This student manual is designed to help you progress through the clinical psychology graduate program. In addition to this manual, you should carefully read the *Handbook of the Clinical Psychology Program* and the *SLU Graduate Education Catalog* at slu.edu for important information regarding graduate education and the clinical program’s mission, goals, objectives, processes and requirements.

I. Advising

Each student must have an advisor who is a full-time clinical faculty member. When a student first enters the clinical program, the Director of the Clinical Program assigns the student an advisor on a random basis. Once the student selects a clinical faculty member to serve as chair of the student’s master’s thesis or doctoral dissertation, the faculty member assumes the role of advisor. If the student’s thesis or dissertation chair is not a full-time clinical faculty member, the student must select a full-time clinical faculty member who will assume the role of advisor.

The academic advisor assists the student in developing a curriculum plan which meets the program requirements and the student’s training interests and needs. The advisor provides guidance and assistance for students in their selection of coursework, clerkships, external placements, and clinical internship consistent with the students’ long-range goals. The advisor also takes notes during semiannual student evaluations and provides both verbal and written evaluation feedback to the student.

II. The First Year

Incoming graduate students are expected to attend the department and clinical program orientation typically held the Tuesday before the first week of classes for Fall Semester. At this orientation, students will be assigned an initial advisor who will assist them in registering for classes for Fall Semester. Incoming clinical students who receive a graduate assistantship are also required to attend an orientation sponsored by the offices of SLU Graduate Education (typically held on the Wednesday before the first week of classes).

Students entering the program with an approved masters degree will work with their advisors and with the Director of the Clinical Program on transfer of credits and establishing a curriculum plan. Written approval from the student’s advisor and the Director of the Clinical Program is needed for any course taken as part of a previous masters degree program to meet any clinical program requirement. The student is responsible for providing any information (e.g., course syllabi, course description) to assist the advisor and Director in determining the
acceptability of previous coursework. Final approval of all graduate transfer credits must be obtained from the Associate Dean for Graduate Education in the College of Arts and Sciences. Forms for transfer of credits are available through the SLU Graduate Education website and the masters and doctoral candidacy advisors.

The typical first year courses for students entering without an approved masters degree are as follows:

**First Year, Fall Semester**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSY 503-01</td>
<td>Clinical Assessment I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 580-01</td>
<td>Clinical Assessment Practicum I</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 552-01</td>
<td>Psychopathology I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 588-01</td>
<td>Psychopathology Practicum</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 508-01</td>
<td>Advanced Quantitative Research Methods</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY-579-01</td>
<td>Applied Univariate Statistics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC-610-01</td>
<td>Regression Analysis and Nonlinear Models</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 581-*</td>
<td>Clinical Practicum I (Clinical Vertical Team)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 586-*</td>
<td>Clinical Research I (Research Vertical Team)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 589-05</td>
<td>Clerkship: Academic Psychology</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**First Year, Spring Semester**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSY 504-01</td>
<td>Clinical Assessment II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 583-01</td>
<td>Clinical Assessment Practicum II</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 561-01</td>
<td>Clinical Interventions</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 688-01</td>
<td>Clinical Interventions Practicum</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 509-01</td>
<td>Psychometric Theory</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 650-01</td>
<td>Applied Multivariable and Multivariate Statistics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 581-*</td>
<td>Clinical Practicum I (Clinical Vertical Team)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 586-*</td>
<td>Clinical Research I (Research Vertical Team)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 589-05</td>
<td>Clerkship: Academic Psychology</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**First Year, Summer Semester**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSY 581-*</td>
<td>Clinical Practicum I (Clinical Vertical Team)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 586-*</td>
<td>Clinical Research I (Research Vertical Team)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 589-**</td>
<td>Clerkship</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY ???-***</td>
<td>Elective course</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* students register for the section number of a specific clinical faculty member (see XIII).
** students register for the specific type of clerkship
*** students in their first year are not allowed to take more than 6 credit hours (CVT + one academic course) during their first summer in the program without approval from his or her advisor and the Director of the Clinical Program.
Clinical Vertical Team during the First Year. Each incoming student is assigned to a Clinical Vertical Team (CVT). When registering for PSY 581: Clinical Practicum, be sure to include the section number of your CVT supervisor (see Section XIII. Faculty Section Numbers).

Research Vertical Team during the First Year. Incoming students will learn about the various faculty and student research interests and projects during the first few weeks of their first semester. Within the first few weeks of the fall semester, each clinical faculty member will provide a presentation on the various research being conducted on his or her RVT. After these presentations, first year students are subsequently encouraged to visit and attend any RVT to determine which team is most appropriate to their research interests, goals and learning style. During the fall semester of the first year, students should register for zero credit hours of PSY 581: Clinical Research I with the section number of the Director of Clinical Training (i.e., section 15). Once a student has selected a chair for his or her masters’ thesis, the student will join the faculty member’s RVT. If the thesis chair is a nonclinical faculty member, the student should join and attend the RVT of a clinical faculty member who is a member of the thesis committee. Each student is to be on an RVT each semester in residence. Registration for RVT after the fall semester of the first year should be in the section of the clinical faculty member whose RVT the student attends (see XIII).

The Masters Thesis Proposal. Each student must have an approved written thesis proposal by the end of the 8-week summer semester of their first year in the program. If a student does not have an approved thesis proposal by the above deadline, the student is prohibited from enrolling in courses until the thesis proposal is approved. Students should note that faculty are typically unavailable from the last day of summer semester to the beginning of fall semester. Students get help with selecting a thesis topic through the faculty and student presentations during the first few weeks of the semester and by attending various RVTs. Students should also review the listing of research interests of the faculty in the department, as well as scheduling a face-to-face meeting with any faculty whose research appears interesting. By the end of fall semester, each student is expected to affiliate with a faculty member (clinical, experimental, organizational) with whom they intend to develop a thesis proposal. This affiliation indicates that the student and faculty member agree that they are pursuing a thesis research topic. This affiliation does not restrict a student from changing to some other faculty member to serve as chair of the thesis during the first year.

