

**NCCU Psychology Graduate Program Guidelines  
(Est. Fall 2024)**

**Admissions:**

- All students entering into the Psychology Graduate Program will enter as General Psychology Graduate Students

**Applying to Clinical Psychology Graduate Program:**

- Apply during Fall of 1<sup>st</sup> semester in Psychology Graduate Program
- Must pass First Year Assessment (3 attempts) & Second Year Assessment (3 attempts) to remain in Psychology Graduate Program

**Switching back to General Psychology Program from Clinical Psychology Program:**

- If students are unsuccessful in passing their **FYA** after the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> attempt, they may choose to switch back to the **General Psychology Program** before their 3<sup>rd</sup>/final attempt
  - If students switch back to the **General Psychology Program**, they will have 1 attempt to pass the **General Psychology Comprehensive Exam**

**Failure to Pass Comprehensive Exams in General/Clinical Psychology Graduate Program:**

- After the 3<sup>rd</sup> failure, students will be guided/advised to apply to another NCCU Department or nearby University

**Graduation from Psychology Graduate Program**

**Clinical Requirements:**

- 49 hours total
- Pass First Year Assessment (FYA, in 1-3 attempts)
- Pass Second Year Assessment (SYA, on 1-3 attempts)
- Practicum completion (500 hours minimum over 2 semesters; 5-6 credits with grades)
- Thesis Proposal and Defense (3-6 credit hours with grades)
- Take Biophysiology elective
- Maximum of 1 “C” in any class

**General Requirements:**

- 30 hours total
- Pass Comprehensive Exams (in 1-3 attempts)
- Thesis Proposal and Defense (3-6 credit hours with grades)
- Maximum of 1 “C” in any class

## Comprehensive Exam Policy

### Policy for Comprehensive Exams:

#### **General Track:**

- Must take **General Comprehensive Exams (Orals and Essays)** in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Year of your Spring semester once you have passed your required classes for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Year General course outline
- Justifications for postponing Comprehensive Exams must be provided at least one week in advance of Comprehensive Exam date with documentation to the Graduate Coordinator and Chair
- Unexcused absences will count as a Failure
- 3 attempts to pass before dismissal from Psychology Graduate Program
- Must pass Comprehensive exams to be eligible for Thesis Defense and Graduation

#### **Clinical Track:**

- **First Year Assessment (FYA):**
  - Taken at the end of the First year of coursework on Clinical track
  - All students are required to take
  - Unexcused absences will count as a Failure
  - 3 attempts to pass before dismissal from Psychology Graduate Program
  - Must pass before being eligible for Practicum placement at the end of 2<sup>nd</sup> Year
- **Second Year Assessment (SYA):**
  - Taken at the end of the second year of coursework on Clinical track
  - All students are required to take
  - Unexcused absences will count as a Failure.
  - 3 attempts to pass
  - Must pass before being eligible for graduation and Thesis Defense

#### **Comprehensive Exam Remediation Policy:**

- For students that have failed for the **2<sup>nd</sup> time** an area on the Comprehensive Exam, student is required to audit the class(es) in the area(s) of the Comprehensive Exams that was FAILED before taking it again the next semester.
- If student failed multiple areas, student **must** audit **at least one class** and provide a **Remediation Plan** for the other areas including study groups, professor remediation study groups and/or individualized study plans.

## **NCCU Psychology Undergraduate Program Requirements**

### Graduation Policy:

- Must have a “C-” or better in all required major classes in order to be eligible for graduation
- Must have a 2.0 GPA overall