

Change to Program/Graduate Diploma Academic Requirements Proposal Template

1. Program/Graduate Diploma: Graduate Program in Psychology

2. Effective Session of Proposed Change(s): Fall 2013

3. Proposed Change(s) and Rationale

The Clinical Developmental Psychology Graduate Program at York University provides training in clinical psychology. In addition to obtaining rigorous research training, students are expected to acquire core competencies in the scope of the practice of clinical psychology as applied to children, adolescents, and their families. Currently, York University confers M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in psychology with a specialization in clinical developmental psychology. Over the past few years, a comprehensive review of the M.A. and Ph.D. Area requirements has been undertaken, which has involved the formation of the CD Curriculum Committee and formal consultation with CD Faculty and Graduate students. The goal of the area review and proposed changes is to continue to situate the Clinical Developmental Psychology Program as a leading and cutting-edge Canadian training program for registered doctoral-level psychologists.

The impetus for this review has been as follows:

- Since the establishment of the Clinical Developmental (CD) Graduate Program over 30 years ago, the area has undergone one review of its graduate degree requirements. This previous review compared the CD Area to other clinical psychology areas across Canada and concluded that the CD Area had fewer required courses and clinical training, particularly in the M.A. degree. Given the *changing landscape of psychological practice* in Canada, an area review at this time is warranted and overdue.
- The CD Area underwent an *accreditation review* of its program by the Canadian Psychological Association (CPA) in 2009, which accredits the area to provide training to graduate students intending to become registered as clinical psychologists. Overall, CPA provided very positive feedback about the CD Area, including its faculty, graduate students, and university administrative support. Recommendations from CPA for improving the area include further integrating the York University Psychology Clinic into the CD Area, introducing experiential clinical training earlier in graduate training, and providing formal training to students in theories related to developmental psychopathology, and diversity and cultural psychology.
- The Department of Psychology at York University was affiliated with the opening of the *York University Psychology Clinic* (YUPC), which is a new, state-of-the-art community mental health and training centre. The clinic provides a range of leading edge, effective mental health services to keep people of all ages living healthy, productive lives. YUPC is committed to, among other things, the provision of evidence-based training to graduate students and community-based practitioners. In order to maximize graduate student involvement in clinical services available through YUPC, and promote in-house experiential learning in assessment and intervention, there is a need to integrate YUPC graduate training opportunities by CD faculty more systematically throughout the CD curriculum at both the M.A. and Ph.D. levels.
- In 2010, current and past graduate students completed two surveys about the CD Area. Based on their responses, it was suggested to expand graduate training in intervention modalities, integrate additional clinical training into the M.A. Area, and be mindful of student workload issues. In 2010 and 2011, graduate students were also provided an opportunity to participate in a Student Town Hall Session to review and approve the proposed curriculum changes presented in this document.

- The introduction of recently accredited Clinical Psychology graduate training programs in southwestern Ontario (Clinical Psychology Applied Developmental Emphasis Graduate Program at the University of Guelph and the School and Clinical Child Psychology Graduate Program at OISE/University of Toronto) has increased the competitiveness for practicum and internship placements in the GTA. Ensuring that the CD training at York is current and comprehensive will help to strengthen the scientist-practitioner foundation of York students and keep them competitive and successful throughout all stages of their training.

SUMMARY OF THE REVISIONS

M.A. Program. The majority of the curriculum revisions are being proposed at the M.A. level. Currently, students are required to enroll in the CD Courses of PSYC 6905 Biological and Cognitive Basis of Development, PSYC 6610 Social and Emotional Basis of Development, PSYC 6610 Psychoeducational Assessment of Children and Adolescents, and PSYC 6920 Clinical and Diagnostic Assessment of Children, Adolescents, and Families (total 2 Full Course Equivalents; FCE) and the non-CD Courses of PSYC 6130 Univariate Analysis and PSYC 6020/6030 Historical and Theoretical Foundations of Contemporary Psychology (total 1.5 FCE).

