

Educational Psychology Doctoral Program

Research Apprenticeship

Effective fall semester, 2008, the incoming class of doctoral students will be required to participate in the Research Apprenticeship, a program designed to provide students with experience in psychological research. The research apprenticeship is one important way that doctoral students can gain essential research skills and prepare for a comprehensive exam project in (approximately) their third year in the program.

The Research Apprenticeship should be initiated prior to completion of 12 credit hours *in the doctoral program*. The student may complete this project with his or her assigned advisor or another faculty member from the School of Psychological Sciences. It is expected that this apprenticeship will provide the student with experience in various phases of the research process, such as: analysis of empirical and theoretical literature, research design, IRB, data acquisition, data coding, data analysis, and preparation of presentations and articles in APA format. The mentor and student will fill out the Research Apprenticeship Working Agreement form, which includes the set of the agreed-upon goals for the project, project description, and the student's contribution.

The Research Apprenticeship must be equivalent to six semester credit hours over at least two contiguous semesters. With consent of the faculty mentor, the student may enroll in up to six total credits of independent study (e.g., PSY 663 and/or 693; a course that involves S/U grading). The Research Apprenticeship must be completed by the end of 36 credit hours of courses in the doctoral program. The Research Apprenticeship will involve satisfying agreed-upon learning experiences in the research process (contained in the original or revised agreement) and must result in a written product warranting co-authorship for the student and advisor according to guidelines found in the APA Publication Manual (5th edition, 2001; APA Ethical Principle 6.23, a-c). Only after the completion of the project, the mentor's approval, and the student's fulfillment of other requirements as specified by the Graduate School will the student be allowed to proceed to the written comprehensive phase of the doctoral program. Successful completion of the Apprenticeship Project will be followed by the requirement of one comprehensive project (one written paper and subsequent oral examination).