

**Date: August 23, 2011**

**Re: MA Comp date and registration**

**To: All Clinical Psychology Students Eligible to take the  
Masters Clinical Comprehensive Exam**

Dear Students:

The MA Clinical Comprehensive Exam will be given on the following dates.

- **Friday, December 16, 2011 at 10:00AM**
- **Thursday, January 12, 2012 at 2PM**

The exam will be a closed book exam. Only core coursework will be covered. Questions will focus on the following areas: Cognitive Assessment; Objective Personality Assessment; Projective Personality Assessment; Assessment and Treatment of Diverse Populations; Initial Interviewing Skills; Basic Intervention Skills and Models; Professional Ethics, Conduct, and Law; Child and Adolescent Development; Adult Development and Aging; Diagnostic Psychopathology; Theories of Psychopathology; and Statistics and Research Methods I. This exam will have approximately 90 questions, and you will have 2 ½ hours to complete it.

This exam is a program requirement for all MACL students and may also be taken by Psy.D. students who wish to get a Masters degree during their matriculation to the Psy.D. The exam will not be offered again until July 2012.

If you intend to take the exam, please fill out the following registration form and return it to the Administrative Assistant for Clinical Psychology, Barbara Hochgesang, no later than **Tuesday, November 1, 2011**. Put the form in her mailbox on the 8<sup>th</sup> floor on the 8<sup>th</sup> Floor of the 999 Plaza Drive building or mail to her attention at Argosy University, 999 N. Plaza Drive, Schaumburg, IL 60173-5403. The registration form is also available at AuSchaumburg.net.

It will be very important for you to begin your review process **at least 5-6 weeks in advance of the exam**. If you fail the exam, you will be required to meet with Dr. Wasner to determine an appropriate time to retake the exam; this could delay your MA graduation and application process for LPC Licensure. (See the study guide below for more details regarding the exam.)

You should be reviewing all your course work from the core MA Clinical Psychology curriculum. Many students have found it useful to form study groups to help structure and motivate their preparation. ***Please note that if you did not take any of these courses in this program, and had them waived from your previous graduate work, you may have some difficulty with this material, since the questions are all taken from the courses that have been taught here the last two years. You may need to particularly rigorously review the syllabi of these courses, review the readings and contact students who have taken these courses to review their notes and the like.***

As Program Directors, we are also available to answer any specific questions you may have. The best of luck to each of you as you prepare for the Comprehensive Exam.

Sincerely,

Jim Wasner, Ph.D.  
Dean of ASPP  
Program Chair, Clinical Psychology Programs

**Note:**

***If you are applying for LPC licensure you will need to fill out the ED (Education Verification form and submit it to the Registrar for approval. Please allow at least 7-10 days for this approval process. More information on filling out this form can be found on the aushaumburg.net website site in the licensing link/clinical psychology department section. The LPC licensing exam can be taken on an ongoing basis electronically. Licensing exam information can be found at <http://www.idfpr.com/dpr/WHO/prfcns.asp>.***

# Clinical Comprehensive Examination Registration Form

I, \_\_\_\_\_, am in the Clinical Psychology program and am registering to sit for the Comprehensive Examination. I will take the exam on: (choose only one)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Friday, December 16, 2011 at 10:00AM** \_\_\_\_\_ **Thursday, January 12, 2012 at 2PM**

I have successfully completed\* or am currently enrolled in **all** of the following courses (please check):

- PP 7110 Professionalization Group I
- PP 7111 Professionalization Group II
- PP 8470 Adult Development & Aging
- PP 7311 Diagnostic Psychopathology
- PP 7310 Theories of Psychopathology
- PP 7200 Statistics & Research Methods I
- PP 7340 Issues in the Assessment and Treatment Diverse Populations
- PP 7371 Objective Personality Assessment
- PP 7372 Projective Personality Assessment
- PP 7020 Child & Adolescent Development
- PP 7100 Professional Issues: Ethics, Conduct, and Law
- PP 7370 Cognitive Assessment
- PP 7368 Initial Interviewing Skills
- PP 7369 Basic Intervention Skills and Models

I am in good standing and have a GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale or better.

Clinical Program Type: \_\_\_\_\_MACL \_\_\_\_\_PSYD

Signature\_\_\_\_\_

last four digits of your social security # \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

\* Courses that are waived are considered successfully completed.

**FORMS MUST BE TURNED IN TO  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT FOR CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY,  
BARB HOCHGESANG, ON OR BEFORE Tuesday, November 1, 2011.**

**Note:**

*If you are applying for LPC licensure you will need to fill out the ED (Education Verification form and submit it to the Registrar for approval. Please allow at least 7-10 days for this approval process. More information on filling out this form can be found on the aushaumburg.net website site in the licensing link/clinical psychology department section. The LPC licensing exam can be taken on an ongoing basis electronically. Licensing exam information can be found at <http://www.idfpr.com/dpr/WHO/prfens.asp>.*

# Study Guide for the Master's Clinical Competency Exam

## EXAM FORMAT AND CONTENT

The exam will be a closed book multiple choice exam. Only core coursework will be covered. Questions will focus on the following areas: Cognitive Assessment; Objective Personality Assessment; Projective Personality Assessment; Assessment and Treatment of Diverse Populations; Initial Interviewing Skills; Basic Intervention Skills and Models; Professional Ethics, Conduct, and Law; Child and Adolescent Development; Adult Development and Aging; Diagnostic Psychopathology; Theories of Psychopathology; and Statistics and Research Methods I. This exam will have approximately 90 questions, and you will have 2 ½ hours to complete it.

**TIME LIMIT:** Since the exam has a time limit (2 ½ hours), you will want to go through each part of the exam and answer the questions that are easiest for you. Then, go back and answer the questions that seem more difficult. In general, your “first impression” answer is likely to be your best answer. However, many times, mistakes are made because of misreading the questions, so read slowly and thoughtfully. *Remember to keep breathing and remain calm, as increased anxiety will reduce your thinking efficiency.*

**PREPARATION:** Review is essential. *Start immediately so that you will feel prepared.* **Most students require at least 4-6 weeks of study and preparation to do well on this exam.** More time may be required if taking the closed book exam. Many students find it very useful to form study groups to help structure and motivate their preparation. While you are allowed to bring books and notes with you for the open book exam, it is likely that unless you know and have reviewed the material, you will not be able to locate answers in the allotted time. Books and notes are not allowed for the closed book exam. Students must receive a score of 70% or better to pass. *Please note that if you did not take any of these courses in this program, and had them waived from your previous graduate work, you may have some difficulty with this material, since the questions are all taken from the courses that have been taught here the last two years. You may need to particularly rigorously review the syllabi of these courses, review the readings and contact students who have taken these courses to review their notes and the like.*

Students who fail the exam will be required to meet with Dr. Wasner to determine an appropriate time to retake the exam; this could delay your MA graduation and application process for LPC Licensure.

**PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS:** Get adequate rest the night or two previous to the exam. Drink water and eat nutritious food so that you are functioning at your best. Allow additional time for travel, so that you can arrive early and organize yourself for the exam. You may have drinks and snacks during the exam, but choose items that will not be disruptive to others. Most importantly, believe in yourself and in the fact that, if you have prepared, you know more than you think you know.