We are proposing making two currently elective half courses (1.0 FCE) already being offered in the CD Area as required:

1. *PSYC 6900 (1.5) Issues in CD Psychology: A Proseminar in Ethics, Practice, and Research* that will be offered as a 3.00 FCE seminar course that introduces students to CD theory, ethical and professional issues related to clinical child practice, monitors the progress of their thesis projects, and introduces them to the YUPC. This course is currently called, *Issues in CD Psychology: A Proseminar in Theory, Research & Practice*. We are requesting to change the name of the course to reflect the focus on ethical and professional issues related to clinical developmental psychology.
2. *PSYC 6955 (3.0) Developmental Psychopathology* that will be offered to provide foundational knowledge in developmental psychopathology.
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In addition, the CD Area will be creating one new course at the M.A. level:

1. *PSYC 6965 (1.5) Clinical Practice with Children and Adolescents* that will be offered as a 0.25 FCE spring/summer credit course and provide foundational knowledge in diversity issues.

The CD Area will add a new requirement to the M.A. Degree:

- 1 *Program-Sanctioned YUPC Hours (30 hours over the course of M.A. training)*, which will provide M.A. students with an opportunity to obtain credit for participating in the YUPC during the 12-month academic year. The 30 hours of program-sanctioned YUPC hours are in addition the existing master's practica requirements.

Ph.D. Program. In order to solidify the psychological intervention training of graduate students, we are proposing one additional required half course at the Ph.D. level that is already an elective in the Ph.D. Program:

1. *PSYC 6480 (3.0). Brief Psychotherapy and Short-Term Treatment.* This course will complement two other intervention courses being offered in the Ph.D. Program (PSYC 6930, Intervention Strategies with Children;

PSYC 6930P, Intervention Strategies with Children Practicum), as well as introduce students to developmental and evidence-based perspectives of psychological interventions (e.g., cognitive-behavioural therapies).

We are also proposing, similar to the M.A. Program:

- 2 *Program-Sanctioned YUPC Hours (30 hours over the course of Ph.D. training)*. Students will be required to complete 30 hours of supervision of more junior students in the Clinic during the 12-month academic year. The 30 hours of program-sanctioned YUPC hours are in addition to the Ph.D. practica requirements.

It is also being proposed that the Ph.D. Program require students to take **1.0 FCE in elective courses** at the Ph.D. level instead of the current requirement of 1.5 FCE, resulting in a decrease of 0.5 FCE of electives.

Finally, in addition to the aforementioned courses/requirements, the CD Area would like to implement a *Professionalism and Ethical Conduct Requirement* to be evaluated yearly (pass/fail) by faculty for graduate students enrolled in both the M.A. and Ph.D. Program. Essentially, this code of conduct would be evaluated at the Year-End Student Evaluations ensuring that students maintain appropriate standards of ethical and professional conduct as they move forward in the program. Specifically in the M.A. 2 assessment courses, as well as the Ph.D. 1 and Ph.D. 2 years, when students are in practicum placements, ethical and professional conduct is regularly assessed by faculty and practicum supervisors and these evaluations are recorded in the student's files and are included in the year-end evaluations.

As well, given that graduate students regularly have contact with infants, children, and adolescents in practicum settings and research labs, students will be required to provide a Criminal Reference Check in the first year of their M.A. and Ph.D. Programs. If students fail this requirement, their progression in the program will be reviewed by the Clinical Developmental Area.

