Doctoral Program in Psychology

Name of the degree to be conferred	Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology
Educational purpose	Psychology is crucial for understanding human beings and the academic area which explores what mind is and clarifies functions of mind and which aims at clarifying the process by which human beings incorporate information from outside world, understand it and finally take proper actions back through brain function to support it. In this course the following persons shall be trained: the human resources who have various and close relationship with adjacent areas including social science area and multidisciplinary which can develop as interdisciplinary research after acquiring such knowledge/metrologies/skills/sense of values of the entire area of psychology and then can contribute to society as experts of human research, that is, the persons who have a solid foundation, a broad view and an awareness of issues as the researcher in psychology area.
Vision of human resources development	People who have acquired a solid point of view as a professional researcher in the field of psychology and have the ability to objectively understand human beings as a whole, understand the diversity and universality of the mind, and understand the interaction between humans and the environment. They are also capable of contributing to society as a professional researcher on the human being, finding problems, solving problems, and communicating information. In particular, the Subprogram in General Psychology aims to cultivate university faculty members, researchers, and highly skilled professionals who, with a broad perspective of the entire field of psychology, are able to deeply acquire methodologies, knowledge, and skills in psychology, widely contribute to society by giving back the results and methodologies of basic research in psychology and contribute to society. In addition, the Subprogram in Clinical Psychology aims to foster university faculty members, researchers, and highly skilled professionals who have the ability to research and creatively develop psychology in a comprehensive and multifaceted manner, as well as the skills for practical application.

Competencies specified in diploma policy	Evaluation perspectives
1. Knowledge creation competence: Ability to create new knowledge that can contribute to future society	①Are there any research findings that can be considered new knowledge? ②Can we expect you to create knowledge that will contribute to future society?
2. Management competence: Ability to plan and implement measures to identify and solve challenges from a higher perspective	①Can you make and implement long-term plans for critical challenges? ②Can you identify challenges, even in other areas of expertise, and solve them from a higher perspective?
3. Communication competence: Ability to express the true nature of academic findings positively and clearly	①Can you explain the true nature of research content and specialized knowledge clearly and logically to researchers from different areas and to people other than researchers? ②Do you proactively share your findings with researchers and experts from your field of expertise and accurately answer questions?
4. Leadership competence: Ability to have objectives get accomplished under your leadership	①Can you set attractive and compelling goals? ②Are you capable of building systems to realize goals and accomplish objectives as the leader?
5. Internationality competence: Possession of a high level of awareness and motivation to be internationally active and contribute to international society	①Do you have strong awareness and motivation to contribute to international society and international activities? ②Have you obtained adequate linguistic skills for international information collection and action?
6. Psychological human understanding: The ability to understand the diversity of the mind and behavior, the person-environment relationship, based on psychological knowledge and methodology	①If capable of understanding (or intending to understand) diversity of human mind and behavior from knowledge and methodology of psychology. ②If capable of understanding (or intending to understand) relationship between human beings and environment from knowledge and methodology of psychology.
7. Psychological problem-solving ability: Ability to discover, understand, and solve mental and behavioral problems based on psychological knowledge, methodologies, and ethics.	①If capable of finding and understanding (or intending to find and understand) the problems of human mind and behavior based on knowledge and methodology of psychology. ②If capable of solving (or intending to solve) the problems of human mind and behavior with psychological specialization and high ethical view.

8. Psychological clinical support skills: The ability to practice and develop clinical psychological support based on psychological knowledge, methodology, and clinical skills	①If capable of putting psychological clinic support for the problems of human mind and behavior with psychological specialization and high ethical view. ②The ability to develop individuals capable of providing clinical psychological support with expertise in psychology and a high level of ethics.
9. Psychological information dissemination skills: The ability to contribute to and lead society by disseminating psychological knowledge, methods and results with high ethical standards	①If capable of disseminate (or intending to disseminate) knowledge/methodology/results of psychology with high ethical view. ②If capable of contributing to (or intending to contribute to) society with knowledge and methodology of psychology and high ethical view.
10. Multidisciplinary communication skills: the ability to discuss, collaborate, and lead with experts from other disciplines and professions, while demonstrating expertise in psychology.	①If capable of discussing/cooperating (or intending to discuss/cooperate) with experts of other areas/other professional occupations as the experts of psychology. ②If capable of discussing/cooperating (or intending to discuss/cooperate) with experts of other areas/other professional occupations by making use of psychological specialization.

