SECTION 20: EXAMINATIONS

Unseen examinations are used to assess both the academic course component, and competence in research methods and statistics. Examinations are held in late May and Early June of the first and second year.

Papers 1 and 3 assess trainees' understanding and knowledge of theory and its application across clinical areas in which clinical psychologists typically practice.

Paper 2 tests candidates' knowledge of research methods and Paper 4 their knowledge of statistics.

Although the topics of the exams will be taken from the academic curriculum, learning during clinical placements will also be relevant, and through this the candidates' capacity to think as a practising clinical psychologist. Academic revision will need to be supplemented by an engagement in placement practice (the experience gained in clinical contexts during the training), engagement in discussion and debate during the academic programme, broad reading in clinical psychology and related areas and extended periods of reflection on clinical experience.

OUTLINE OF PAPERS

All four papers described below are 'open-book' examinations, meaning that candidates can refer to lecture notes, textbooks and other information sources. Papers 1, 2 and 3 are delivered remotely using AssessmentUCL. Paper 4 is hosted on the Moodle platform.

Year 1
There will be two examination papers.

Paper 1: Theory and application of clinical psychology methods (4 hours)
The paper requires candidates to write answers on four out of 12 topics, representing the main topics and clinical approaches taught during year 1 (up to late May). The overall word limit is 3,000 words, and each of the four answers should not exceed 750 words.

The paper is split into four sections, covering psychometrics, neuropsychology and topics covered in the assessment and formulation unit (section A), psychodynamic theory and its application (section B), behaviour therapy and CBT (section C), and other modules including Key Presenting Difficulties, Professional Issues and Cultural Competence (section D). Candidates must answer one question from each of these four sections. Topics from the Central Themes (CT) unit are only covered in the exam in so far as they may present theory that is then picked up in other more substantive lectures but there is no need to revise CT lectures separately. Systemic theory and its application is covered in Paper 3 in Year 2.

Paper 2: Research Methods in Clinical Psychology (3 hours)
This paper examines the teaching in the Research Methods sub-unit. Candidates are required to read a peer-reviewed paper and then answer questions on it. In effect, this asks candidates to apply the teaching on the Research Methods sub-unit to critiquing a paper. The overall word limit is 3,000 words.

Year 2
There will be two examination papers.

Paper 3: Theory and application of clinical psychology methods (advanced level) **(**4 hours)
The paper requires candidates to write answers on four out of 12 topics, under four sections representing the main topics and clinical approaches taught <u>after</u> the first-year exams and during year 2 (up to late May). The overall word limit is 3,000 words, and each of the four answers should not exceed 750 words.

The paper is split into four sections, covering children and young people (section A), older adults and intellectual disability (section B), systemic therapy (section C), and other topics covered during year 2 under the Clinical Health and Key Presenting Difficulties units (section D). Candidates must answer one question from each of these four sections.

Paper 4: Statistics (4 hours)
This exam covers all aspects of teaching in the Statistics Unit. Candidates will be presented with a series of multiple-choice questions that pertain to statistical concepts and require the interpretation of charts and graphs. Additionally, they will receive a data set accompanied by a description of its context. Candidates will apply the statistical and computational knowledge acquired from the course to answer a number of focused questions about the data set and answering specific research questions as part of the examination.

As with all examinations outlined in this section of the handbook, candidates are permitted to refer to their study materials during the assessment. The exam can be completed at a time that suits the student's schedule. Each candidate is granted up to two attempts to pass the examination before the stipulated deadline. Should a candidate not succeed, they have the opportunity to retake the assessment during the summer assessment period, with an additional two attempts allowed.

The assessment will be hosted on the Moodle platform. Although students can choose when to start the assessment, each attempt is constrained by the two-hour time limit. Once begun, the assessment must be completed within the designated time frame in order to qualify for a pass. Feedback will not be provided after the first attempt. However, if a student is unsuccessful on their second attempt, feedback will be given to help them understand their areas for improvement

Timing of exams

Year 1, Paper 1	May of Year 1 (for date see timetable)
Year 1, Paper 2	May of Year 1 (for date see timetable)
Year 2, Paper 3	May of Year 2 (for date see timetable)
Year 2, Paper 4	End of statistics teaching until May of Year 2 (for date see timetable)

Marking
Marking procedures are outlined in Section 24 of the handbook.

Re-sits
For Papers 1, 2 and 3 the re-sits will be scheduled by UCL Examinations under the Late Summer Assessments programme. This is usually within a three-week period from the third week of August.

For the Statistics Examination this can be taken between July and September and will be scheduled by the Course.

Artificial Intelligence (AI)
UCL assessments are categorised according to how AI tools may be used. Like all assessments for the DClinPsy programme, examinations fall under **Category 1: AI tools cannot be used**. The examinations are designed to test competencies in critical thinking, knowledge application and clinical practice, which are essential and fundamental to working as a Clinical Psychologist. Trainees should therefore be aware that use of AI tools in examinations would constitute **academic misconduct**, and further information is provided in Section 23 of the Handbook (Plagiarism and Artificial Intelligence) and on the UCL website here and here.

Examination Arrangements for Students with Disabilities or medical conditions
UCL makes provision for students who have a disability or medical condition that would make it difficult to undertake an examination under standard examination conditions.

Initially you may wish to discuss your needs with your course tutor, who will be aware of the procedure.

You should submit a request for alternative arrangements well in advance of the exam if you wish to be considered, as it is UCL Examinations Section (not the Course) that grants permission for any special arrangements. Applications should be submitted as early in the academic year as possible, and **not later than six weeks before the start of your first examination**.

Specific information about arrangements for students with disabilities can be found at: www.ucl.ac.uk/disability/special-examination-arrangements

Instructions on how to apply can be found at: https://www.ucl.ac.uk/students/support-and-wellbeing/disability-support/reasonable-adjustments-your-assessments