Study Plan for PhD Students Admitted in 2016/2017 onwards

(Updated in August 2018)

	Type	Credits
For students admitted with a relevant Master's degree		
PSYC8999 / PSYG899 Doctoral Thesis	Compulsory	18
Courses		
SSGC8809 / FSSG809 Research Ethics	Compulsory	0
SSGC8807 / FSSG807 Academic Writing and Scholarship	Compulsory	3
Choose ONE of the following		
SSGC8802 / FSSG802 Quantitative Research Methods	Required Elective	3
SSGC8803 / FSSG803 Qualitative Research Methods	Required Elective	3
SSGC8808 / FSSG808 Social Theory	Required Elective	3
SSGC8806 / FSSG806 University Teaching and Practice	Required Elective	3
Choose TWO of the following:		
PSYC8805 / PSYG805 Advanced Topics in Psychological Research Methods	Required Elective	3
PSYC8810 / PSYG810 Seminar in Psychological Sciences	Required Elective	3
PSYC8811 / PSYG811 Seminar in Personality and Social Psychology	Required Elective	3
PSYC8812 / PSYG812 Seminar in Applied Psychology	Required Elective	3
PSYC8813 / PSYG813 Seminar in Selected Topics in Psychology	Required Elective	3
	Grand Total	**30**

Notes:

*Supervisors may advise their students regarding the most appropriate choice from the list provided.

Course Descriptions

SSGC8802   QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS

This course is a doctoral level seminar designed to develop the students' knowledge and skills of quantitative methods in social sciences, familiarize them with procedures of designing and implementing quantitative research projects, improve their critical thinking capability, and increase their competency in writing research papers for publication in refereed English journals. It will provide the students with hand-on experiences in data collection through surveys and data analysis using SPSS, the software packages most commonly applied in quantitative research in social sciences.
Pre-requisite: None

SSGC8803   QUALITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS

This doctoral level course aims to develop students' knowledge and skills of qualitative research methods in social sciences. Students explore different ontological, epistemological and related methodological perspectives of qualitative research in 6 applied contexts, professional practice, and cultural settings. Students also engage with high-level readings of primary sources and apply critical analysis of exemplary qualitative research papers in preparation for designing and implementing qualitative research projects, develop interpretive/hermeneutic skills, and enhance competency in writing research papers for publication in refereed English journals.
Pre-requisite: None

SSGC8809   RESEARCH ETHICS

In this online research ethics course, students will engage as independent learners in the CITI training programme to gain in-depth knowledge and understanding of all aspects of ethics as it applies in the social sciences.   The CITI training programme comprises the minimal standards to demonstrate ethical competence and to comply with UM policy and Macao governed regulations for research with vulnerable populations, emerging designs, technology, and more.   All students need to complete the discipline-specific prescribed units of the CITI training programme with a default score of 80% or more.
Pre-requisite: None

SSGC8806   UNIVERSITY TEACHING AND PRACTICE

The purpose of this seminar-based course is to introduce students to the issues, practices and strategies involved in collaborative and interactive teaching in higher education settings.   Through assigned readings and online and in-class discussion, the course

focuses on the nature of teaching and learning, the role of student engagement, how student development impacts learning, the use of technology to enhance student learning, course design, learning outcomes, and models of teaching practice. The course further explores strategies for authentic assessment and whole person education, as well as the development of a teaching portfolio through practical application.
Pre-requisite: None

SSGC8807   ACADEMIC WRITING AND SCHOLARSHIP
This doctoral level course aims to develop students' knowledge and skills regarding academic scholarship and research writing within the social sciences. The course includes the discussion of ways in which culture informs academic writing, and the underlying principles of logic, argumentation and reasoning in academic writing practices. Discipline-specific scholarly conventions and technical requirements for quantitative and qualitative research reporting are discussed and applied in preparation for dissertation writing and the writing of research papers for publication in refereed English journals. Students will also engage with relevant primary and secondary source readings, and conduct critical analysis of exemplary texts.
Pre-requisite: None

SSGC8808   SOCIAL THEORY
This seminar-based course covers a wide range of material derived from a variety of theoretical traditions and bodies of work. It introduces students to, and help them develop an understanding of, complex issues and texts that are now established as the theoretical basis of scholarship in a number of relevant cognate fields, including communication studies, media studies, cultural studies, gender studies, visual culture, postcolonial studies, literary studies, anthropology, education, film studies, sociology and psychology. Topics in this course will vary according to course instructor and student interest, and may include readings of classical and/or contemporary theories in the social sciences.
Pre-requisite: None

PSYC8805   ADVANCED TOPICS IN PSYCHOLOGICAL RESEARCH METHODS
In this course, students will engage in the nature of inquiry in psychological sciences and explore different epistemological perspectives and related methodological issues in psychology research. The course covers various advanced topics related to psychological science and research in applied contexts (e.g., business/industry,

education, community, policy, health, national development, etc.), professional practice (e.g., clinical, counselling, school, etc.), and cultural settings.
Pre-requisite: None

PSYC8810   SEMINAR IN PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCES

In this seminar-based course, students will engage with high-level readings of primary sources for exploration of various topics related to the psychological sciences. The readings will vary from year to year depending on the expertise of specialist staff and the needs for advanced study of psychology.
Pre-requisite: None

PSYC8811   SEMINAR IN PERSONALITY AND SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

In this seminar-based course, students will engage with high-level readings from primary sources for exploration of various topics related to personality and social psychology, with an emphasis on the cultural dimensions of personality and social psychological phenomena and research. The readings will vary from year to year depending on the expertise of specialist staff and the needs for advanced study in the area of personality and social psychology.
Pre-requisite: None

PSYC8812   SEMINAR IN APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY

In this seminar-based course, students will engage with high-level readings from primary sources for exploration of various topics of relevance to local and global issues in applied psychology. The readings will vary from year to year depending on the expertise of specialist staff and the needs for advanced study of psychology.
Pre-requisite: None

PSYC8813   SEMINAR IN SELECTED TOPICS IN PSYCHOLOGY

In this seminar-based course, students will engage with high-level readings from primary sources for exploration of selected topics related to psychology but not covered in other Seminar courses, such as topics on the latest trends in psychology, issues currently under debate, or new paradigms and approaches recently proposed. The readings will vary from year to year depending on the expertise of specialist staff and the needs for advanced study of psychology. The course includes advanced writing skills for assessment purposes.
Pre-requisite: None