

Master of Arts in Education: Educational Psychology and Educational Specialist Degree in School Psychology with Embedded Pupil Personnel Services Credential in School Psychology

For more information: (626) 815-5424

Azusa Pacific University's Master of Arts in Education (M.A.Ed.): Educational Psychology and Educational Specialist (Ed.S.) Degree in School Psychology with an embedded Pupil Personnel Services Credential in School Psychology (<https://www.apu.edu/education/programs/school-psychology-specialist-degree>) program equips school psychology candidates with distinctive and marketable skills and competencies. The school psychology program is approved by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) (<https://www.nasponline.org>) and accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), which is transitioning to the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) (<http://www.ncate.org>), and the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) (<https://www.ctc.ca.gov>). The two degrees are completed in three years and comprise 66 graduate semester units, 450 hours of practicum, and 1,200 hours of fieldwork/internship. Upon successful completion of both programs, candidates can apply to become Nationally Certified School Psychologists (NCSP) pending passing of the PRAXIS II Exam (School Psychology) with a score of 147 or greater.

Program Outcomes

This program equips candidates for career advancement opportunities and give them a highly marketable specialty. All coursework is taught by expert faculty who are recognized leaders in the profession with years of clinical and school-based experience. Graduates of APU develop a comprehensive set of competencies to effectively work with students and families of all cultures, SES levels, and learning abilities. In addition, the school psychology program seeks to develop compassionate practitioners who will apply the following skills and competencies in school systems:

- Research and evaluation skills
- Commitment to social justice and advocacy
- Legal and ethical decision making
- Psychoeducational assessment for the purposes of intervention
- Evidenced-based interventions (behavior and academic)
- Nondiscriminatory assessment procedures
- Social-emotional/behavioral assessment and intervention through positive behavior supports
- Knowledge of psychobiology and psychopharmacology
- Academic assessment and intervention (curriculum-based measurement and response to intervention)
- Individual and systemic collaboration (homeschool partnerships)
- Educational and clinically related mental health counseling (individual and group counseling)
- Crisis prevention and intervention (individual and school wide)
- Promotion of safe and nurturing school environments
- Human development and learning

Program Structure

Years 1 and 2 (M.A.Ed.)

Candidates complete a total of 49 units and 450 hours of practicum during the first two years of the program. Upon completion of all coursework, practicum, and the Graduate Research Project (GRP), the candidate is granted the Master of Arts in Education: Educational Psychology and may participate in commencement.

Year 3 (Post-master's Year, Ed.S.)

During the Spring II session of the second year and the post-master's year, candidates complete an additional 17 units of special focus coursework, including 10 units of fieldwork/internship (1,200 hours). Candidates applying for an internship credential may submit their application once a paid internship at a public school in the field of school psychology has been secured. Prior to starting fieldwork/internship, students are required to provide an updated TB clearance.

Upon successful completion of post-master's coursework, fieldwork/internship, and passing of the PRAXIS II (School Psychology), the candidate is granted the Educational Specialist (Ed.S.) degree and may file for the PPS Credential in School Psychology. Once these requirements are fulfilled, the student may apply to become a Nationally Certified School Psychologist (NCSP) through the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP); students are advised to review specific NCSP requirements online (<http://www.nasponline.org>).

Additional Admission Requirements for School Psychology Applicants

1. Submit Graduate Record Exam (GRE) scores. The GRE must have been taken within 12 months of the date of application for admission. All three scores, with an emphasis on the writing score, are used as one consideration for approving an application. Although a minimum score is not required, the GRE is one element in the application process. Admission is competitive and not all students who meet the minimum requirements will be admitted. Information on the administration of this test is available online (<http://www.ets.com>) and in the Department of School Counseling and School Psychology (<http://www.apu.edu/education/counselingpsych>).
2. After all above materials have been submitted to the Office of Graduate and Professional Admissions (<http://www.apu.edu/graduateprofessionalcenter/admissions>), the school psychology program reviews the file and notifies the applicant to schedule an admission interview with the department. The prospective candidate should come prepared to be interviewed by program faculty. The purpose of the interview is to meet the candidate, discuss career goals, evaluate match of the program to the student, and make an initial assessment of the applicant's potential for success as a school psychologist.
3. All candidates who are admitted to the program are required to submit a copy of their California Certificate of Clearance (COC) or another form of clearance, such as a valid and current credential for teaching or counseling and/or nursing. The law requires Azusa Pacific University to keep these records on file while candidates are in attendance at APU.

