Advisors Verification Form
Core Research Methods

As part of their non-course requirements, all Cognitive Science Ph.D. students have to demonstrate some competency in four main research methods in Cognitive Science:

1. **Formal methods**: Students should demonstrate working knowledge in some formal methods, such as neural networks, Bayesian methods, game-theoretic methods, formalization and derivation in different logics, linguistic theory.

2. **Programming methods**: Students should demonstrate working knowledge of some programming methods for cognitive science, such as techniques from artificial intelligence and computer simulation of cognitive models, representations, data structures, and algorithms.

3. **Statistical methods**: Knowledge in statistical methods and data analysis.

4. **Experimental design**: Students should demonstrate experience with experimental design, conducting and critiquing experiments, and analysis of experimental outcomes.

The demonstration can include:
- Transcripts of previously taken courses (at Tufts or elsewhere) in the above areas.
- Evidence that they have taken relevant courses in these areas at Tufts.
- Papers authored by students that employ any of the required methods.

Students will send their documentation and/or detailed description for each of these four research methods to their primary advisor and their secondary advisor for approval (see cogsci.tufts.edu/academics/requirements.htm for details).

Once approved, this form should be filled out by the student then signed by both advisors and returned to Gina Kuperberg, Director of Operations for the Cognitive Science Graduate Program, at 490 Boston Ave, Medford, MA 02155. Alternatively it can be scanned and emailed to Gina Kuperberg at kuperber@nmr.mgh.harvard.edu. Please complete one form for each of these four research methods. Documentation that demonstrates competency should also be e-mailed to Gina Kuperberg for her records.

I affirm that my advisee, ____________________________, has successfully demonstrated competency in the following core research method (please only check one box, and submit one form per core research method):

- □ Formal methods
- □ Programming methods
- □ Statistical methods
- □ Experimental design

Primary advisor’s name (printed): ____________________________ Date: __________

Primary advisor’s signature: ____________________________

Secondary advisor’s name (printed): ____________________________ Date: __________

Secondary advisor’s signature: ____________________________

Student’s signature: ____________________________ Date: __________