

School Psychology

Introduction

Education Specialist Degree Approved by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP), this program provides training in both psychology and education. School psychologists use their knowledge, training, and skills to team with educators, parents and other mental health professionals. They work to maximize the learning of students and to develop safe, healthy and enriching school environments.

There are two degree options in the school psychology program. The Education Specialist degree (*Ed.S.*) option follows the completion of the Master of Science in Education degree (*M.S. Ed.*). After completing the *Ed.S.* degree, students are eligible for full certification by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction and the corresponding agency in most states. Students can become nationally certified (*NCSP*) by the National Association of School Psychologists by passing an exam.

The *Ed.S.* degree is a 36 to 47 credit degree program. After satisfactorily completing the required course work, practica, a yearlong (*nine month*) internship and a Specialist Thesis, students are awarded the degree.

Degree Program Admission

To be admitted with full status, the applicant must hold a master's degree in school psychology or a master's degree in a related field. Applicants must have a graduate grade point average of 3.25 or better to be admitted as full-status students. A limited number of applicants may be admitted on probationary status if their overall graduate grade point average is at least a 3.0.

It is recommended that applicants have a master's degree in school psychology. Applicants with master's degrees in related fields will be required to take the additional graduate course work necessary for certification as a school psychologist.

Applicants must submit the Graduate School Application form (*obtainable from the Graduate Office in Bowman Hall*), the Program Application form (*obtainable from the program director*) and their respective documents, along with a portfolio to the selection committee demonstrating their professional competencies related to the field of school psychology.

Students seeking admission to the program should complete and submit their application materials at least 30 days prior to the opening of the term in which they plan to begin their program. After a committee review of the application materials, candidates will be notified of their status prior to the intended enrollment term.

Primary Evaluation Processes

The primary process used to evaluate student performance is a regular review of the student's course grades, research activities, practicum evaluations, internship evaluations and professional conduct. Program faculty convene once a semester to evaluate each student's progress within the school psychology program. Degree candidacy is awarded to students who are in good standing, have fulfilled all Graduate School requirements for degree candidacy, have fulfilled all school psychology program requirements for degree candidacy and certification, have acquired 30-47 credits of course work in school psychology, have completed a nine-month internship, and have completed a Specialist Thesis. More information regarding the specific requirements is available in the program handbook (*available from the program director*).

Requirements

Requirements for the *Ed.S.* degree include (a) completion of at least 36 semester hours of graduate credit beyond the master's degree with an overall grade point average of 3.25 or better; a minimum of 18 credits must be in courses open only to graduate students – 700 and 800 level; (b) approval for degree candidacy at the appropriate time; and (c) a course distribution which is outlined here.

The following courses are required for full certification as a school psychologist. The first 30 credits, including those courses indicated in bold type below, are applied toward the master's degree. The remaining credits, practica, internship and Specialist Thesis are applied toward the *Ed.S.* degree in school psychology. Students must attain a grade of "B" or better on all credits applied to the *Ed.S.* degree.

Core Professional Training

40 Credits

SPSY-753B	Laboratory – School Psychology	1
SPSY-743	Advanced Individual Mental Testing	3
SPSY-768	Diagnosis and Remediation of Learning Disabilities	2
SPSY-768A	Learning Disabilities Diagnosis and Remediation Laboratory .	1
SPSY-710	Psychoeducational Assessment of Young Children	2
SPSY-745	Assessment of Personality	2
SPSY-778	Psychoeducational Disability	3
SCOUN-760	Theories and Techniques of Behavior Modification	2
COUN-788	Counseling Process Laboratory	3
SPSY-775	School Consultation	2
SPSY-701	Seminar – School Psychology Services	2
SPSY-781	Field Practicum in Psychoeducational Services I	3
SPSY-782	Field Practicum in Psychoeducational Services II	3
SCOUN-705	Play Therapy	2
SCOUN-790	Supervised Secondary Counseling Practicum	3-6
COUN-752	Group Dynamics	2
SPSY-784	Clinical Practicum in Psychoeducational Services I	2
SPSY-785	Clinical Practicum in Psychoeducational Services II	2

Psychological Foundations

15-19 Credits

PSYC-850	Psychology of Development	3
PSYC-730	Advanced Psychology of Learning	2
COUN-675	Counseling Theory	3
SPSY-753	Psychometric Theory and Application	2
EDUC-740	Research Foundations	4
SPSY-735	Problems in School Psychology (<i>Plan B</i>) or	
SPSY-770	Thesis (<i>Plan A</i>)	2-6

Educational Foundations

8 Credits

SPED-630	Inclusion of Students with Exceptional Needs	3
SPSY-777	Legal and Ethical Issues for School Counselors and Psychologists	2
EDUC-536	Multiculturalism	2
EDUC-576	Cross-Cultural Field Experience	1

Education Specialist Degree Requirements

15-18 Credits

SPSY-792	Internship in School Psychology	6
SPSY-870	Specialist Thesis	3-6

Coursework completed during the master's program is indicated in **bold**.