

PSYCHOLOGY PHD

Degree Requirements

The following requirements are in addition to, or further elaborate upon, those requirements outlined in The Graduate School Policy Guide (<https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/tgs/academic-policies-procedures/>).

Master's

The department offers no terminal master's degree, but students must earn a master's degree as one of the requirements for the PhD degree. To obtain the MA or MS degree, students take the courses required for the specialized field and complete a master's thesis.

PhD

Total Units Required: 27

Course	Title
Core Courses	
PSYCH 401-1	Proseminar—Biological & Cognitive Bases of Behavior
PSYCH 401-2	Proseminar—Social and Personality Bases of Behavior
Additional Courses	

Additional course requirements differ for the five program areas.¹

¹ See Department Guide (<https://www.psychology.northwestern.edu/graduate/current/graduate-student-handbook.html>) for more Information

Other PhD Requirements

- **Examinations:** For admission to candidacy, written examination or paper.
- **Research/Projects:** In addition to master's project and PhD dissertation, students are expected to engage in supervised research projects
- **PhD Dissertation:** Result of independent research in specialized field
- **Final Evaluations:** Oral examination on dissertation
- **Other:** Teaching assignment (see department guide (<https://www.psychology.northwestern.edu/graduate/current/graduate-student-handbook.html>))