Title of Programme/ Name of Regulation
Doctor of Clinical Psychology

Brief note about nature of change: To clarify subject area requirements and to amend the title of one of the placements

Location of change
In Examination Regulations 2019-20
https://examregs.admin.ox.ac.uk/Regulation?code=dofclinpsyc&srchYear=2020&srchTerm=1&year=2019&term=1

Effective date
For students starting from MT 2018
And
For first examination from 2020-21

Detail of change

Special Regulations

1. Candidates shall follow a course of training in Clinical Psychology for a period of at least three years. The training shall consist of Clinical, Academic, and Research elements, and candidates will be required to demonstrate their competence in all three elements. The precise periods of training, and the amount of time to be spent on each element, will be notified to candidates by the Course Director prior to the commencement of the course.

2. Candidates shall be examined in all of the following ways:
   
   (a) Clinical Activity
   
   Each candidate shall develop competence in five or six supervised clinical areas normally including the following:

   (i) Adult; (ii) Child; (iii) Intellectual Learning Disabilities; (iv) Older People; (v) Specialist (to be chosen by the candidate in consultation with the course tutors, subject to the availability of appropriate supervision. Final year candidates will normally either develop competence in one
Candidates shall submit to the Board of Examiners an integrated clinical report on five of the above clinical areas. Normally, at least one report will concern clinical work which is other than individually based. Each report shall consist of not more than 4,000 words including tables and diagrams but excluding references and appendices. Candidates shall also submit to the Clinical Tutor a notebook (Log Book) for each clinical area. The candidate’s supervisor in each clinical area shall complete, in consultation with the Clinical Tutor, an Evaluation of Clinical Competence (ECC). The Reports and ECC Forms (a minimum of five) shall be assessed as part of the examination. The notebooks shall be available to the examiners.

Candidates must meet the subject area requirements through their Clinical Activity as detailed in the Course Regulations. Candidates may choose to offer case presentations to meet some subject area requirements, as set out in the Course Regulations.

(b) Academic Activity

Candidates shall be required to follow a programme of study, as prescribed by the Director of the Course, normally in each of the following areas:

(i) Adult mental health; (ii) Children; (iii) Intellectual Learning Disabilities; (iv) Older People; (v) Specialist teaching.

Candidates are required to submit an extended essay. The essay shall not exceed 3,000 words including tables and diagrams but excluding references, and shall be set by the course academic tutor team towards the end of Hilary Term of the first year on an academic topic from the working age adult teaching in the previous term.

(c) Research Activity

Candidates shall offer a research portfolio of between 12,000 and 18,000 words, including tables, diagrams, references and appendices, comprised of:

(i) One service improvement project of between 3,000 and 5,000 words in length including tables and diagrams but excluding references and appendices. The project shall normally be carried out within a clinical context within the first two years of training and shall be of direct relevance to the clinical work.

(ii) A research report of 3,000-5,000 words concerning a significant and substantial investigation with human participants which shall be of clinical relevance. The subject of the Research Report must be approved in advance by the Institute.

(iii) A systematic review of 3,000-7,000 words which may include theoretical work in a clinical subject. The subject of the systematic review must be approved in advance by the institute.

(iv) A reflecting connective narrative of 1,000 words.

All candidates will be examined on the research portfolio viva voce.

3. Candidates shall be required to satisfy examiners in each of the assessment units described in clause 2 above.

4. Guidelines on the preparation and submission of all written work will be updated annually as required and will be included in the Course Handbook.

5. Deadlines for the submission of all assessed work (including essay titles, essays, service improvement projects, integrated clinical reports, critical reviews, research proposals and
research reports) will be published annually by the Institute in the ‘Annual Course Syllabus Book’ at the start of the academic year. They will also be posted on the course VLE.

6. All material submitted for examination must be sent to the Chair of Examiners for the Doctorate in Clinical Psychology, c/o the Course Manager, Isis Education Centre, Warneford Hospital, Headington, Oxford. It shall be accompanied by a certificate signed by the candidate indicating that it is the candidate’s own work, except where otherwise specified. In the case of the integrated clinical report, service-related project, and dissertation, this must be supported by a signed statement from the candidate’s supervisor indicating that the material submitted is the candidate’s own work.

Explanatory Notes

The change clarifies subject area requirements. In some cases it is difficult for candidates to meet all subject area requirements through their clinical placements due to placement considerations, and candidates are now being given the option to offer case presentations to meet some subject area requirements.