

## **Graduate Program in Clinical Psychology Undergraduate Competency Requirements**

To ensure a broad scientific foundation in general psychology, graduate students must document that they have completed a set of undergraduate competency requirements (UCRs) at the time they enroll in our Graduate Program in Clinical Psychology. If a review of the student's undergraduate transcript reveals that one or more UCRs are lacking, a plan for coursework to cover the lacking background in the general psychology must be developed and the course(s) must then be completed before graduation at the *Master's degree level*. These requirements are prescribed by CPA and APA accreditation standards and play an important role in becoming registered or licensed as professional psychologists following the completion of the Ph.D.

The wide range of courses offered within our Graduate Program in Clinical Psychology can easily provide coverage in these general psychology areas at the graduate level, but planning ahead may help you to make the best possible course selections. Whenever possible it is to the student's advantage to take a graduate course rather than an undergraduate course in order to fulfill a lacking UCR area. Sometimes, however, the graduate course offerings available to fulfill a specific missing UCR requirement for an individual student may be too challenging without the preparation of an upper-level undergraduate course in that area. Consultation with your supervisor and clinical training advisor will help you to decide what options might be best for you.

***UCRs to be completed prior to completion of Master's degree:*** For each UCR, students must have received a first class grade (A- or better) in a 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> year level undergraduate courses in each of 4 areas of psychology. Courses can be half or full year courses, but there must be a *minimum* of 1.5 units in each area, or 6.0 units total. On the actual "Verification of Undergraduate Competency Requirements" form found below, you will need to document the details of courses taken to cover each of these four areas, as well as specific plans for how unmet requirements will be completed.

***General Psychology Competencies required prior to completion of doctoral degree:*** CPA accreditation standards (2011) require all graduates of doctoral programs to demonstrate competence in five areas prior to graduation: biological basis of behavior, cognitive-affective basis of behavior, social bases of behavior, individual behavior, and historical and scientific foundations of general psychology. Competence in these areas can be demonstrated by successfully completing at least one graduate course, or two upper-level undergraduate courses. Thus, fulfillment of the UCR requirement may not be sufficient for meeting CPA's general psychology competency requirement. Each spring, students are required to complete a "self-study" reviewing their training accomplishments to date and their goals for the coming year. As part of this self-study, you will be asked to provide information on how you have met these general psychology competency requirements. As you move through the program, be sure to include courses, in consultation with your supervisor(s), which will ensure coverage of these core areas of psychology.

**In the course of fulfilling clinical psychology program requirements, students will automatically complete coursework that meets the requirements for the Biological Basis of Behaviour (e.g., PSYC 540) and Individual Differences (e.g., PSYC 581 & 582).**

Student name and V00#: \_\_\_\_\_

**GRADUATE PROGRAM IN CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY  
Verification of Undergraduate Competency Requirements**

Graduate students must meet a set of undergraduate competency requirements (UCR) before graduation at the Master's degree level. Students must have received a first class grade (A- or better) in a 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> year level course in each of 4 areas of psychology. Courses can be half or full year courses, but there must be a minimum of 1.5 units in each area, or 6 units total. Indicate below the course work taken in each area and, if lacking, the plan for meeting the UCR. *If you have taken 2 upper level courses in an area, list them both.*

**Biological Bases of Behaviour** (e.g., physiological psychology, comparative psychology, neuropsychology, psychopharmacology)

Courses Taken (Course Title & Number)	Year/Semester Taken	Institution Where Course Taken	Grade (%)	Units

If UCR not complete, list name, number of U Vic course to be taken and when:

**Cognitive Bases of Behaviour** (e.g., learning, sensation, perception, cognition, thinking, motivation)

Courses Taken (Course Title & Number)	Year/Semester Taken	Institution Where Course Taken	Grade (%)	Units

If UCR not complete, list name, number of U Vic course to be taken and when:

**Social Bases of Behaviour** (social psychology, cultural, ethnic & group processes; sex roles; organizational & systems theory)

Courses Taken (Course Title & Number)	Year/Semester Taken	Institution Where Course Taken	Grade (%)	Units

If UCR not complete, list name, number of U Vic course to be taken and when:

**Individual Differences** (personality, human development, individual differences, abnormal psychology/psychopathology)

Courses Taken (Course Title & Number)	Year/Semester Taken	Institution Where Course Taken	Grade (%)	Units

If UCR not complete, list name, number of U Vic course to be taken and when:

STUDENT	Name: _____	Signature: _____	Date: _____
SUPERVISOR	Name: _____	Signature: _____	Date: _____
CTA*	Name: _____	Signature: _____	Date: _____
DIR CL TRAINING	Name: _____	Signature: _____	Date: _____
GRAD ADVISOR	Name: _____	Signature: _____	Date: _____

\* CTA = Clinical Training Advisor: Applicable only if your supervisor is not a clinical faculty member.

***A copy of the UG transcript with relevant courses highlighted must be attached to this form.***