PSYCHOLOGY

Dual-Titles

Dual-Title Ph.D. in Psychology and Language Science
Requirements listed here are in addition to requirements listed in GCAC-208 Dual-Title Graduate Degree Programs (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-200/gcac-208-dual-title-graduate-degree-programs/).

Graduate students with research and educational interests in Psychology and Language Science may apply to the Psychology and Language Science dual-title Ph.D. program. The goal of the dual-title degree in Psychology and Language Science is to enable graduate students from Psychology to acquire the knowledge and skills of their major area of specialization in Psychology, while at the same time gaining the perspective and methods of the Language Sciences.

Admission Requirements
Students must apply and be admitted to the graduate program in Psychology and The Graduate School before they can apply for admission to the dual-title degree program. After admission to their primary program, students must apply for admission to and meet the admissions requirements of the Language Science dual-title program. Refer to the Admission Requirements section of the Language Science Bulletin page (https://bulletins.psu.edu/graduate/programs/majors/language-science/). Doctoral students must be admitted into the dual-title degree program in Language Science prior to taking the qualifying examination in their primary graduate program. Upon admission to the Psychology Program and with a recommendation from a Language Science program faculty member in the Department of Psychology, the student’s application will be forwarded to a committee that will include the Director of the Linguistics Program, one of the Co-Directors of the Center for Language Science, and a third elected faculty member within the Center for Language Science. All three committee members will be affiliated with the Program in Linguistics. Upon the recommendation of this committee, the student will be admitted to the dual-title program in Language Science.

Degree Requirements
To qualify for the dual-title degree, students must satisfy the degree requirements for the Ph.D. degree in Psychology, listed above. In addition, students must complete the degree requirements for the dual-title in Language Science, listed on the Language Science Bulletin page (https://bulletins.psu.edu/graduate/programs/majors/language-science/).

The qualifying examination committee for the dual-title Ph.D. degree will be composed of Graduate Faculty from Psychology and must include at least one Graduate Faculty member from the Language Science program. Faculty members who hold appointments in both programs’ Graduate Faculty may serve in a combined role. There will be a single qualifying examination, containing elements of both Psychology and Language Science. Dual-title graduate degree students may require an additional semester to fulfill requirements for both areas of study and, therefore, the qualifying examination may be delayed one semester beyond the normal period allowable.

In addition to the general Graduate Council requirements for Ph.D. committees (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-600/gcac-602-phd-committee-formation/), the Ph.D. committee of a Psychology and Language Science dual-title Ph.D. student must include at least one member of the Language Science Graduate Faculty. Faculty members who hold appointments in both programs’ Graduate Faculty may serve in a combined role. If the chair of the Ph.D. committee is not also a member of the Graduate Faculty in Language Science, the member of the committee representing Language Science must be appointed as co-chair. The Language Science representative on the student’s Ph.D. committee will develop questions for and participate in the evaluation of the comprehensive examination.

Students in the dual-title program are required to write and orally defend a dissertation on a topic that is approved in advance by their Ph.D. committee and reflects their original research and education in Psychology and Language Science. Upon completion of the doctoral dissertation, the candidate must pass a final oral examination (the dissertation defense) to earn the Ph.D. degree. The dissertation must be accepted by the Ph.D. committee, the head of the graduate program, and the Graduate School.

Dual-Title Ph.D. in Psychology and Social and Behavioral Neuroscience
Requirements listed here are in addition to requirements listed in GCAC-208 Dual-Title Graduate Degree Programs (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-200/gcac-208-dual-title-graduate-degree-programs/).

Psychology doctoral students who wish to engage in training and research that combines their interests in psychology with social and behavioral neuroscience may apply to pursue a dual-title Ph.D. in Psychology and Social and Behavioral Neuroscience (SBN). This dual-title program enables Psychology graduate students to obtain foundational graduate-level training in neuroscience as well as expertise in social and behavioral neuroscience theory, research, and methods.

Admission Requirements
To pursue a dual-title degree under this program, the student must first apply and be admitted to the graduate program in Psychology and the Graduate School. Applicants interested in the dual-title degree program may note their interest in their applications to Psychology. Students may apply for enrollment in the dual-title degree program in Social and Behavioral Neuroscience (https://bulletins.psu.edu/graduate/programs/majors/social-behavioral-neuroscience/) during their first year (second semester) or second year in their home department. To apply, a student must submit a letter of application, graduate and undergraduate transcripts, and a letter of recommendation from their graduate adviser. Applications will be reviewed by the Social and Behavioral Neuroscience Admissions Committee. The composition of the admissions committee will be determined by the program Steering Committee. At a minimum applicants must be in good standing in their home program and be recommended for admission by their graduate adviser. Doctoral students must be admitted into the dual-title degree program in Social and Behavioral Neuroscience prior to taking the qualifying examination in primary graduate program.