Assistantships and Fellowships. Typically, each incoming student receives an assistantship or a fellowship which includes a stipend and tuition remission. Students on assistantships and fellowships are required to attend an orientation presented by the SLU Graduate Education which is typically held the Wednesday before the first week of classes for the fall semester. At this orientation, you will obtain important information to ensure you receive your stipend and tuition remission. The specific responsibilities of your assistantship or fellowship are determined by the Department of Psychology. At the departmental orientation for graduate students (typically the first Wednesday before classes begin), you will receive your assistantship or fellowship assignment. You will be assigned to assist one or more faculty in the department. As soon as you receive your assignment, you should contact the faculty member immediately either in
person, by phone or by leaving a note in the faculty member’s mailbox indicating telephone numbers where you can be reached.

III. Summary of Program Requirements

Students should consult the Handbook of the Clinical Program and the Graduate Education Catalog for specific information on the degree requirements and curriculum. In consultation with their advisor, clinical students should develop a curriculum plan that satisfies the program and degree requirements while meeting the student’s particular professional interests. A brief summary of the program requirements are:

Summary of Program Requirements

I. General Core Courses
   - Biological aspects of behavior 3
   - Cognitive-affective aspects of behavior 3
   - Social aspects of behavior 3
   - Developmental aspects of behavior 3
   - Human Diversity 3
   - History and Systems of Psychology 3
   - Statistics 6
   - Research Methodology 6

II. Clinical Core Courses
   - Clinical Assessment I & II 6
   - Psychopathology 3
   - Clinical Interventions 3
   - Ethics and Professional Issues 3

III. Research Credits
   - Research Vertical Team 0
     (each semester in residence)
   - Thesis Research 6
   - Dissertation Research 12

IV. Clinical Practice Credits
   - Practicum in Clinical Assessment I & II 0
   - Practicum in Psychopathology 0
   - Practicum in Clinical Interventions 0
   - Clinical Vertical Team 12
     (each semester in residence; 0 credits Fall & Spring, 3 credits Summer)
   - Internship in Clinical Psychology 0

V. Electives 15
IV. Clinical Vertical Team

Each student must be on a Clinical Vertical Team (CVT) each semester in residence. CVT assignments are typically made in July for the upcoming academic year and a student remains on the same CVT for the fall, spring and summer semesters. Assignment to CVT is done by the clinical faculty and consideration is given to several factors in developing clinical teams including student preference, student’s previous supervisor(s), year level distribution, gender balance, minority representation, and written prelim plans. Students should be sure to indicate the CVT supervisor’s section number each time they register for CVT credits. The sequence of CVT registration is:

1st Year  PSY 581: Clinical Practicum I
(Fall, 0 credits; Spring, 0 credits; Summer, 3 credits)

2nd Year  PSY 582: Clinical Practicum II
(Fall, 0 credits; Spring, 0 credits; Summer, 3 credits)

3rd Year  PSY 681: Clinical Practicum III
(Fall, 0 credits; Spring, 0 credits; Summer, 3 credits)

4th Year +  PSY 682: Clinical Practicum IV
(Fall, 0 credits; Spring, 0 credits; Summer, 3 credits)

Students are expected to attend and participate regularly in Clinical Vertical Team, including one hour per week of individual supervision and two hours per week of team supervision. Each student beyond their first year is expected to devote 10-12 hours per week to clinical work as part of their Clinical Vertical Team activities. Such activities include direct client services (i.e., assessment and intervention), individual and group supervision (including transcripts, treatment plans, etc.), report writing, paperwork and phone calls related to clinical care, readings, etc. Students in the first year are expected to spend 3-5 hours per week in clinically related activities as part of their Clinical Vertical Team, including attendance and participation in group supervision, conducting intakes, readings, etc.

Expected caseloads for students are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Yearly # of Assessments</th>
<th>Yearly # of Therapy Sessions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Assessments include any combinations of focused/integrated assessments and comprehensive assessments as defined by the APPIC form for internship application. Students should review their caseloads regularly with their CVT supervisor to ensure that expected caseloads are met.

In consultation with the CVT supervisor and with written, informed consent of the client, all direct clinical services provided to clients should be videotaped.

Students must complete all written clinical work (e.g., reports, treatment summaries, case notes, etc.) and close any case files (where appropriate) prior to the last day of fall, spring and summer semester. All cases seen, even if only seen for an initial consultation, should have a written report in the file. Students are responsible for verifying with their CVT supervisor and the PSC Director that all appropriate clinical cases are closed and paperwork is completed. Failure to close cases and complete paperwork will result in a grade of Incomplete for CVT and
the student may not register for further coursework (including CVT, thesis or dissertation hours or internship) until all written work is completed. Students are not eligible to graduate until all written clinical work is complete and approved by the clinical supervisor and the PSC Director.

