

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

Report On Second-Year Research Screening Procedure

During the first two years of graduate study at USC, each student works with a faculty member on a program of research that culminates in a written report. This report may be a Master's thesis or a 590 research report of comparable scope and quality. The student's performance in planning, conducting, and reporting the study provides the basis of second-year screening, which involves judgment of a student's research competence. Three copies of your final draft of the research report must be submitted to members of the guidance committee by the end of Spring semester of your second year. This form must be signed by committee members and returned to the Graduate Advisor (SGM 508), prior to the September faculty meeting. Also, a copy of your research paper must be submitted. Faculty evaluation of the research report will be reported in the September faculty meeting of the student's third year at USC.

Responsibility for this screening lies with the student's guidance committee. Initially, the chair and two other department members of the committee review the paper. If all three approve the student to proceed for the Ph.D. and if one of them agrees to serve as the chair for subsequent work, no additional review is needed. However, if either of these conditions is not met the other department member of the committee also evaluates the research report. Approval to continue toward the Ph.D. requires (1) that the paper be passed by three department members of the guidance committee and (2) that a member of the department faculty evaluates the student's potential for completion of Ph.D. requirements as sufficient that he/ she is willing to serve as chair and supervise the student's dissertation research.

NAME OF STUDENT _____

DATE _____

EVALUATION:

_____ Satisfactory for M.A. level and approval to proceed toward the Ph.D.
Generally for this rating, the research report must meet the standard of “acceptable for publication” with reference to: (a) conception and implementation of project and (b) quality of report.

Chairperson of Guidance Committee

Date

Department Committee Member

Department Committee Member

Future Chairperson of Guidance Committee if other than above.
(Arrangements of change of chair person is worked out in consultation with student)

_____ Satisfactory for M.A. level, but not approved to continue toward Ph.D.

Chairperson of Guidance Committee

Date

Committee Member

Committee Member

_____ Unsatisfactory for M.A. level.

If this rating is given, what recommendation is being made to the student?

_____ Revise Study

_____ Conduct and report a new study

_____ Other (Please specify _____)

Committee Member

Committee Member

Guidance Committee Chairperson

Date