Course Requirements

- M.A.Ed. in Educational Psychology and Ed.S. in School Psychology (p. 2)
- M.A.Ed. in Educational Psychology and Ed.S. in School Psychology with Optional Applied Behavior Analysis Specialization (p. 4)
- M.A.Ed. in Educational Psychology and Ed.S. in School Psychology with Optional Clinical and Educationally Related Mental Health Counseling Specialization (p. 5)

M.A.Ed. in Educational Psychology and Ed.S. in School Psychology

This program totals 66 units.

Scope and Sequence

Students take courses in the following sequence (students are required to seek academic advisement prior to initial registration).

| Code | Title | Units |
|---|--|-------|
| Year 1 | | |
| Coursework for Master of Arts in Education: Educational Psychology | | |
| Term 1 | | |
| EDCO 533 | Counseling Theories and Techniques ¹ | 3 |
| EDCO 557 | Human Growth, Development, and Learning ¹ | 3 |
| EDPY 624 | Disabilities in Children (Mild, Moderate, and Severe) ¹ | 2 |
| EDCO 593 | Historical Development of School Counseling and School Psychology ¹ | 3 |
| Term 2 | | |
| EDCO 545 | Positive Behavior Supports and Classroom Intervention ¹ | 3 |
| EDCO 572 | Psychobiology and Psychopharmacology | 3 |

| | | |
|--|--|----|
| EDPY 556 | Academic Assessment and Intervention ¹ | 2 |
| EDCO 592 | Foundations and Ethics in Research ¹ | 3 |
| Term 3 | | |
| EDCO 535 | Professionalism, Ethics, and Law ¹ | 3 |
| EDCO 528 | Community, Family, and School Collaboration ¹ | 3 |
| Students will have located a practicum site. | | |
| Year 2 | | |
| Term 1 | | |
| EDPY 681 | Psychoeducational Assessment I ¹ | 3 |
| EDPY 690 | Advanced Individual Research ¹ | 3 |
| EDPY 682 | Psychoeducational Assessment II ¹ | 3 |
| EDPY 636 | Research and Evaluation in School Psychology ¹ | 3 |
| EDPY 635A | Role and Function of a School Psychologist: Positive Behavior Supports ¹ | 1 |
| Term 2 | | |
| EDPY 683 | Psychoeducational Assessment III ¹ | 3 |
| EDPY 637 | Child Psychopathology Assessment and Treatment ¹ | 3 |
| EDCO 550 | Crisis/Trauma Response and Interventions ^{1, 2} | 3 |
| EDPY 633 | Multicultural and Bilingual Assessment and Intervention ² | 3 |
| EDPY 635B | Role and Function of a School Psychologist: Individual/Group Counseling ¹ | 1 |
| Term 3 | | |
| EDPY 635C | Role and Function of a School Psychologist: Assessment ¹ | 1 |
| Total Units | | 55 |

¹ Prerequisites must be completed prior to internship/fieldwork.

² Part of the Ed.S. degree.

Students will complete the following in order to earn the Master of Arts in Education: Educational Psychology (M.A.Ed.):

- Designated M.A.Ed. coursework (49 units)
- Graduate Research Project
- 450 hours of practicum

Students may participate in commencement.

| Code | Title | Units |
|---|--|-------|
| Year 3 | | |
| Coursework for Educational Specialist Degree | | |
| Semester 4 | | |
| EDPY 697 | Readings in School Psychology | 1 |
| Select one of the following: | | 5 |
| EDPY 655 | School Psychology Internship 1 (600 hours) | |
| EDPY 656 | School Psychology Internship 2 (600 hours) | |
| Semester 5 | | |
| Select one of the following: | | 5 |
| EDPY 695 | School Psychology Fieldwork 1 (600 hours) | |
| EDPY 696 | School Psychology Fieldwork 2 (600 hours) | |
| Total Units | | 11 |

Students will complete the following in order to earn the Educational Specialist (Ed.S.) with an embedded Pupil Personnel Services Credential in School Psychology:

- Designated Ed.S. coursework (17 units)
- 1,200 hours of fieldwork/internship hours (primary and secondary settings)
- Passing the PRAXIS II (School Psychology) with a 147 or higher

M.A.Ed. in Educational Psychology and Ed.S. in School Psychology with Optional Applied Behavior Analysis Specialization

This program totals 89 units.