V. Research Vertical Team.

Each student must be on a Research Vertical Team each semester in residence. Students attend the RVT of their thesis or dissertation chair; in the case of a nonclinical faculty chair, the student should attend an RVT of clinical faculty member who serves on the thesis or dissertation committee. Students should be sure to indicate the RVT supervisor’s section number each time they register for RVT credits. RVT is always taken for zero credit hours. The sequence of RVT registration is:

1st Year       PSY 586: Clinical Research I
2nd Year       PSY 587: Clinical Research II
3rd Year       PSY 686: Advanced Clinical Research I
4th Year +     PSY 687: Advanced Clinical Research II

VI. Masters of Science (Research) Degree

A. Thesis

The thesis committee consists of three members, at least two of whom are psychology faculty (clinical or A-E). The student must provide the committee members with a copy of the thesis proposal (including all measures to be used) no later than two weeks before the date of the thesis proposal meeting. After obtaining approval by the thesis committee, the student must obtain approval from the university’s Institutional Review Board (IRB) prior to beginning any data collection. Information and forms for obtaining IRB approval are available in the department main office and online. An approved thesis outline with IRB approval must be submitted to the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) Associate Dean for Graduate Education through the masters candidacy advisor. This should be completed as soon as possible after the student’s thesis proposal and IRB have been approved. Additionally, the student should file candidacy papers in the semester prior to the one during which the student expects to complete the masters thesis. The completed thesis must conform to the SLU Graduate Education requirements for manuscript preparation. The student must obtain final approval of his or her thesis by the members of the thesis committee who indicate their approval on ballots provided by the office of the Associate Dean for Graduate Education through the masters candidacy advisor. Students must complete 6 hours of thesis research. Students should be sure to include the thesis chairperson’s section number when registering for PSY 599: Thesis Research.

B. Masters Oral Examination

The masters oral exam cannot occur until approved copies of the thesis and the thesis ballots have been received by the Associate Vice President for Graduate Education. The student should speak with his or her chairperson and the masters candidacy advisor to ensure that ballots for the masters oral examination are sent to the chairperson well in advance of the examination.

The masters oral examination should be scheduled for one and a half hours in length; however, the exam is to last no less than sixty minutes nor more than ninety minutes. During the oral examination, the student is expected to defend the thesis and will be examined over his or her knowledge of research methodology, statistics, and the foundations of clinical psychology.
(assessment, psychopathology, intervention, ethics, professional issues). Students are also evaluated in terms of their ability to integrate within each of the core clinical areas (assessment, psychopathology, intervention, ethics, professional issues) which also serves as a diagnostic indicator of readiness for the written preliminary examination.

The masters oral examination committee consists of three members and is typically the same as the masters thesis committee. However, since the oral examination evaluates the clinical core, the committee must include at least two voting clinical faculty members. Consequently, if the thesis committee did not include two clinical faculty members, the oral examination committee should be expanded to meet this requirement. Successful completion of the masters thesis and oral examination results in conferral of the masters degree, with or without recommendation for advancement to doctoral candidacy. If the student fails the examination, s/he may repeat the exam only once, provided that the committee and the Associate Vice President for Graduate Education approve a second examination.

C. Post-Masters Degree Project

Students entering the clinical psychology graduate degree with an approved masters degree which did not include a research-based thesis are required to complete a post-masters degree research project under the supervision of a full time faculty member in the Department of Psychology. The final written research project must be approved by the supervisor prior to the student taking the written preliminary examination.

VII. Doctor of Philosophy Degree

A. Doctoral Candidacy

After successful completion of the masters oral examination, a student petitions the office of Graduate Education for admission to the doctoral program. Advancement to doctoral candidacy is based on the recommendation from the masters oral examination committee. Students should consult the Graduate Education Catalog for the necessary forms.

B. Written Preliminary Examination

Purpose

The purpose of written prelims is to evaluate students’ abilities to integrate within each of the five core clinical areas, bringing in materials (i.e., clinical practice, journal articles) beyond required clinical core coursework.

Eligibility

Students are eligible to take the written prelims exam any time after being advanced to candidacy for the Ph.D. After advancement to candidacy, students can take the written exam after completing or in the semester of completing the clinical core course requirements (Clinical Assessment, Psychopathology, Clinical Interventions, Ethics and Professional Issues).

Content and Structure

a. Five sections reflecting the clinical core curriculum
   1) Assessment
   2) Psychopathology
   3) Intervention
   4) Ethics
5) Professional Issues
   b. Students must answer two of three questions for each of the Assessment, Psychopathology and Interventions sections, and one of two questions for each of the Ethics and the Professional Issues sections.
   
c. Students taking prelims are responsible for all material in required classes, including the most recent semester. It is up to each student to acquire the necessary new sources, etc. Current syllabi are on file within the main departmental psychology office. In addition to course information, content in the exams could include material covered within the last three years of the following journals: *American Psychologist, Clinical Psychology: Science and Practice, and Cultural Diversity and Ethnic Minority Psychology*. These journals were selected as their content cuts across each of the five content areas of the examination.

*Exam Construction and Administration*
   a. Questions for each section are reviewed and approved by clinical faculty.
   
b. Written prelims will likely be given once each semester, typically the second full week in October and the first full week in April. A retake exam for students who fail one or more sections in the Fall semester administration will be offered during the Spring semester administration of prelims. A retake exam for students who fail two sections or less in the Spring semester administration will be offered during second week of July during the Summer semester; a student failing 3 or more sections during a Spring semester administration must wait until the next Fall semester administration to retake the exam. The exact scheduled date for prelims will be announced by the coordinator at least 30 days prior to the examination.
   
c. Typically the exam will be administered over two days, with sections 1 and 2 (Assessment and Psychopathology) given on day one, and sections 3-5 (Interventions, Ethics, Professional Issues) given on day two.
   
d. The usual schedule for the exam is: 9:30 am – 12:30 pm and 1:30 -4:30 pm.
   
e. Students will use the computers in the Psychological Services Center or within another formal testing center. The testing location will be determined by the clinical faculty.
   
f. Students will receive an “identifier letter” that they use on their exam.
   
g. A copy of the current APA Ethical Code will be provided to students for the Ethics section.