Degree Requirements
To qualify for the dual-title degree, students must satisfy the requirements of the Ph.D in Psychology. In addition, students must complete the degree requirements for the dual-title in Social and Behavioral Neuroscience, listed on the Social and Behavioral Neuroscience Bulletin page (https://bulletins.psu.edu/graduate/programs/majors/social-behavioral-neuroscience/).

The qualifying examination committee must conform to all requirements of Psychology and the Graduate Council. In accordance with Graduate Council, the qualifying examination committee must include at least
one member of the SBN Graduate Faculty. Faculty members who hold appointments in both programs’ Graduate Faculty may serve in a combined role.

The dual-title degree will be guided by the Qualifying Exam procedure of Psychology and the Graduate Council. In accordance with Graduate Council, there will be a single qualifying examination, assessing for both Psychology and the SBN dual-title program. Because students must first be admitted to Psychology before they may apply to and be considered for admission into the SBN dual-title graduate degree program, dual-title graduate degree students may require an additional semester to fulfill requirements for both areas of study and, therefore, the qualifying examination may be delayed one semester beyond the normal period allowable.

The Ph.D. committee must conform to all requirements of Psychology and the Graduate Council. In addition to the general Graduate Council requirements for Ph.D. committees (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-600/gcac-602-phd-committee-formation/), the Ph.D. committee of a Social and Behavioral Neuroscience dual-title doctoral degree student must include at least one member of the Social and Behavioral Neuroscience Graduate Faculty. Faculty members who hold appointments in both programs’ Graduate Faculty may serve in a combined role. If the chair of the Ph.D. committee is not also a member of the Graduate Faculty in Social and Behavioral Neuroscience, the member of the committee representing Social and Behavioral Neuroscience must be appointed as co-chair.

The Comprehensive Exam procedure of Psychology will be followed. The SBN representative on the student’s Ph.D. committee will participate in the writing and evaluation of the exam.

The dissertation must involve the integration of social and behavioral neuroscience and a research question of interest within the home department. The dissertation must be accepted by the Ph.D. committee, the heads of both graduate programs, and the Graduate School, and the student must pass a final oral examination (the dissertation defense).

Degree Requirements
To qualify for the dual-title degree, students must satisfy the degree requirements for the degree they are enrolled in Psychology. In addition, students must complete the degree requirements for the dual-title in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, listed on the Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Bulletin page (http://bulletins.psu.edu/graduate/programs/W/GRAD%20WMNST/). Note that this Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies coursework counts as the Psychology Breadth requirements (12 credits toward minor specialization) and can also fulfill the requirement to work with two different faculty advisors.

For the dual-title M.S. degree in Psychology and Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, the thesis or scholarly paper must reflect the student’s education and interest in both Psychology and Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. Of the three members of the M.S. thesis or scholarly paper committee, at least one member must be a member of the Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Graduate Faculty. Faculty members who hold appointments in both programs’ Graduate Faculty may serve in a combined role. If the chair of the master’s committee is not also a member of the Graduate Faculty in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, the member of the committee representing Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies must be appointed as co-chair.

The qualifying examination committee for the dual-title Ph.D. degree will be composed of Graduate Faculty from Psychology and must include at least one Graduate Faculty member from the Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies program. Faculty members who hold appointments in both programs’ Graduate Faculty may serve in a combined role. There will be a single qualifying examination, containing elements of both Psychology and Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. Dual-title graduate degree students may require an additional semester to fulfill requirements for both areas of study and, therefore, the qualifying examination may be delayed one semester beyond the normal period allowable.

In addition to the general Graduate Council requirements for Ph.D. committees (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-600/gcac-602-phd-committee-formation/), the Ph.D. committee of a Psychology and Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies dual-title Ph.D. student must include at least one member of the Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Graduate Faculty. Faculty members who hold appointments in both programs’ Graduate Faculty may serve in a combined role. If the chair of the Ph.D. committee is not also a member of the Graduate Faculty in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, the member of the committee representing Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies must be appointed as co-chair. The Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies representative on the student’s Ph.D. committee will develop questions for and participate in the evaluation of the comprehensive examination.

Students in the dual-title program are required to write and orally defend a dissertation on a topic that is approved in advance by their Ph.D. committee and reflects their original research and education in Psychology and Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. Upon completion of the doctoral dissertation, the candidate must pass a final oral examination (the dissertation defense) to earn the Ph.D. degree. The dissertation must be accepted by the Ph.D. committee, the head of the graduate program, and the Graduate School.