

**College of Arts and Sciences**  
**Master of Educational Psychology and Counseling Program**

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*\*For Additional information please refer to the graduate handbook.*

**Degree Offered:** Master of Arts Degree in Educational Psychology and Counseling

**Mission/Purpose:** The Master of Educational Psychology and Counseling Program's mission is to provide a broad base knowledge of the fields through a shared core and specific concentration in either Educational Psychology or Counseling with a strong research, critical-thinking skills, and an appreciation for diversity included in both concentration areas. The program blends the expertise of the behavioral sciences with academic educational foundations that focus on the processes of human development and cognition and its impact on today's culture, and the role of ethics and diversity training in psychology. The program design equips graduates with a strong foundation to pursue a doctoral degree in Psychology or related fields of study. The program graduates work in a wide range of industries, including academic; research; healthcare organizations; community; and businesses.

**Program Overview:** The Master's [Degree Program](#) in [Educational Psychology and Counseling](#) is a 45-credit hybrid program that will prepare students to develop foundational knowledge in psychological education, theory and research. Local, national, and international students may select this M.A. degree as an opportunity to obtain prerequisite courses to meet eligibility requirements for [application](#) to other psychology programs, including advanced doctoral studies in Applied Behavior Analysis. The programs specialty tracks will also allow a variety of professionals within the fields of education, human services, counseling, and allied health to access coursework both as degree seeking and non-degree seeking students in order to advance their psychological knowledge and use of psychological applications in their respective fields. A unique quality of the curriculum design is its attention to the development of basic interpersonal skills, cultural sensitivity, and additional knowledge and skills that enhance the preparation of students for professional work in increasingly diverse social agencies, school and community settings, in business and industry environments, and in hospitals.

**Admission Requirements:** To be considered for the Master of Science degree program in Educational Psychology and Counseling, applicants must have completed the B.S degree from a department at an accredited institution in any of the following areas:

- o Biology
- o Chemistry
- o Psychology
- o Sociology
- o Social Work
- o Political Science

Prerequisite academic work should provide evidence that the applicant shall be able to pursue the graduate course effectively in addition to having taken: Introduction to Psychology, Experimental Psychology, Personality, Statistics, and Social Psychology.

- ❖ *Note: Students may be admitted conditionally if they have not completed the necessary foundational courses in Psychology.*
- Applicants must also have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better and degree major GPA of 3.0.
- Applicants must have the following GRE score: verbal at least 150; quantitative at least 150.
- Official Transcripts from all colleges/universities attended (International Students must have
- transcripts translated through World Education Services -WES)

Completed Application along with the required amount of application fees

- 3 Letters of Recommendation
- Personal Statement
- Financial Support Statement (International Students –only)—Note: If accepted to the department,
- the department can submit financial support statement if funds are available.
- Test of English as Foreign Language (TOEFL) Scores (International students only).

### **Graduation Requirements:**

*Core Courses:* 18 hours

*Elective Courses:* 15 hours

Internship/Practicum 1-12 credit hours

### **Advisory/Examination Committee:**

During the first semester of his/her study in the Master of Science degree program, the student and his/her Major Professor must recommend to the Head of the Department for approval, the student's Advisory Committee consisting of a minimum of three members including the Major Professor. Two of the members can be from outside of the department as long their research interests align with that of the student.

Successful graduate students will be expected to complete 45 credit hours of rigorous course work, which would encompass three primary areas:

- 1) Core (18 hours)
- 2) Concentration Educational Psychology (15 hours) and Counseling (12 hours)
- 3) Internship/Practicum (1-15 hours)

Because many doctoral programs require students to have research experience, the psychology program offers an internship/practicum. The program will offer a master's thesis option for those students who wish pursue doctoral degrees. In addition, program graduates are offered the opportunity to obtain hands on experience through research internships and practicums with university faculty and state organizations. Students are required to declare a concentration area in either Educational Psychology or Counseling.

**Core Course Required Courses, Concentration Educational Psychology or  
Counseling Courses, and Internship/Practicum  
45 Semester Credit Hours**

| <b>Educational Psychology</b>                                                                                                   | <b>Core</b>                                                     | <b>Counseling</b>                                                                                                |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| PSYC 0560 <i>Microcomputer Application in Psychology and Education</i> (3)                                                      | PSYC 677 Advanced Developmental Psychology (3)                  | <b>PSYC 555 Lifestyle/Career Development: Theory and Practice(3)</b>                                             |
| PSYC 0675 Advanced Educational Psychology (3)                                                                                   | <b>PSYC/COUN 504 Counseling Issues (3)</b>                      | <b>PSYC 551 Group Dynamics (3)</b>                                                                               |
| PSYC 0670 Tests, Measurements, and Evaluation (3)                                                                               | PSYC 671 Mental Tests (3)                                       | <b>PSYC 678 Helping Relationship (3)</b>                                                                         |
| PSYC 0679 Psychology of Guidance (3)                                                                                            | <b>SOCI/HLSC/PSYC 510 Bioethics, Health Care and Policy (3)</b> | <b>PSYC 680 Theories of Counseling and Psychotherapy (3)</b>                                                     |
| PSYC 0688 Comparative Theories of Child Development (3)                                                                         | <b>PSYC 672 Research and Evaluation (3)</b>                     | <b>PSYC 689 Internship/Practicum (1-15)</b>                                                                      |
| PSYC 689 Internship (1-12)                                                                                                      | PSYC 689 Practicum/Internship (3)                               |                                                                                                                  |
| Total Hours for M.A. Degree with Educational Psychology Concentration: 18 Core plus 27 Education Psychology = 45 Semester Hours | Total: 18 Semester Hours                                        | Total Requirements for M.A. Degree with Counseling Concentration: 18 Core plus 27 Counseling = 45 Semester Hours |
| This program satisfies the content criteria for licensure through State Agency                                                  |                                                                 |                                                                                                                  |
| Course in bold must be reconstructed/reassigned                                                                                 |                                                                 |                                                                                                                  |