*Grading*
   a. All prelim answers are graded on a pass-fail basis.
   
b. Criteria for grade assignment are as follows:
      1. *Failing Answer = 0.* A failing answer does not adequately address one or more component(s) of the question at a level that demonstrates a basic understanding of the concepts and/or issues. The inability to cite and discuss at least one relevant reference or one relevant theory, when a component of the question asks for empirical or theoretical support, would also constitute a failing answer. Information that is incorrect and inaccurate would also result in a failing answer. These are intended to be general guidelines; additional criteria for failure are subject to the judgment of the faculty raters.
      2. *Passing Answer = 1.* Such answers address each component(s) of the question at a level that demonstrates a basic understanding of the concepts and/or issues. If any component of the questions asks for empirical or theoretical support, at least one relevant
study or one relevant theory must be cited and discussed. All information presented in
the answer is correct and accurate.

c. Answers are initially graded with masked review by two raters. Answers are graded
by a third rater in the event that one or both raters have assigned a failing grade (0) to an answer.
If there are at least two (two out of three or three out of three) initial failing grades, a meeting is
convened with the three raters to discuss the answer and to assign a final grade.

d. During the ‘grading meeting,’ reviewers discuss the rationale for their grades and
deliver a final grade. Out of the three grades, if two or more raters assign a final failing grade to
an answer, that question has been failed. The raters will then provide a brief written rationale for
why the answer constitutes failure of the question. This rationale and the constellation of final
grades will be shared with the student during preliminary examination feedback.

e. A student is considered to have passed the written preliminary examination if he or she
has passed all questions answered in each of the five sections. A student is considered to have
failed a section if any answer in that section is failed.

f. If a student fails one or two sections, he or she is required to retake only those sections
that were failed. If a student fails three or more sections, he or she is required to retake all five
sections.

g. A student who fails any question on the retake/second administration of the exam fails
the exam. A student who fails the retake/second administration of the examination is no longer
considered in good academic standing and will be dismissed from the clinical psychology
graduate program.

Appeals

If a student desires to appeal a grade received on one or more written preliminary
examination questions, the student should submit a written notice of appeal to the Director of the
Clinical Psychology Program within 15 days following communication of the examination
results. Such notice should indicate which graded item(s) the student wishes to appeal. The
appeal will first be considered by a committee consisting of all clinical faculty members who
scored the particular item(s) being appealed. The committee will provide written notice to the
student of the date and time of their meeting at which time the appeal will be considered. The
student may, at his or her discretion, provide a written statement to the committee prior to their
meeting. The committee will meet, review the student’s answer(s) and any written statement by
the student, and make a preliminary decision regarding the appeal. The committee will
subsequently meet with the student to inform the student of the preliminary decision and to
discuss it with him or her. Following this discussion, the committee will meet without the
student present and make a final determination of the appeal. This determination is made on the
basis of a majority vote of the committee. In the case of a tie vote, the appeal will be considered
denied by the committee. If the student wishes to pursue the appeal further, the appeal is made to
the Chair of the Department of Psychology.

Should the student wish to continue the appeal process, he or she should follow the
procedures for academic appeals as specified in the Catalog of Graduate Education. Specifically,
the next step involves the Board of Graduate Education (BGE) of the College of Arts and
Sciences. An appeal to the BGE must be made in writing and submitted to the Associate Dean
for Graduate Education within 30 days of the decision by the department chairperson (or other
appeal officer). The BGE will consider the merits of the student’s appeal and the adequacy of
procedures followed in the department. The BGE may support the decision being appealed, overturn it, or change the penalty imposed.

Should the student wish to appeal the decision beyond CAS, a written appeal may be submitted to the Associate Vice President for Graduate Education. This must occur within 30 days of the decision by the BGE.

Students should consult the Procedures for Academic Appeals section of the Catalog of Graduate Education for more specific information on the appeals process beyond the department.

Clinical Responsibilities During Prelims

Students may elect to excuse themselves from clinical work (including conducting assessment or therapy sessions, participating in individual and team supervision) for the week of written prelims only (not before or after the administration of the examination).

C. Oral Preliminary Examination

The oral preliminary examination (historically called “doc orals”) may be taken any time after the written preliminary examination has been successfully completed and when at least 60 hours have been completed or are in the process of being completed in the current semester. Students are encouraged to take the oral preliminary examination as soon after the written prelims as possible in order to benefit from their studies in preparation for the written prelims.

The examination committee must consist of four members, at least three of whom are psychology faculty who have Graduate Faculty status. Appointment of a fourth committee member who does not have Graduate Faculty status requires permission of the Associate Vice President for Graduate Education. One of the committee members must be a full time clinical faculty member. The examination is to last no less than one hour nor longer than one and a half hours. During the examination, the student will be examined over the dissertation proposal/prospectus (consisting of a statement of the problem, literature review, and the research design prepared for the investigation). The examination is designed to assess the student’s ability to integrate knowledge across the discipline of psychology.

All members of the oral preliminary examination committee communicate their evaluations of the student’s performance to the Associate Dean for Graduate Education in the College of Arts and Sciences individually in writing. The student should ensure that ballots for the oral preliminary examination are sent by CAS Associate Dean’s office to the committee chairperson well in advance of the examination. A student receiving two or more unfavorable evaluations from the examiners fails the examination. If the student fails the examination, the examination may be repeated, but only once, and ordinarily the second attempt should not be scheduled within the same academic term as the first. The committee that administered the first exam will also administer the second exam under ordinary circumstances. The chairperson of the examination committee must submit a written request for a second exam to the Associate Vice President for Graduate Education well in advance of the desired examination date. Should the outcome of the second examination be unsatisfactory, a third exam is rarely approved, and is considered by the Associate Vice President for Graduate Education only upon the unanimous recommendation of the examining committee.

