

Departmental Evaluation of Advancement to Dissertation Social, Cognitive, and Neuroscience Ph.D. Program

Purpose: The purpose of Departmental Evaluation of Advancement to Dissertation is to identify students who have the abilities and motivation to successfully propose and defend their Ph.D. in a timely manner.

M.A. Thesis: SCN students should have a public presentation of their M.A. work. Students are encouraged to plan their defense in advance so they can have the public presentation during the departmental colloquium time (followed by the private defense with just committee members). If this is not possible, students have the option of delaying the public presentation (no later than the next semester) so they can present during the departmental colloquium time.

Timing: Students who enter the Ph.D. program without an M.A. are expected to apply for Departmental Evaluation of Advancement to Dissertation within one semester of obtaining their M.A. Students who enter the Ph.D. program with an M.A. are expected to apply within one semester of successfully completing their first year project. Students may petition the SCN faculty for exceptions if appropriate.

Application Materials: Students must complete the Psychology Departmental Evaluation of Advancement to Dissertation for the Social, Cognitive, and Neuroscience Program (including vita and updated program of study). This application should be submitted to both the Graduate Program director and the SCN chair. In addition, students must provide the SCN chair with a recent copy of (1) graduate transcript(s) (unofficial copies are acceptable) and (2) all previous yearly evaluations.

Coursework: Students may not enroll in dissertation (PSYC 6320/6321) until their Departmental Evaluation of Advancement to Dissertation has been approved by the SCN faculty. To allow SCN faculty sufficient time to review a candidacy application, students should submit their application at least four weeks before the end of the semester preceding the semester they intend to enroll in dissertation.

Application Meeting: There must be a formal meeting to review and approve any Departmental Evaluation of Advancement to Dissertation application. SCN faculty will first meet to discuss the applicant without the applicant present. The student will then be asked to join the faculty for follow-up questions.