

AGREEMENT TO UNDERTAKE CULMINATING EXPERIENCE
Department of Psychology
California State University, Los Angeles

PSY 5970 Graduate Research & PSY 5990 Thesis

Date: _____ Semester/year: _____

Student Name: _____ CIN: _____

Phone: () _____ Email: _____

List the course(s) you will be registering for:

COURSE #1: _____ Number of units to be taken (1-3): _____

COURSE #2: _____ Number of units to be taken (1-3): _____

COURSE #3: _____ Number of units to be taken (1-3): _____

Have you registered for PSY 5970 or PSY 5990 in a previous semester? ___ YES ___ NO

Note: Only a maximum of 3 units is allowed for each course. If you have already reached the maximum number of allowable units, please consult department staff for information on registering for UNIV 9000 instead.

ATTACHMENTS

If you are registering for PSY 5970: In consultation with your faculty advisor, attach a thesis abstract (prospectus) stating the specific topic, objectives, methods, and significance of the proposed thesis project. The prospectus should be prefaced by a narrative abstract of 250-500 words that is comprehensible to a general audience.

If you are registering for PSY 5990: Students must be advanced to candidacy (G3).

SIGNATURES

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Faculty Advisor Name: _____

Faculty Advisor Signature: _____ Date: _____

After obtaining your faculty advisor's approval, submit a copy of this form along with the necessary attachments to psych@calstatela.edu.

For Office Use Only: Department Advisor or Chairperson Approval: _____

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PREREQUISITES

Advancement to candidacy; instructor consent to act as sponsor; departmental approval of project prior to registration.

ACTIVITIES FOR PSY 5970, GRADUATE RESEARCH

- Students are to meet with their faculty advisor during the first week of instruction to plan laboratory or field activities; students and faculty advisors will meet at least one hour per week to discuss student activities and goal completion. Students will spend three hours each week per unit on assigned research activities.
- Activities may include library research, preparation of research materials, data collection, data coding and organization, data analysis, graphical/tabular presentation of data, preparation of conference presentations, written reports, and so on.
- Evaluation of student performance will be based on one or more of the following criteria: a written report; a proposal for research; performance and completion of research tasks; and/or another criterion developed by the faculty member.

ACTIVITIES FOR PSY 5990, THESIS

- Students are to meet with their faculty advisor during the first week of instruction to plan activities that will lead to the completion of the thesis; students and faculty advisors will regularly to discuss student activities and goals needed to complete the thesis. Students will spend three hours each week per unit on thesis- related activities. Activities may include library research, preparation of research materials, data collection, data coding and organization, data analysis, graphical/tabular presentation of data, and preparation of thesis.
- Evaluation of student performance will be based on one or more of the following criteria: performance and completion of research tasks; and/or another criterion developed by the faculty member.

OUTCOMES

1. Students will demonstrate understanding of the major theoretical concepts of the thesis topic.
2. Students will demonstrate the skills needed to implement empirical, theoretical, and/or library research in psychology (in the form of summaries of literature searches, data management, data analysis, research articles, poster preparation, research proposals, manuscript preparation, literature reviews, and so on, as agreed upon with mentor/sponsor).
3. Students will develop insight into their own professional development through both the implementation of research tasks and interactions with the faculty advisor.
4. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the complexity and diversity of the psychology field as well as subfields within the mentor/sponsor's research area.
5. Students will demonstrate competency in information technology (in the form of utilizing literature search engines, using Powerpoint for oral or poster presentations, using statistical analysis packages, and so on, as agreed upon with mentor/sponsor).
6. Students will demonstrate familiarity with the research process.