Revised M.A. Program

New Courses

1. PSYC 6965 .15 Diversity in Clinical Practice with Children and Adolescents

Electives Becoming Required

1. PSYC 6900 (3.0) Issues in CD Psychology - A Proseminar in Ethics, Practice, and Research*
2. *This course is currently called, Issues in CD Psychology: A Proseminar in Theory, Research & Practice. We are requesting to change the name of the course to reflect the focus on ethical and professional issues related to clinical developmental psychology.
3. PSYC 6955 (3.0) Developmental Psychopathology

New CD Area Requirements

1. Professionalism and Ethical Conduct
2. Program-Sanctioned YUPC Hours

Revised Ph.D. Program

Electives Becoming Required

1. PSYC 6480 (3.0). Brief Psychotherapy and Short-Term Treatment

New CD Area Requirements

1. Program-Sanctioned YUPC Hours
2. Professionalism and Ethical Conduct
3. 1.0 FCE electives now required instead of 1.5 FCE

4. Calendar Copy

Existing Program/Graduate Diploma Information (change from)	Proposed Program/Graduate Diploma Information (change to)
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**CLINICAL-DEVELOPMENTAL
Master of Arts Program****1. Courses**

- (a) Either Psychology 6020 3.0: Historical and Theoretical Foundations of Contemporary Psychology A or Psychology 6030 3.0 Historical and Theoretical Foundations of Contemporary Psychology B;
- (b) One full course chosen from one of the following: Either Psychology 6130 6.0: Univariate Analysis or Psychology 6140 6.0: Multivariate Analysis;
- (c) Psychology 6610 3.0: Social and Emotional Bases of Development;
- (d) Psychology 6905 3.0: Biological and Cognitive Bases of Development;
- (e) Psychology 6910 3.0: Psychoeducational Assessment of Children and Adolescents (normally taken in the second year of the MA program); and
- (f) Psychology 6920 3.0: Clinical and Diagnostic Assessment of Children and Adolescents (normally taken in the second year of the MA program)

Doctor or Philosophy Program**CLINICAL-DEVELOPMENTAL
Master of Arts Program****1. Courses**

- (a) Either Psychology 6020 3.0: Historical and Theoretical Foundations of Contemporary Psychology A or Psychology 6030 3.0 Historical and Theoretical Foundations of Contemporary Psychology B;
- (b) One full course chosen from one of the following: Either Psychology 6130 6.0: Univariate Analysis or Psychology 6140 6.0: Multivariate Analysis;
- (c) Psychology 6610 3.0: Social and Emotional Bases of Development;
- (d) Psychology 6905 3.0: Biological and Cognitive Bases of Development;
- (e) Psychology 6910 3.0: Psychoeducational Assessment of Children and Adolescents (normally taken in the second year of the MA program); and
- (f) Psychology 6920 3.0: Clinical and Diagnostic Assessment of Children and Adolescents (normally taken in the second year of the MA program)
- (g) Psychology 6965 1.5: Diversity in Clinical Practice with Children and Adolescents
- (h) Psychology 6900 3.0: Issues in CD Psychology: A Proseminar in Ethics, Practice, and Research
- (i) Psychology 6955 3.0: Developmental Psychopathology

Note: Area Requirements

Professionalism and Ethical Conduct
Program-Sanctioned YUPC Hours

Doctor or Philosophy Program

1. Courses

- (a) Psychology 6130 6.0: Univariate Analysis or Psychology 6140 6.0: Multivariate Analysis or an equivalent course;
- (b) Psychology 6930 3.0 Intervention Strategies with Children
- (c) Psychology 6490B 3.0 Ethical Issues in Professional Practice
- (d) Minimum of 1.5 courses, or equivalent, at the 6000 level including at least two half courses from alternative 1 and one additional half course from Alternatives 1 or 2.

1. Courses

- (a) Psychology 6130 6.0: Univariate Analysis or Psychology 6140 6.0: Multivariate Analysis or an equivalent course;
- (b) Psychology 6930 3.0: Intervention Strategies with Children
- (c) Psychology 6490B 3.0: Ethical Issues in Professional Practice
- (d) Psychology 6480 3.0: Brief Psychotherapy and Short-Term Treatment
- (e) Minimum of 1.0 courses, or equivalent, at the 6000 level

Note: Area Requirements

1. Professionalism and Ethical Conduct
2. Program-Sanctioned YUPC Hours