

UGA - PSYCHOLOGY PROGRAM PRACTICES

Questions 1A, 1B - Communication with Potential Doctoral Students

Questions 2A, 2B – Admission

Questions 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D – Orientation and Advisement

Questions 4A, 4B – Social Interactions

Questions		Answers
1A	When potential graduate students contact your department for information, who handles the inquiries? (Please provide the title rather than names)	The Graduate Program Asst or the Graduate Coordinator. Both receive inquiries.
1B	What type of information is usually sent in response to such inquiries?	Links to our website, names and email addresses of program chairs (recommendations for admission are made at the program rather than dept. level).
2A	Who in your department makes the decision about which applicants to admit (or to recommend for admission)? (Please provide the title rather than names).	Program faculty. Some programs set up an admissions committee who make these recommendations, and other programs the entire faculty will evaluate the candidates.
2B	What criteria are used in making this decision?	GPA, GRE scores, letters of recommendation, writing ability, fit with program interests, and research experiences
3A	How does your department orient new students to graduate study?	The department has a new student orientation prior to the start of classes. In addition, the Clinical program has an additional orientation meeting.
3B	Who handles initial course advisement for new doctoral students, and how is that person selected?	Program chairs meet with new students at the end of the orientation meeting to advise them.
3C	Describe the process by which a student selects or is assigned a dissertation chair.	This process is largely student driven. Students choose chairs based upon shared research interests and availability.
3D	Can students in your department change dissertation chairs? If so, how is that change accomplished?	I'm not clear on this question. We do have students who change chairs in between completing their M.S. and Ph.D. However, I do not personally know of a case in which someone changed chairs in between

		proposing and defending their Ph.D. dissertation.
4A	Other than formal coursework, does your department offer, sponsor, or support activities designed to foster social support and/or collaborative learning among doctoral students? (e.g., study groups, student organizations, student-student mentoring programs) If so, please describe.	We have a chapter of Psi Chi (the national honor society) which organizes panel discussions and the spring regional conference. I have initiated a graduate student advisory board of students representing our programs, and together we organized coffee hours. However, in the second year the students did not pursue this. Some programs also have student associations, which organize speakers, brown bags, and social gatherings.
4B	Does your department hold regular social activities in which students can interact informally with faculty members and other students? If so, please describe	No.