Dissertation evaluation criteria

After satisfying the requirements stipulated in the University of Tsukuba's Graduate School Regulations, the dissertation must be judged as acceptable with the following two criteria confirmed by the final examination.

1. The dissertation must contain sufficient new academic knowledge in the field of psychology.
2. The applicant must have the high level of research skills necessary to work as an independent researcher in the field of psychology.

(Evaluation items)

1. Based on understanding of research trend in and outside Japan preceding research in relevant area, the significance and positioning of the said research in psychology is clearly described.
2. Contain a reasonable amount of original research findings that contribute to the advancement of the field of psychology to be published in academic papers.
3. Reliability of research outcomes have been sufficiently verified based on sufficient knowledge regarding research integrity.
4. Consideration for the research outcomes is reasonable and their conclusions are based on objective grounds.
5. Background, purpose, method, results and conclusions etc. of the research shall be summarized in an appropriate form as doctoral dissertation in the area of psychology. Those who wish to apply for a dissertation review must pass a preliminary examination in their department.

(Review system)

The Dissertation Examination Committee, which shall be established to review doctoral dissertations, etc., shall consist of one primary examiner and at least three secondary examiners. At least one of the members of the committee shall be selected from outside the faculty members in charge of the degree program.

Curriculum Policy

In the Program in Psychology, students will deepen their knowledge, methodology, skills, and values across the entire field of psychology in order to question what the mind is as the key to human understanding and clarify the function of the mind, and will develop problem-solving skills that can contribute to society as experts in the human sciences, while maintaining diverse and close relationships with adjacent fields and multidisciplinary research.

Curriculum organization policy	The academic objective of this degree program is to promote research activities for the preparation of the dissertation. To this end, we have a special research program in psychology, where students develop a variety of skills through practical research under a team guidance system with multiple supervisors. In addition, in order to develop psychological information dissemination skills and multidisciplinary communication skills, a Subprogram in General Psychology and a Subprogram in Clinical Psychology have been established, and practical courses are established for each field to help develop skills. Through "Current Issues in Psychology" students learn about a wide range of psychological research, and through dissertation research centered on special research in psychology, students develop the ability to discover psychological problems, understand people, and solve psychological problems. These specialized competencies are the foundation for developing knowledge creation skills. Through the practice of debriefing sessions related to the doctoral dissertation, students acquire the ability to disseminate psychological information and interdisciplinary communication skills. These skills are the foundation for management, communication and teamwork skills.

	Students in the Subprogram in General Psychology also acquire psychological information dissemination and communication skills by acting as instructors for bachelor's students through Laboratory Training in Psychology and Practicum on Project Management in Psychology 1. In the Subprogram in General Psychology, students acquire practical psychological clinical skills through practical training courses.
Learning methods· Processes	The dissertation research, which can be regarded as the culmination of the degree program, is the center of the program, and academic opportunities are provided to cultivate the necessary skills. Using a step-by-step implementation of the dissertation research, students write a provisional dissertation and give a concept presentation in their first year. In the second year and thereafter, when all the necessary requirements have been met, students undergo a preliminary dissertation examination, write and submit the full-length dissertation, and take a final oral examination. For this research, the advisor and secondary advisors work in teams to promote research from a wide range of perspectives through a multiple faculty research guidance system.
Evaluation of learning outcomes	·In each class, the supervisor shall carry out strict educational evaluation. ·In the first year, the students submit a report in June to evaluate the status of their basic dissertation presentation skills. In addition, a doctoral dissertation concept presentation is held in November to assess the status of the overall research framework. ·At the end of each year, a report on the research progress and a list of research achievements are requested, and the research activities for the year are evaluated. To do so, students will meet with all their supervisors individually and be evaluated from multiple perspectives. ·At the preliminary examination, all faculty members in the program review the results of the research for the dissertation based on their presentations. In principle, the pre-examination meeting can be held in May, October or December of each year. ·After the dissertation is accepted, a dissertation review board is organized to conduct an open oral examination to evaluate the dissertation as a comprehensive evaluation of psychological research and the acquisition of various skills necessary to obtain the degree.

Admission Policy

Desired students	The Doctoral Program in Psychology recruits individuals who aim to become researchers, university faculty members, or highly qualified professionals in the field of psychology. The program is open not only to students who have recently completed a master's degree program in psychology, but also to those who are already working in a professional capacity related to psychology.
Selection policy	·In the entrance examination, students will be selected based on the specialized foreign language (English) examination and by oral examination. ·Special entrance examinations will be held for internal admission from the Master's Program in Psychology to promote the acquisition of a degree (doctorate) for particularly talented individuals.