

## **Program in Clinical Psychology Policy on a Third Specialty Placement**

**Policy:** A third specialty placement is not part of the clinical program curriculum and there is no obligation on the part of the program to provide this additional training experience. Thus, students should not expect to be routinely placed in a third specialty placement. However, requests to do a third specialty placement will be considered and will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Third specialty placements will normally be 2-term commitments and occur in the University of Calgary Psychology Clinic.

**Procedure:** Ph.D. II students who wish to apply for a third specialty placement should submit their CVs and a copy of their practicum log to the Practicum/Internship Coordinator by March 1st. Also, students are required to submit a letter indicating how the third specialty placement meets their training objectives. Note that obtaining additional clinical hours (beyond those provided by the program curriculum) is not sufficient justification for seeking a third specialty placement. If relevant, the letter should also indicate any special circumstances that may have influenced the number of clinical hours obtained or range of experiences that the student has had, or believes he/she needs to have. Finally, if a placement outside the University of Calgary Psychology Clinic is requested, the letter should describe the compelling training need on which this request is based—mere preferences will not constitute adequate justification, and the program is under no obligation to grant such requests.

In addition, please note the following:

- All students doing the third specialty placement will be required to enroll in 762 (a 2-term course). Class attendance is optional.
- Ph.D. III students have last priority for specialty placements and requests will not be considered until all Ph.D. I and II placements have been confirmed.
- In the event that the demand for placements exceeds available resources, the following criteria will be considered in making decisions about who does/does not get a third specialty placement: training needs (e.g., insufficient hours, gaps in training), research progress (in consultation with the research supervisor), and the extent to which students have met practicum deadlines in the past.
- Decisions about placement will be made by the Practicum/Internship Coordinator, in consultation with the Director of Training.

Revised: July 27, 2018

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