WELCOME TO WINE & WISDOM

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 (1 outside program and 1 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 – kld2133@tc.columbia.edu
• Laura Malkiewich – Cognitive Science – ljm2172@tc.columbia.edu
• Lauren Catenacci – Social and Organizational Psychology - ltc2108@tc.columbia.edu