

# DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY

**Web Site:** <https://twu.edu/psychology-philosophy/graduate-programs/school-psychology/doctoral-program/>

## Degree Requirements

### Total Semester Credit Hours Required

The minimum number of semester credit hours required for the doctoral program depends upon the individual degree program. The applicant should contact the director of the appropriate doctoral program for details. In general, students entering with a bachelor's degree will complete 109 semester credit hours.

Code	Title	SCHs
<b>Required Research Courses</b>		
PSY 5304	Advanced Psychological Statistics I	4
PSY 5353	Research Design	3
PSY 6204	Advanced Psychological Statistics II	4
PSY 6961	Research Team (to be taken one time)	1
PSY 6983	Dissertation	3
PSY 6993	Dissertation	3
<b>Psychological Foundations</b>		
PSY 6104	Cognition and Emotion	4
PSY 6113	Measurement and Psychometric Theory	3
PSY 6133	Advanced Behavioral Neuroscience	3
PSY 6613	Advanced Developmental Psychology	3
PSY 6743	Seminar in Social Psychology	3
PSY 6773	Advanced Multicultural Psychology	3
PSY 6833	Ethics in Psychology	3
<b>Professional Competencies</b>		
PSY 5423	Cognitive Assessment	3
PSY 5463	Academic Assessment	3
PSY 5473	Social-Emotional Assessment of Children	3
PSY 5533	Evidence-Based Intervention: Academic	3
PSY 5803	Introduction to School Psychology	3
PSY 6143	Neurodevelopmental and Genetic Disorders In Children	3
PSY 6263	Preschool, Autism and Low Incidence Assessment	3
PSY 6423	Psychopathology and Exceptionalities in Childhood and Adolescence	3
PSY 6444	Theory and Practice of Counseling with Children and Adolescents	4
PSY 6523	Neuropsychological Assessment Techniques I	3
PSY 6533	Neuropsychological Assessment Techniques II	3
PSY 6583	Neuropsychopharmacology	3
PSY 6673	Therapeutic and Crisis Interventions for Children and Adolescents	3
PSY 6693	Advanced Therapy Intervention for Children and Adolescents	3

PSY 6703	Direct Behavioral Interventions	3
PSY 6853	Supervision and Consultation Psychology	3
PSY 6931	Practicum in Applied Psychology (to be taken twice)	2

<b>Doctoral Required Applied Practice</b>		
PSY 6923	Supervised Practicum (School Based I)	3
PSY 6923	Supervised Practicum (School Based II)	3
PSY 6933	Internship in Psychology (to be taken two times)	6

<b>Neuropsychology/Counseling Practicum</b>		
PSY 6923	Supervised Practicum (Counseling; students must take an additional semester of Counseling OR Neuropsychology Practicum)	6
PSY 6923	Supervised Practicum (Neuropsychology; students must take an additional semester of Neuropsychology OR Counseling Practicum)	6

**Total SCHs** 109

## Practica

School Psychology doctoral students spend a minimum of four semesters in practicum placements. Students will receive approval from the School Psychology Program Committee (SPPC) to pursue practicum placements.

## Internships

School Psychology doctoral students must complete a full-time, 1500 hour internship over a period of one year or 10 consecutive months. At least 600 hours must be in a school-based or school related setting taken after the School Based II practicum. A full year, full-time APA or APPIC accredited internship is recommended. Students will receive approval from the School Psychology Program Committee (SPPC) to pursue practicum placements. The internship cannot begin until the student has been admitted to candidacy, which requires the successful completion of all required coursework and comprehensive exams.

## Research Tools

Required research tools include the following:

Code	Title	SCHs
PSY 5304	Advanced Psychological Statistics I	4
PSY 5353	Research Design	3
PSY 6204	Advanced Psychological Statistics II	4
PSY 6961	Research Team (to be taken one time)	1

## Special Requirements

Grade requirements are specified by both the graduate school and the School of Social Work, Psychology, and Philosophy (online graduate catalog available at (<http://catalog.twu.edu/graduate/>)). The School of Social Work, Psychology, and Philosophy requires that a doctoral student maintain a 3.5 grade point average on a 4.0 scale. **Be advised that the School's higher GPA requirement supersedes the Graduate School's GPA requirement of 3.0.** When a student's cumulative grade point average falls below 3.5 during any one semester or full summer session of ten weeks, the School Psychology Program Committee places the student on academic probation. Students have one year to raise their cumulative GPA to above 3.5. Failure to do so may result in dismissal from the program.

In no case may a course with a grade of "C" or lower apply towards the doctoral degree plan. A grade of "C" or lower must be made up by retaking the same course with the same instructor unless the instructor grants the student permission to retake the course elsewhere. If a grade of "C" or less is earned, the student will be required to meet with the SPPC, which shall determine appropriate steps for remediation. At any point during the program, if the student receives a grade of "C" or lower in six or more credit hours, this will result in dismissal from the program.

### **Residence Requirement**

A one-year full-time pre-doctoral internship is required to meet the requirements for graduation and licensure.

### **Comprehensive Examinations**

Comprehensive evaluation includes the following: a written integrative essay that is orally defended over core psychological foundations; a theoretical philosophy paper; a clinical skills oral presentation and defense of both the theoretical philosophy paper; an assessment case study; and an intervention study. The content, format, administration, and evaluation of the comprehensive exam will be the responsibility of the core faculty. Students who fail any portion of the comprehensive exam process will be provided with remediation plans and subsequent measures for reevaluation of student progress. A student may be dismissed from the program if remediation is not completed in a satisfactory manner. Upon successful completion of all coursework and the comprehensive competency evaluation, the doctoral student is recommended for candidacy for the Ph.D. degree.

### **Dissertation and Final Examination**

All students must complete an empirical dissertation. An oral defense of the dissertation is required. The defense may be repeated once.

### **Course Electives**

Students are allowed to take additional elective coursework that is not a part of the required doctoral program. Elective coursework is offered on a rotating basis. PSY 6233 and PSY 6923 may be taken.

Additional courses offered through the doctoral program in Counseling Psychology or other departments within the University may be taken as elective credit (not part of the required doctoral program).