

# All Standards

Sam Houston State University Department of Psychology and  
Philosophy

Produced on 11/06/2024

**Self Assessment****Focused Questions**

[Identify the regional accrediting body that recognizes the sponsoring institution and the institution's current accreditation status with this body.

[Discuss how the program is integral to the department, college, school, or institution.

[Briefly describe the mission(s) of the agency or institution which sponsors/hosts the doctoral training program and explain how the training program fits within this mission. How is it viewed/valued by the sponsor institution and its administration?

[Discuss the adequacy and stability of the doctoral program's budget, including how the program receives its budget

SHSU is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. The most recent reaffirmation was in 2009, and the next reaffirmation will be in 2019.

The Doctoral Program in Clinical Psychology is the sole doctoral program in the Department of Psychology and Philosophy and the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, and is one of only nine doctoral programs at SHSU. In addition to their primary responsibilities for the Doctoral Program, the core faculty are involved in teaching courses and mentoring students at all levels. They teach undergraduate courses and mentor undergraduate research. The curriculum for the terminal master's program (a program separate from the doctoral program) includes graduate courses taught by core faculty, such as psychopathology and personality assessment, as well as other courses for the terminal master's program. Core faculty sit on thesis committees for the terminal master's program and chair thesis research. The various faculty members who conduct research through a lab often have undergraduate and terminal master's students involved, which helps prepare these students for further study. At times, core clinical faculty have served as advisor to our Psychology Club and Psi Chi chapter. The core faculty serve on committees at the department, college, and university level.

Similarly, the doctoral students play an important role in the department. Doctoral students teach undergraduate courses (e.g., Introduction to Psychology, Abnormal Psychology, Psychology and the Law) in the classroom and, to a lesser extent, online. The doctoral students also provide mentorship for undergraduate students working in the aforementioned labs and support our Psychology Club and Psi Chi chapter with mentorship and guidance.

The PSC serves the university and surrounding community. We provide assessment services for students who have applied for academic accommodations. We also provide therapy services for students, especially in cases where client needs are beyond the services provided by the University Counseling Center. These services are all in addition to the services the PSC provides to the local community.

**Briefly describe the mission(s) of the agency or institution which sponsors/hosts the doctoral training program and explain how the training program fits within this mission. How is it viewed/valued by the sponsor institution and its administration?**

The mission of Sam Houston State University is to provide a high quality education, scholarship, and service to qualified students for the benefit of regional, state, national and international constituencies.

The Program is one of only nine doctoral programs in the university and the only doctoral program in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. The Program is highly visible to all levels of the institutional administration, is well-respected, and enjoys great support for all activities. The

accomplishments of Program graduates and faculty has led the university to devote considerable resources to ensure continued success. Over the past ten years, the university has devoted increasing funds to the Program in form of student stipends and scholarships and additional faculty positions. During this time, the university has twice made increasingly large space and facilities available for the Psychological Services Center to facilitate student training and continued service to the surrounding community. The Department of Psychology and Philosophy is housed in one of the newer buildings on campus and was the first to occupy its current offices.

**Discuss the adequacy and stability of the doctoral program's budget, including how the program receives its budget.**

The Program receives \$491,226 from the university each year. This budget funds student stipends as well as other costs of managing the program. We have received at least this amount of funds from the university since 2014. Although the specific amount of funds has varied over the years, based on the university accounting structure, the program has been allotted sufficient funds for supporting students and other operations since its inception.

**Status**

**Progress Status:** Ready for Submission

**Admin Review**

**Review Status:** No Additional Info Needed

**Site Visit Review**

**Site Visit Review Status:** Ready for CoA Review

**Site Visit Comment (Last updated on: 2018-11-07):**

Sam Houston State University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Information from the self-study (description of curriculum, course syllabi) provide evidence that the clinical PhD program is an integral part of the Department of Psychology and Philosophy and its mission is consistent with the department's mission, the mission of the Sam Houston State University's College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHSS), and the general mission of the university. Statements made by clinical program faculty members, students in the program, faculty members from the other psychology programs in the department (school, general), the interim department chair, and the dean of the CHSS provided additional evidence for the program's integration with the department as a whole, the college, and the university. Both the interim department chair (who is not a member of the clinical program faculty) and the dean of the CHSS demonstrated clear and detailed knowledge of the program's goals and needs and the activities of the program faculty members and indicated that they value the program highly. Funding and resources for the program are provided through the department, which in receives its budget from the university. These resources seem sufficient for allowing the program to meet its education, training, and research goals. As indicated earlier in this report, there appear to be university policies that affect the financial resources available to students as Sam Houston State University cannot legally provide tuition waivers to students. Although funding from other sources seems to help clinical psychology students in lowering the cost, students with full courseload may have to bear higher cost. The university is providing the program with \$491,226. This resource appears to meet program needs.

**Program Response**