program Improvement
The GPC will meet and discuss the findings to determine how the findings will inform program improvement.
Supporting Documents
[you may insert documents below or upload them separately in SLOAP as PDFs]

Graduate Learning Outcome Evaluation 2.0

GSU Psychology Department

Return completed form to Kristy Hill.

The purpose of this form is to evaluate the degree to which we are meeting our training goals. It is not meant to be used for providing assessment and feedback to individual students.

Semester/Year: _____ Program: _____ Task (circle one): MA Defense PhD Defense Annual Review
Role (circle one): Thesis/Diss Chair Thesis/Diss Committee Member Annual Review Chair Annual Review Mentor

Instructions: Please circle a score (1-4) for each of the following 4 learning objectives. Students should be evaluated based on their developmental training trajectory. For example, you should have lower expectations for a first-year student than a fifth-year student.

1. Theory and Content Expertise - Students will develop expertise regarding major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in the field of Psychology, the student's program area(s), and the student's research specialty area(s).

- 1 – Below expectations
- 2 – Inconsistently or partially meets expectations
- 3 – Consistently meets expectations
- 4 – Exceeds Expectations

2. Research Skills - Students will understand and apply research methods, which include research design, data analysis, and interpretation of findings. Students will demonstrate critical and scientific thinking via written and oral work.

- 1 – Below expectations
- 2 – Inconsistently or partially meets expectations
- 3 – Consistently meets expectations
- 4 – Exceeds Expectations

3. Communication and Collaboration Skills - Students will effectively communicate in written and oral formats. Students will work effectively with mentors, colleagues, students, and others.

- 1 – Below expectations
- 2 – Inconsistently or partially meets expectations
- 3 – Consistently meets expectations
- 4 – Exceeds Expectations

4. Professionalism – Students will meet professional expectations, demonstrate multicultural awareness, behave in line with ethical principles, and reflect values underpinning psychology.

- 1 – Below expectations
- 2 – Inconsistently or partially meets expectations
- 3 – Consistently meets expectations
- 4 – Exceeds Expectations