D. Dissertation
Ordinarily, a student will have been discussing a dissertation research topic with a faculty member during the written and oral preliminary examinations processes. The dissertation committee consists of three members, at least two of whom are psychology faculty (clinical or applied-experimental). Appointment of a third committee member who is not a psychology faculty member requires permission from the Associate Dean for Graduate Education. Each student must have a meeting with the members of his or her dissertation committee to review and approve the student’s proposed dissertation. The student may elect to have this proposal meeting as part of the oral preliminary examination (see C above), or have a separate dissertation proposal meeting after successful completion of the oral preliminary examination. After the student’s dissertation proposal has been approved by the committee and the student has obtained IRB approval, the student must file doctoral candidacy papers with the office of the Associate Vice President for Graduate Education and provide a dissertation proposal digest to the office of the Associate Vice President for Graduate Education (see the Graduate Education Catalog for forms). The student must complete 12 hours of PSY 699: Dissertation Research. Students should be sure to include the dissertation chairperson’s section number when registering for dissertation research hours.

Students are required to make a public, oral presentation and defense of the dissertation. The presentation and oral defense are scheduled after the members of the dissertation committee have approved the general content of the dissertation.

**E. Internship**

Each student must complete an APA-approved internship in clinical psychology. Students are required to have successfully completed their written and oral preliminary examinations and have an approved dissertation proposal prior to applying for internship. A student must receive approval of readiness for internship from the clinical faculty through the Director of the Clinical Psychology Program. Additionally, students should register for zero credit hours of PSY 689: Internship in Clinical Psychology for each fall, spring and summer semester during their internship.

The Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC) publishes an annual *Directory of Internship and Postdoctoral Programs in Professional Psychology* which is available online at appic.org and provides valuable information regarding the internship application and selection process. Some application deadlines are as early as November 1, so students are encouraged to begin the application process early in the fall semester for internship the following academic year. It is very important that students speak with faculty and supervisors early in the fall semester if they intend to have them write letters of recommendation. Additionally, students will need a verification of internship readiness form signed by the Director of the Clinical Psychology Program for each internship to which the student applies. Information and forms essential for any student applying for clinical internship are available through the APPIC website at www.appic.org. APPIC utilizes a computer matching selection process. Since internships are becoming increasingly competitive, students are encouraged to utilize the APPIC website and to talk with their advisors about the internship process. Internship meetings are held with the Director of Clinical Training and the Coordinator of Internships beginning in the summer for all students who will be applying for internship in the following fall semester. These meetings are mandatory for students applying for internship and include valuable information regarding the application processes (e.g., completing APPIC forms,
writing personal statements. interviewing, site selection, the match process, etc. Finally, as an academic training program member of APPIC, Saint Louis University’s Clinical Psychology Program adheres to APPIC policies regarding offers and acceptance for internships. Students are also required to abide by all APPIC policies regarding the internship application, selection and acceptance process.

In applying for and interviewing internship sites, students are expected to limit the disruption and absences from their clinical responsibilities in the PSC and to maintain appropriate continuity of clinical care. Students interviewing for internships are required to provide their CVT supervisor, academic advisor, PSC Director and Director of the Clinical Program with a written statement indicating:

1. an itinerary of the dates and places you will be out of town interviewing
2. phone numbers and e-mail where you can be reached during your absence
3. schedule of client contacts during the internship interviewing process (approved by your CVT supervisor)

Once an internship has been selected, the student should provide their CVT supervisor, PSC Director and Director of Clinical Training with the start and ending dates of their internship. Student responsibilities in the PSC are to be maintained until at least 30 days prior to the internship starting date; students are not allowed to depart for internship any sooner than 30 days prior to the start of their internship. Forty-five (45) days prior to the start of internship, the student is required to submit a written statement prepared in consultation with his or her CVT supervisor indicating the status of each open clinical case, plans for closing or transferring any cases, and any incomplete paperwork. The written statement must be submitted to and signed off by the student’s CVT supervisor, academic advisor, PSC Director and the Director of the Clinical Program.

All PSC cases needing to be transferred prior to internship are to be assigned by the PSC Director. Transfer cases should be discussed with the current CVT supervisor and then the student should notify the PSC Director that 1) a case needs to be transferred and; 2) recommendations of the type of clinician needed (e.g., male v. female, advanced v. less advanced, etc.).

F. Commencement
Students will receive their degrees following completion of all University, Graduate School, Department and Program requirements and paperwork. However, students may be allowed to participate in May commencement ceremonies (i.e., walk through the graduation exercises and be hooded by their mentors, but not receive their actual diploma or degree) provided all of the following: 1) the dissertation defense has been completed; 2) the student will complete all degree requirements, including the internship prior to August 31st, and; 3) the student is in good standing with his or her internship. Participation in commencement ceremonies under such circumstances requires written approval of the student’s advisor, the Director of the Clinical Psychology Program and the Associate Vice President for Graduate Education.

VIII. Progression through the Clinical Psychology Program
For students entering with a bachelors degree, all requirements for the Ph.D. degree must be completed by the end of the seventh year from the date of initial matriculation in the clinical psychology program. For students entering with an approved masters degree, all requirements
for the Ph.D. degree must be completed by the end of the fifth year from the date of initial matriculation in the clinical psychology program. Failure to complete requirements within this time will result in program termination and, therefore, ineligibility for obtaining the degree in clinical psychology from Saint Louis University.

