Doctoral Curriculum Reform

Across 40 APA-accredited PhD counseling psychology programs, the mean number of mandatory course credit hours = 104 hours, and the median = 102 hours. Our program currently requires 115 credit hours. These proposed changes will reduce the number of mandatory course credits by 7 credit hours to 108 credit hours.

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<th>No.</th>
<th>Current Curriculum</th>
<th>Changes to the Curriculum</th>
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| 1.a | Currently, G567 (Marriage and Family Therapy) is a mandatory course. | G567 will no longer be mandatory. Instead, students will be required to choose from a menu of courses. Specifically, students will be required to take 1 of the following courses:  
- G567 (Marriage and Family Therapy)  
- G632 (Advanced Group Leadership)  
- G510 (Alcohol and Drug Counseling)  
- G609 (Interventions in Sport and Performance Psychology)  
- G580 (CBT with children)  
- Any other clinically oriented course approved by the student’s advisory committee  
- Any research-based Y course  
- Any other research-based course approved by the student’s advisory committee (excluding G685) |
<p>| 1.b | Currently, we require students to take 5 Y courses – Y502, Y604, Y527, one qualitative inquiry course, and one additional Y course (students often take Y521/Y520). | Students will only be required to take a minimum of 4 (instead of 5) mandatory Y courses – Y502, |</p>
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<td>1.</td>
<td>Overall, this change results in a reduction of 3 mandatory course credits.</td>
<td>Rationale: Marriage and family therapy is not a topic that is required by APA. Students will now have more opportunities for individuated learning: students who are more clinically oriented have the opportunity to take a G course in an area that fits their clinical interests, while students who are more research oriented can take an additional (fifth) Y course, such as structural equation modeling.</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>Currently, P540/P544 is a mandatory course. The affective bases of behavior (a mandatory APA requirement) is currently addressed in one class session of G622 (Advanced Theories of Counseling) with two assigned readings.</td>
<td>We will replace P540/P544 with a new mandatory P650 course entitled “Affective and Cognitive Bases of Behavior.” About half of the course will address the affective bases of behavior, while the other half will focus on the cognitive bases of behavior. Rationale: APA’s Commission on Accreditation informed us that under the latest Standards of Accreditation, our coverage of the affective bases of behavior in our curriculum is inadequate. We consulted with other training directors and learned that many counseling psychology programs include a mandatory course.</td>
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addressing both the affective and cognitive bases of behavior.

We have also invited the school psychology program to make this new course a mandatory course in their program, so that we can pool resources together. Dr. Scott Bellini is currently considering this proposal.

| 3. | Currently G650 (Advanced Multicultural Counseling, Career, and Consultation) is a mandatory course. | Replace the original version of G650 with a new G650 course entitled, “Social Justice Consultation, Advocacy, and Leadership.”

Rationale: This new course addresses our students’ feedback about the need for a course with a greater focus on multicultural and social justice issues, while retaining a focus on consultation. Given its practical focus, it may also attract students from other disciplines, such as HESA and school psychology. This will make it easier for the course to make.

| 5. | Currently, P655 (Cognitive Assessment and Intervention) is a 4-credit course. | We will change P655 from a 4-credit course to a variable-credit course (3 or 4-credit course). Pending the approval of these changes, we will use a 3-credit version of G650 to teach cognitive assessment. This will result in a reduction of 1 mandatory credit hour. |
| Rationale: there is no compelling reason why this needs be a 4-credit course for the counseling psychology program. The other assessment course (P691) is a 3-credit course. |
**Proposed Changes to Counseling Psychology Course Requirements**

1. **Major: Counseling Psychology**
   The intent of the sequence of courses in the major area is to help ground students in counseling psychology and prepare them as effective scientist-practitioners. Courses from related areas of study may be added if their relevance to the major can be demonstrated, and if approval is secured. Requests for adding courses are made to the student’s advisor initially, and then to the Program of Studies Committee (also known as the “Advisory Committee”). Three hours of inquiry coursework in the major are required, in addition to the Inquiry Core component. Inquiry coursework in the major for Counseling Psychology includes 3 credits of G685 Seminar in Counseling Research Methods. Although the School of Education requires all doctoral students to take a minimum of 36 hours in the major, the Counseling Psychology program requires all the following courses:

   - G522 Counseling Theories (3 credits, **typically taken concurrently with** G523)
   - G523 Laboratory in Counseling and Guidance (3 credits, **typically taken concurrently with** G522)
   - G524 Practicum in Counseling (3 credits; G522 and G523, or their equivalents, are pre-requisites for enrollment in G524)
   - G532 Introduction to Group Counseling (3 credits)
   - G552 Career Counseling: Theory/Practice (3 credits)
     - G567 Introduction to Marriage and Family Counseling (3 credits)
   - G575 Multicultural Counseling (3 credits)
   - G600 Pro-Seminar in Counseling Psychology (3 credits)
   - G650 Social Justice Consultation, Advocacy, and Leadership Advanced Multicultural Counseling, Career Development, and Consultation (3 credits; to be re-numbered as G602 upon future approval)
   - G622 Advanced Theories of Counseling (3 credits)
   - G624 Advanced Practicum in Counseling Psychology (2 credits)
   - G625 Advanced Practicum: Individual Supervision (1 credit enrolled under the faculty supervisor’s section. If supervised by off-site supervisor, enroll under IU Training Director’s section)
   - G625 Psychopathology and Advanced Diagnosis (3 credits)
   - G763 Advanced Practicum in Counseling Supervision (3 credits; 1 credit in fall semester, 2 credits in either spring or summer depending on program needs)
• P655 Cognitive Assessment and Intervention (4 credits; 3 credits)
• P691 Personality Assessment and Intervention (3 credits)
• G685 Seminar in Counseling Research Methods (3 credits)

2. Inquiry Core (Minimum: **12-14** Hours)
This program component emphasizes inquiry methodology skills (both quantitative and qualitative), which provide a broad basis for conducting original research. Only 15 credits of inquiry are required. However, if students take all of their inquiry courses at Indiana University, the total will be 17 credits because of the two labs associated with Y502 and Y604. Students are encouraged to take their inquiry courses as early as possible because these courses will be useful to the conceptualization and completion of the Early Inquiry project and dissertation. The following are the required courses:

• Y502 & Y500 Intermediate Statistics (4 credits)
• Y527 Educational Assessment and Psychological Measurement (3 credits)
• Y604 & Y500 Multivariate Analysis in Educational Research (4 credits)
• A Y course on qualitative research (e.g., Y611) (3 credits)

• An inquiry elective (Y course; 3 credits) – please consult your advisor

3. Minor (Minimum: **12** Hours)
The minor must have integrity in its own right and must complement the major. The minor field must demonstrate wholeness within itself and contribute to the student's overall doctoral program. Minors are normally formulated within a single program area. However, an interdisciplinary minor is also possible. If courses in the minor are from more than one program area, a written description of the minor's underlying theme must be provided along with a rationale for each course's contribution to that theme. This written description is typically limited to two pages and submitted to the student’s Program of Studies Committee. **Major area courses (those within the Counseling Psychology program) may not be used in the minor.** A few minors that have been selected by doctoral students in recent years include educational inquiry, human development, sport psychology, public health, organizational behavior, gender studies, and various interdisciplinary studies.

4. Electives or Second Minor
The School of Education requires a minimum of 6 elective credit hours intended to ensure that students have flexibility in their programs from stipulating all of the minimum 90 credit hours of the doctoral program. It is expected that most students will have more than six elective credit hours. It should also be noted that at least 27 hours in the student’s program must come from outside the major. Most students take additional psychological foundations courses as their electives or second minor (e.g., P514 and P624).

**Program-Required Elective (3 credits)**

Students are required to take any one of the following courses:

- Any research-based Y course
- Any other research-based course approved by the student’s advisory committee (excluding G685)
- G567 (Marriage and Family Therapy)
- G632 (Advanced Group Leadership)
- G510 (Alcohol and Drug Counseling)
- G609 (Interventions in Sport and *Performance* Psychology)
- G580 (CBT with children)
- Any other clinically oriented course approved by the student’s advisory committee

**5. Additional Psychological Foundations Requirements**

Courses in this area satisfy additional accreditation requirements of the American Psychological Association. These courses also satisfy psychology licensure requirements in many states. Because these courses are unique requirements in the Counseling Psychology program, they can in some cases double count in one of the areas listed above.

- History and systems
  - P601 Educational and Historical Foundations of Psychology (3 credits)
- Biological aspects of behavior
  - P624 Brain Research Applied to Educational and Clinical Practice (3 credits) OR
  - Psy667 Neuropsychopharmacology (3 credits)
- Cognitive aspects of behavior
  - P65040 Affective and Learning and Cognition Bases of Behavior in Education (3 credits) OR
  - P544 Applied Cognition and Learning Strategies (3 credits)
- Social aspects of behavior
  - G656 Social Bases of Behavior (3 credits)
- Human development
P514 Lifespan Development (3 credits)

6. Dissertation (Total 15 hours)
Twelve hours of G799 Doctoral Dissertation are required. In addition, 3 hours of G795 Dissertation Proposal Preparation must be taken. See Section VI. RESEARCH of this handbook for more detailed information.

7. Internship (Total 3 hours)
Three credit hours of G699: Internship in Counseling Psychology must be taken during your year-long pre-doctoral internship (1 credit in each of the three terms: Fall, Spring, and Summer). An end-of-year evaluation from your internship training director must be submitted to the IU Counseling Psychology Program Director to receive a grade for G699.