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PSYCHOLOGY DISSERTATION 101

DOCTORAL PROGRAMS IN PSYCHOLOGY@TC

- Clinical Psychology
- Counseling Psychology,
- School Psychology
- Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- Intellectual Disability and Autism
- Applied Behavior Analysis

- Developmental Psychology
- Cognitive Science
- Learning Analytics
- Social-Organizational Psychology
- Measurement, Evaluation & Statistics

KEY RELATIONSHIPS: FACULTY ADVISOR & OFFICE OF DOCTORAL STUDIES

- Solidify a relationship with a faculty sponsor/advisor as early as possible to begin identifying dissertation topics
- Look over information provided by the Office of Doctoral Studies (ODS)
 - http://www.tc.columbia.edu/doctoral/
 - Calendar of dates
 - Requirements
 - Forms

PROGRAM PLAN

- Find your program's plan, which lists required courses, online or in handbook
- Complete official Program Plan, have your advisor sign, and submit it to ODS

CERTIFICATION/RESEARCH EXAMS

- College-wide doctoral certification exams must be taken before advancing to candidacy and proposing your dissertation
- Fall and spring CERT dates for most psychology students
- A summer date for others (Deaf & Hard of Hearing; ID/Autism; ABA).

DOCTORAL CANDIDACY

- Once coursework and other requirements are completed and comprehensive exams are passed, students apply to receive the M.Phil. degree en passant
- Some programs have additional requirements such as a research presentation, publication, and/or dissertation proposal before students can progress to candidacy

DISSERTATION PROPOSAL

- Consists of:
 - Introduction
 - Literature Review
 - Methods
- Identify faculty approved by the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (GSAS) for committee:
 - Sponsor
 - Second Reader
 - Outside Reader
- Submit drafts to all committee members and start trying to schedule proposal hearing 2-3 months in advance of desired date
- Once completed and passed by committee, submit Proposal Hearing Form to ODS
 - Includes IRB approval

ADVANCED SEMINAR

- Students apply for the Advanced Seminar (via ODS form) and present data to committee for further guidance (also known as the Data Hearing)
- Fellowships and dissertation defense-specific funding is available for final two semesters of dissertation work
 - Requires a completed application (found through Office of Financial Aid Fellowships & Grants).

DISSERTATION DEFENSE (LAST STEP!)

- Register for Dissertation Defense course (TI8900) for the semester you defend and submit Notification of Intention to Defend to ODS by the semester deadline
- Confirm final defense committee (5 individuals, including 3 from proposal hearing):
 - Sponsor
 - Chair (likely your Second Reader)
 - Outside/Third Reader
 - Examiners (I outside program and I outside TC, typically)
- Schedule final hearing, defend, make any revisions, and submit for conferral of degree

THANK YOU COMING!

QUESTIONS?

... AND THANK YOU TO TODAY'S PANELISTS

- Sonia Arora Deaf and Hard of Hearing sba2144@tc.columbia.edu
- Bobby Cox Counseling Psychology rc2813@tc.columbia.edu
- Kate Durham School Psychology <u>kld2133@tc.columbia.edu</u>
- Laura Malkiewich Cognitive Science <u>ljm2172@tc.columbia.edu</u>
- Lauren Catenacci Social and Organizational Psychology ltc2108@tc.columbia.edu