

General Doctoral Exam Written Portion Major Area Paper (MAP) Option

This option is only available to CaBS students and to Clinical students who began the program prior to Fall 2021.

1. Students with 3.5 GPA or higher in departmental and program core courses, as well as permission of major professor are eligible to choose this option. In general, completion of the MAP (including successful defense) is required within 12 months from the start date, with the date for completion of the written portion of the MAP determined by the student's Examination Committee and/or graduate program. Should students are required to retake/revise the MAP, follow the procedure described in 3-c.

2. This examination will involve the production of a paper modeled after those appearing in *Psychological Bulletin*, *Psychological Review*, *Psychological Methods*, or other review journal specific to the student's intended doctoral degree. Thus, products would reflect, but not be limited to:
 - a. Evaluative or integrative reviews and interpretations of issues in scientific psychology, fostering a cross-disciplinary orientation;

 - b. Theoretical contributions to an area of scientific psychology;

 - c. Contributions to the development and dissemination of methods for collecting, analyzing, understanding, and interpreting psychological data.

The product ultimately reflects the student's ability to ask appropriate questions of the literature, learn how to structure the MAP task, and defend his/her analysis of the issues raised in the paper.

3. Grading will be completed by the student's Examination Committee within two weeks of receipt of the student's responses.
 - a. Each grader shall assign a "Pass" or "Fail" to the MAP. If a grader assigns a "Fail", this will initiate a discussion by the committee members regarding the basis of the failure. The final committee decision regarding failure will be based on a majority vote.

 - b. Students will be provided with written qualitative feedback from committee members regarding their examination performance.

 - c. If a student fails the written MAP, the student will be permitted to retake/revise the MAP based on the committee's decision. The Committee should specify a timeline for completion of the re-take, following the solicitation of feedback from members regarding

suggested areas of remediation.

4. A student who fails the MAP upon retaking or fail to submit the MAP within the deadline determined by the student's Examination Committee and/or graduate program will not be recommended for admission into the doctoral program. Depending on the timing of the failed examination, steps could be taken to transition the student out of the respective graduate program. For example, arrangements could be made to complete courses in which the student is currently enrolled, maintain or finish an assistantship, or remain involved in other professional activities until as the student seeks alternative employment or educational opportunities. All such arrangement would be subject to review by the student's program and the department and would have to be consistent with graduate school policies.
5. A student may appeal failure of the MAP to the department chair/head or his/her designee within 14 days of notification of the failure. The appeal shall be investigated, with consultation from the Examination Committee and Program Director. The student shall receive a written response within 14 days of the receipt of the written appeal. Any further appeal shall be directed to the Dean of the Graduate School.