## **Course Descriptions**

### **Educational Psychology and Counseling Shared Core Courses**

PSYC 677. Advance Developmental Psychology (3 credit hours). An examination of the social, emotional, behavioral, physical and cognitive changes and developmental task that individuals face throughout the life span. Includes current theories and research.

**PSYC/COUN 504. Counseling Issues. An exploration of current issues with theoretical approaches to counseling.**

**PSYC 510. (3 credit hours). Health Disparities, Bioethics, and Policy. This cross-disciplinary course introduces students to issues surrounding racial and ethnic health disparities, highlighting inequalities experienced by African American and other minority populations. Bioethical approaches to social justice provide a unifying framework for examining root causes of disparities. Determinants of health and health disparities will be discussed and critically evaluated. Additionally, the course introduces individual, programmatic, and research strategies for shaping community health, public discussion, and policy. The course also explores career options available to address health disparities.**

PSYC 671 Mental Test. Theory of psychological testing: selection, evaluation, administration, scoring, and interpretation of group test; demonstration of practice interpretation of individual test results. Prerequisite: PSYC 0561 and 670.

PSYC 673 Research and Evaluation (3 credit hours). Provides a broad understanding of types of research with basic statistics, research with report development and implementation; also included are program evaluation, needs assessment, publication of research information, and ethical/legal considerations.

PSYC 689 Internship/Practicum (3 credit hours). The practicum experience provides students the opportunity to apply and integrate knowledge acquired through coursework. In clarifying and broadening career goals, the practicum experience assists students in discovering, developing and refining necessary competencies and skills for their proposed career objectives in the field of Psychology

### **Educational Psychology Requirements**

PSYC 560. Microcomputer Applications in Psychology. An overview with hands on experiences of a microcomputer with special attention given to learning applications. Python

PSYC 675. Advance Educational Psychology. On demand. A critical examination of theories and research findings and their relationship to a variety of learning situations.

PSYC 679 Psychology of Guidance (3 credit hours). Principles of guidance based on relevant principles of child development, psychological foundations of education, psychology of adolescence human growth and development, learning principles, mental hygiene, theories of

personality, social psychology, abnormal behavior, guidance, counseling, and clinical practice. Prerequisite – Graduate classification.

PSYC 670 Test Measurement. Tests, Measurements, and Evaluation (3 credit hour). Theories and principles of test construction. Attention to the use and interpretation of intelligence, achievement, aptitude, and interest test.; includes adjustment and personality test.

PSYC 688. Comparative Theories of Child Development (3 credit hours). Acritical analysis of theories of child development, emphasizing the work of various theorist.

PSYC 689 Internship/Practicum (1-12 credit hours). The practicum experience provides students the opportunity to apply and integrate knowledge acquired through coursework. In clarifying and broadening career goals, the practicum experience assists students in discovering, developing and refining necessary competencies and skills for their proposed career objectives in the field of Psychology.

### **Counseling Requirements**

**PSYC 555 Lifestyle/Career Development: Theory and Practice (3 credit hours).** Provides an understanding of career development, sources and systems for occupational and educational information, counselling for career and leisure, guidance and education, lifestyle and career decision-making. Also covered are career development program planning/resources, as well as effectiveness evaluation. Perquisite: Graduate student status.

**PSYC 551 Group Dynamics (3 credit hours).** Provides an understanding of group development, dynamics, and counselling theories as well as group leadership styles, group counselling methods/skills, and other group approaches. Perquisite: Graduate student status.

**PSYC 678 Helping Relationships (3 credit hours).** Provides a broad understanding of philosophic base of helping processes, counseling theories/applications, basic/advanced helping skill, consultation theories/applications, client and helper self-understanding/self-development and facilitation or client or consultee change. Perquisite: Graduate student status.

**PSYC 680 Theories of Counseling and Psychotherapy (3 credit hours).** This course provides knowledge of and ability you apply various individual and group counseling/psychotherapy theories and techniques/processes, including consultation and referral processes. In addition the course covers self-concept, self-awareness and human relation strategies for different life stages, subcultures and more. Perquisite: Graduate student status.