The clinical faculty has developed timelines for completion of various program requirements to ensure successful completion of the doctoral program in a timely manner. If a student does not meet the required deadlines for completion of program requirements, the student is prohibited from enrolling in courses until the requirement is met (however, a student may continue on Clinical Vertical Team during this time with approval of the clinical faculty). Any exceptions to these timelines must approved by the clinical faculty.
Progression through the Clinical Program
for students entering with a Bachelor’s degree

**First Year**

- **Fall Semester**
  - attend research presentations by clinical faculty
  - choose thesis chair and Research Vertical Team
- **Spring Semester**
  - plan thesis proposal
- **Summer Semester**
  - approved thesis proposal by the last day of 8-week summer session
  - IRB approved by thesis committee by last day of 8-week summer session

**Second Year**

- **Fall Semester**
  - collect thesis data
- **Spring Semester**
  - analyze thesis data
- **Summer Semester**
  - write thesis and obtain committee approval

**Third Year**

- **Fall Semester**
  - masters oral examination completed by 12/1
  - may take written prelims if masters orals completed early enough
- **Spring Semester**
  - must take written preliminary examination if not completed earlier
- **Summer Semester**
  - must retake (if needed) written preliminary examinations
  - oral preliminary examination and approved dissertation proposal by last day of 8 week summer session
  - IRB approved by dissertation committee by last day of 8 week summer session

**Fourth Year**

- **Fall Semester**
  - apply for internship
  - collect dissertation data
- **Spring Semester**
  - internship interviews and selection
- **Summer Semester**
  - recommend that dissertation data be collected and analyzed prior to beginning internship

**Fifth Year**

- **Fall Semester**
  - internship
- **Spring Semester**
  - internship
- **Summer Semester**
  - oral defense of dissertation prior to completing internship
Progression through the Clinical Program
for students entering with a Master’s degree

First Year
- Fall Semester: complete clinical core courses as needed
- Spring Semester: complete clinical core courses as needed
- Summer Semester: complete clinical core courses as needed
- Attend research presentations by clinical faculty
- May choose dissertation chair and RVT
- Must choose dissertation chair and RVT

Second Year
- Fall Semester: may take written prelims exam
- Spring Semester: must take written prelims exam if not completed
- Summer Semester: must retake (if needed) written prelims exam

Third Year
- Fall Semester: oral prelim examination and approved dissertation proposal by 11/1
- Spring Semester: internship interviews and selection
- Summer Semester: recommend that dissertation data be collected and analyzed prior to beginning internship

Fourth Year
- Fall Semester: internship
- Spring Semester: internship
- Summer Semester: oral defense of dissertation prior to completing internship

IX. Student Funding
The cost of a doctoral degree in clinical psychology is significant. The median debt nationally for graduate education and training in clinical psychology is $22,000 for Ph.D. recipients and $53,000 – $60,000 for Psy.D. recipients (Kohout & Wicherski, 1999). At Saint Louis University, graduate tuition is $990 per credit hour for the 2012-13 academic year. The Ph.D. program in clinical psychology requires 90 credit hours for a total of approximately $90,000 in tuition.

A number of sources exist to provide financial support to students in the clinical psychology program. The *Catalog of Graduate Education* and the Office of Financial Aid can provide valuable information and assistance for financing your graduate education. Listed below are some of the various types of financial support for clinical psychology graduate students that have been available over the past several years. It is noted that the amounts, availability, terms and conditions of any types of financial support are likely to change during your time in the clinical program. Students are encouraged to frequently speak with their advisors, the Director of the Clinical Psychology Program, the Director of the Psychological Services Center and fellow
students concerning the various funding opportunities, as well as obtain current information from various university resources (e.g., SLU Graduate Education, Office of Financial Aid, etc.).

A. Fellowships and Assistantships.

Saint Louis University’s Graduate Education offers a number of fellowships and assistantships to graduate students. Over the past several years, a limited number of Presidential Fellowships and Diversity Fellowships have been available. The Presidential Fellowship provides a stipend of approximately $26,000, 21 hours of tuition remission and health benefits for 11 months. The Diversity Fellowship provides a stipend of approximately $22,750, 21 hours of tuition remission and health benefits for 11 months. Both fellowships typically provide support for the awardee over several years. These fellowships are highly competitive across all programs and schools at Saint Louis University. Persons interested in these fellowships should consult the Graduate Education Catalog.

The College of Arts and Sciences Graduate Education typically provides the Department of Psychology with a number of Graduate Research Assistantships, Graduate Teaching Assistantships and Graduate Assistantships each academic year. The responsibilities and amounts of these assistantships vary and may change in any given year. Over the past several years, the clinical program has worked collaboratively with the Experimental, I/O and Undergraduate programs in the department to distribute these assistantships. For the 2011-12 academic year, the following assistantships were awarded to clinical psychology graduate students.

a. 3 Graduate Research Assistantships (11 months)
   11 month appointment; stipend of $20,000; 21 hours of tuition remission
b. 5 Full Graduate Assistants (9 months)
   9 month appointment; stipend of $18,000; 18 hours of tuition remission
d. 12 Half Graduate Assistants (9 months)
   9 month appointment; stipend of $9,000; 12 hours of tuition remission

In addition to these assistantships, the clinical psychology program was awarded 44 hours of tuition remission to be distributed to clinical students.

Once the College of Arts and Sciences Graduate Education has indicated the number and nature of available assistantships for an academic year, the clinical faculty awards these assistantships to clinical students. Initial decisions regarding assistantships and student funding are made in terms of admissions decisions. Incoming first year students are given priority for graduate assistantship funding. Any remaining assistantships or tuition remission hours are awarded by the clinical faculty with consideration given to a student’s year level, previous year(s) funding, research interests and needs, and ability to secure funded external placement. Students must speak with their advisors about their training needs and goals to facilitate the student funding process.

B. The Dorothy Orthwein Bates Scholarship

The Dorothy Orthwein Bates Scholarship is available through the generosity of the family of a clinical psychology graduate, Dr. Ellen Bates Scott. This scholarship is given annually to a current clinical psychology graduate student at Saint Louis University and is designed to facilitate the student’s completion of the program. Information concerning application for this
award is available through the Department of Psychology and the Clinical Program (see brochure titled *The Dorothy Orthwein Bates Scholarship*).

C. Grants and Contracts

Funding opportunities are also available to students through various grants and contracts obtained through the Psychological Services Center. Students have obtained funded positions at various external placements throughout the greater St. Louis area providing clinical, teaching, research and consultation services, and are typically paid approximately $15-30 per hour. Students interested in a funded external placement should consult the “Book of Jobs” available in the PSC and speak with advanced students who may hold a funded external position. Prior to applying for any position, students must first speak with their advisor to determine their suitability and qualifications for the position. The student must obtain written approval from their advisor and the Director of the Clinical Psychology Program for any external placement or employment. Additionally, the student must enroll in PSY 589: Clerkship for each semester during which they are engaged in any psychology-related placement or employment.

E. Clinical Student Development Fund and the Severin Fund

Students may obtain a limited amount of financial support for equipment, supplies, travel, registration fees, etc. related to research or clinical training through the Clinical Student Development Fund. Policies, procedures and necessary forms for reimbursement through this fund are available from the PSC Office Manager. Similarly, students may obtain reimbursement for selected professional development through the Department of Psychology Severin Fund. Information concerning the Severin Fund is available from the psychology department main office.

X. Student Employment and External Placements

Students must obtain permission from their advisor, the Director of the Psychological Services Center and from the Director of the Clinical Psychology Program before accepting any employment or external placement in the general field of psychology (including any teaching, research or clinical positions) while enrolled in the clinical psychology graduate program. Students must obtain permission from the full clinical faculty to accept any unpaid external placement. Consistent with the policies of SLU’s Graduate Education, full-time students in the clinical program are not allowed to work more than twenty hours per week without permission of their advisor, the Director of the Clinical Psychology Program and the Associate Vice President for Graduate Education. Students are required to inform the Director of the Clinical Psychology Program of all employment or placements related to the field of psychology during the time they are in the graduate program. Forms indicating a student’s employment, clerkships, assistantships, etc. are maintained by the PSC Office Manager, and it is the student’s responsibility to ensure accurate, reliable and current information is provided and maintained. Students must enroll in PSY 585: Clerkship for each semester during which they are engaged in any psychology-related employment. This is to ensure that students will receive appropriate supervision and to ensure compliance with all applicable state regulations and professional ethics regarding the practice of psychology.
XI. Residency, Leaves, Vacations and Absences

Students are expected to be in residence during each fall, spring and summer (8-week session) semesters throughout their matriculation in the clinical psychology graduate program, with the exception of the internship year. Vacations may only be scheduled during the breaks between each fall, spring and summer semesters in accordance with the academic calendar, and prior approval for vacations must be granted by the student’s CVT supervisor and the Director of the Psychological Services Center with assurances of continuity of care for the student’s PSC clients during his or her absence. Extended leaves during the semester are defined as leaves for longer than a one-week period and require approval from the clinical faculty in writing. Extended leaves may be granted for medical, family or personal reasons and verification may be requested. Short term leaves during the semester (i.e., less than one week) may be taken for medical, family or personal emergencies and the student must inform his or her RVT supervisor/advisor, course instructors, CVT supervisor and external supervisors. Absences from a class or from an individual or group clinical or research supervision meeting are considered excused or unexcused at the discretion of the faculty member/instructor/supervisor on a case-by-case basis. Unexcused or excessive excused absences may result in consequences determined by the faculty member/instructor/supervisor including but not limited to a lowered course grade, a grade of incomplete, or a failing grade for the course.

XII. Student Evaluations

Students are evaluated throughout their course of studies in the clinical program. Clinical faculty are encouraged to provide feedback to students regarding their performance on an ongoing basis. The document “Academic Standards and Student Outcomes Assessment” found in the Handbook of the Clinical Psychology Program will provide helpful information on various measures, timeframes, responsible persons and criteria by which students are evaluated in the clinical program. Relatedly, the student is required to abide by all policies regarding academic standards as specified by Saint Louis University’s Graduate Education Catalog.

At the end of each Fall and Spring semester, the clinical faculty meet as a body to review the progress of each clinical student in residence. Students are required to complete a Student Activity Report prior to each student evaluation; this provides a summary of the student’s activities since the last evaluation and provides an opportunity for the student to inform the clinical faculty of their professional interests, plans, goals and objectives. Additionally, each student is to provide a current vita and a completed APPIC form indicating the student’s intervention, assessment and supervision hours attained. Prior to student evaluations, clinical faculty should provide feedback to students regarding their performance in academic coursework, Clinical and Research Vertical Teams, thesis and dissertation research, etc. The clinical faculty comprehensively review each student’s performance and progress in all aspects of the clinical program including academic coursework, Clinical Vertical Team, Research Vertical Team, assistantships, clerkships, external placements, thesis, masters oral examination, written preliminary examination, oral preliminary examination, readiness for clinical internship, dissertation, and personal adjustment for the role of a clinical psychologist. During the evaluation meeting, each student’s academic advisor makes written notes of the evaluative information and recommendations. Results of the evaluation are discussed with the student by the student’s clinical faculty advisor, at which time the student signs the written summary to
indicate that feedback was received. The written summary of the student’s evaluation is placed in the student’s file. If any problems or deficiencies in the student’s performance are determined by the evaluation, these are presented in writing to the student as part of the written evaluation summary. If the student does not agree with the feedback or wishes to provide additional information for consideration by the clinical faculty, the student may request a meeting with the clinical faculty. Such a request must be made in writing to the Director of the Clinical Program within two weeks from the date the student was presented feedback from his or her advisor. The student will have a full and fair opportunity to present any information verbally or in writing to the clinical faculty at the meeting regarding their education, training and performance in the clinical program. The student may bring a representative (who is not an attorney) to the meeting; the representative may address the clinical faculty only at the discretion of the Director of the Clinical Program in consultation with the clinical faculty. Following such meeting, the clinical faculty will reevaluate the student’s status in the program to affirm or modify their evaluative feedback and/or the student’s status in the program. The student may appeal the actions and decisions of the clinical faculty. A student should follow the grievance procedures specified below.

XIII. Grievance Procedures
The clinical psychology program and its faculty are committed to developing and maintaining a supportive, respectful learning environment. Part of this commitment is the recognition that complaints of one form or another are not uncommon in university life and it is our intention to establish processes and procedures that provide reasonable and fair resolution to problems. In the event that a student is dissatisfied with or has a grievance regarding any policies, personnel or decision associated with the clinical psychology program, the student should take the following steps toward resolution:

1. The student should first bring the matter to the faculty member or person involved.
2. If satisfactory resolution does not occur, the student should bring the matter to his or her advisor.
3. If the student is dissatisfied with the outcomes of discussion with his or her advisor, or in the event that the issue involves the student’s advisor, the student should seek out the Director of the Clinical Psychology Program to present his or her concerns.
4. If the student still does not feel that adequate resolution of the problem has occurred, or if the problem involves the Director of the Clinical Psychology Program, the student should seek out the Chair of the Department of Psychology.
5. Finally, if still dissatisfied, the student may follow the grievance procedure outlined in the Graduate Education Catalog which states “If a graduate student wishes to appeal any academic decision in the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS), that appeal should first be made to the faculty member or faculty involved and, if necessary thereafter, to the department chairperson or program director if the program has no chair. The initial appeal must be made within 30 days after the academic decision was communicated or made available to the student. If the appeal is carried forward to the department chairperson or program director, this must be done within 30 days of the faculty’s decision. The department chair or program director reviews the materials and either supports the instructor’s recommendation or determines an appropriate outcome.
Should the student wish to continue the appeal process, the next step involves the Board of Graduate Education (BGE) of the College of Arts and Sciences. An appeal to the BGE must be made in writing and submitted to the Associate Dean for Graduate Education within 30 days of the decision by the department chairperson or program director. The Associate Dean will notify all parties involved of the appeal and will provide both parties an opportunity to submit any supporting documentation they believe the BGE should review. Written submissions will be limited to 10 pages, with additional appendices if necessary, from each side in the dispute.

The appeal may be heard as an agenda item at one of the regularly scheduled BGE meetings, or a special meeting may be called. A quorum of the BGE, excluding ex-officio members, must be in attendance. When the BGE sits as appeals board, a graduate student selected by the Graduate Student Association will be appointed to the board as a voting member. This student must be a graduate student in the College of Arts and Science but not from any departments involved in the appeal. Since this is an internal and not a legal procedure, students involved in the appeals process may be accompanied by someone who is not acting as an attorney or representing the student in his/her capacity as an attorney. If a member of the BGE is a member of the department or program involved in the appeal, that BGE member will abstain from active participation in the appeals process. The Associate Dean for Graduate Education shall be present throughout the entire process, but shall not be allowed to propose or second any motion, or to cast a vote on any motion related to the appeal.

The BGE will hear the case presented by the student and others supporting the student’s appeal and will also hear the presentations of the other parties involved. Then, the BGE will conduct a discussion. If the BGE finds that insufficient information has been presented, it may request a period of not longer than 30 days to obtain the information, meet again, and reach a decision. The BGE will consider the merits of the student’s appeal and the adequacy of procedures followed in the department. The BGE may support the decision being appealed, overturn it, or change the penalty imposed. The Associate Dean will inform the student in writing of the BGE’s decision.

Should the student wish to appeal the decision beyond CAS, a written appeal may be submitted to the Associate Vice President for Graduate Education. This must occur within 30 days of the decision by the BGE. The AVP will review the documents as submitted to the BGE and may request additional information to determine whether or not the process as outlined in this section was appropriately followed. The AVP cannot overturn a decision but can remand the decision back to CAS for further investigation if the process was not followed.”

In addition to the academic standards specified by the University, Graduate Education Catalog, College of Arts and Sciences, and Department of Psychology, the student is expected to meet the academic standards of the clinical psychology program. These academic standards are reflected in the goals and objectives of the clinical program listed in the document titled Academic Standards and Student Outcomes Assessment (see Section XI of Handbook). Additionally, this document provides information regarding the measures, timeframes, responsibilities and criteria for assessing student performance and outcomes. Students are also evaluated in terms of their clinical competencies as specified in the document titled Core Clinical Competencies (see Section X of Handbook).

XIV. Faculty Section Numbers
Faculty section numbers are used when registering for Clinical Vertical Team, Research Vertical Team, Thesis Research, Dissertation Research, and any graduate readings course, independent study, or study for exams. The faculty section numbers are:

<table>
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<th>Clinical Faculty</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Banks</td>
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<td>Vander Wal</td>
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<td>Willoughby</td>
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XV. Accreditation
The clinical psychology program has been accredited by the American Psychological Association since 1965. The most recent APA accreditation site visit occurred in 2006 and the clinical program has been accredited through 2013. Accreditation information is available through the American Psychological Association, 750 First Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20002-4242, (phone: 202-336-5979).