Scope and Sequence

Students take courses in the following sequence (students are required to seek academic advisement prior to initial registration).

| Code | Title | Units |
|---|--|-------|
| Year 1 | | |
| Coursework for Master of Arts in Education: Educational Psychology | | |
| Semester 1 | | |
| EDCO 533 | Counseling Theories and Techniques ¹ | 3 |
| EDCO 557 | Human Growth, Development, and Learning ¹ | 3 |
| EDPY 624 | Disabilities in Children (Mild, Moderate, and Severe) ¹ | 2 |
| EDCO 593 | Historical Development of School Counseling and School Psychology ¹ | 3 |
| Semester 2 | | |
| EDCO 545 | Positive Behavior Supports and Classroom Intervention ¹ | 3 |
| EDCO 572 | Psychobiology and Psychopharmacology | 3 |
| EDPY 556 | Academic Assessment and Intervention ¹ | 2 |
| EDCO 592 | Foundations and Ethics in Research ¹ | 3 |
| Semester 3 | | |
| EDCO 535 | Professionalism, Ethics, and Law ¹ | 3 |
| EDCO 528 | Community, Family, and School Collaboration ¹ | 3 |
| Students will have located a practicum site. | | |
| Year 2 | | |
| Semester 1 | | |
| EDPY 681 | Psychoeducational Assessment I ¹ | 3 |
| EDPY 690 | Advanced Individual Research ¹ | 3 |
| EDPY 682 | Psychoeducational Assessment II ¹ | 3 |
| EDPY 636 | Research and Evaluation in School Psychology ¹ | 3 |
| EDPY 635A | Role and Function of a School Psychologist: Positive Behavior Supports ¹ | 1 |
| Semester 2 | | |
| EDPY 683 | Psychoeducational Assessment III ¹ | 3 |
| EDPY 637 | Child Psychopathology Assessment and Treatment ¹ | 3 |
| EDCO 550 | Crisis/Trauma Response and Interventions ^{1, 2} | 3 |
| EDPY 633 | Multicultural and Bilingual Assessment and Intervention ² | 3 |
| EDPY 635B | Role and Function of a School Psychologist: Individual/Group Counseling ¹ | 1 |
| Semester 3 | | |
| EDPY 635C | Role and Function of a School Psychologist: Assessment ¹ | 1 |
| Total Units | | 55 |

¹ Prerequisites must be completed prior to internship/fieldwork.

² Part of the Ed.S. degree.

Students will complete the following in order to earn the Master of Arts in Education: Educational Psychology (M.A.Ed.):

- Designated M.A.Ed. coursework (49 units)
- Graduate Research Project
- 450 hours of practicum

Students may participate in commencement.

| Code | Title | Units |
|---|--|-----------|
| Year 3 | | |
| Coursework for Educational Specialist Degree | | |
| Semester 4 | | |
| EDPY 697 | Readings in School Psychology | 1 |
| Select one of the following: | | 5 |
| EDPY 655 | School Psychology Internship 1 (600 hours) | |
| EDPY 656 | School Psychology Internship 2 (600 hours) | |
| Semester 5 | | |
| Select one of the following: | | 5 |
| EDPY 695 | School Psychology Fieldwork 1 (600 hours) | |
| EDPY 696 | School Psychology Fieldwork 2 (600 hours) | |
| Total Units | | 11 |

Students will complete the following in order to earn the Educational Specialist (Ed.S.) with an embedded Pupil Personnel Services Credential in School Psychology:

- Designated Ed.S. coursework (17 units)
- 1,200 hours of fieldwork/internship hours (primary and secondary settings)
- Passing the PRAXIS II (School Psychology) with a 147 or higher

| Code | Title | Units |
|----------------------------------|--|-----------|
| Applied Behavior Analysis | | |
| ABA 503 | Behavior Analysis in Applied Settings I | 3 |
| ABA 504 | Single-Case Designs: Measurement and Experimental Evaluation of Behavior | 3 |
| ABA 505 | Behavior Analysis in Applied Settings II | 3 |
| ABA 515 | Behavior Change Procedures in Applied Settings I | 3 |
| ABA 500 | ABA Fieldwork I | 1 |
| ABA 524 | Ethics in Applied Behavior Analysis | 3 |
| ABA 534 | Behavior Change Procedures in Applied Settings II | 3 |
| ABA 514 | Functional Behavior Assessment in Applied Settings | 3 |
| ABA 510 | ABA Fieldwork II | 1 |
| Total Units | | 23 |

M.A.Ed. in Educational Psychology and Ed.S. in School Psychology with Optional Clinical and Educationally Related Mental Health Counseling Specialization

This program totals 81 units.

Scope and Sequence

Students take courses in the following sequence (students are required to seek academic advisement prior to initial registration).

| Code | Title | Units |
|---|--|-------|
| Year 1 | | |
| Coursework for Master of Arts in Education: Educational Psychology | | |
| Semester 1 | | |
| EDCO 533 | Counseling Theories and Techniques ¹ | 3 |
| EDCO 557 | Human Growth, Development, and Learning ¹ | 3 |
| EDPY 624 | Disabilities in Children (Mild, Moderate, and Severe) ¹ | 2 |
| EDCO 593 | Historical Development of School Counseling and School Psychology ¹ | 3 |
| Semester 2 | | |
| EDCO 545 | Positive Behavior Supports and Classroom Intervention ¹ | 3 |
| EDCO 572 | Psychobiology and Psychopharmacology | 3 |
| EDPY 556 | Academic Assessment and Intervention ¹ | 2 |
| EDCO 592 | Foundations and Ethics in Research ¹ | 3 |

Semester 3

| | | |
|----------|--|---|
| EDCO 535 | Professionalism, Ethics, and Law ¹ | 3 |
| EDCO 528 | Community, Family, and School Collaboration ¹ | 3 |

Students will have located a practicum site.

Year 2

Semester 1

| | | |
|-----------|---|---|
| EDPY 681 | Psychoeducational Assessment I ¹ | 3 |
| EDPY 690 | Advanced Individual Research ¹ | 3 |
| EDPY 682 | Psychoeducational Assessment II ¹ | 3 |
| EDPY 636 | Research and Evaluation in School Psychology ¹ | 3 |
| EDPY 635A | Role and Function of a School Psychologist: Positive Behavior Supports ¹ | 1 |

Semester 2

| | | |
|-----------|--|---|
| EDPY 683 | Psychoeducational Assessment III ¹ | 3 |
| EDPY 637 | Child Psychopathology Assessment and Treatment ¹ | 3 |
| EDCO 550 | Crisis/Trauma Response and Interventions ^{1,2} | 3 |
| EDPY 633 | Multicultural and Bilingual Assessment and Intervention ² | 3 |
| EDPY 635B | Role and Function of a School Psychologist: Individual/Group Counseling ¹ | 1 |

Semester 3

| | | |
|-----------|---|---|
| EDPY 635C | Role and Function of a School Psychologist: Assessment ¹ | 1 |
|-----------|---|---|

Total Units 55

¹ Prerequisites must be completed prior to internship/fieldwork.

² Part of the Ed.S. degree.

Students will complete the following in order to earn the Master of Arts in Education: Educational Psychology (M.A.Ed.):

- Designated M.A.Ed. coursework (49 units)
- Graduate Research Project
- 450 hours of practicum

Students may participate in commencement.

| Code | Title | Units |
|---|--|-------|
| Year 3 | | |
| Coursework for Educational Specialist Degree | | |
| Semester 4 | | |
| EDPY 697 | Readings in School Psychology | 1 |
| Select one of the following: | | 5 |
| EDPY 655 | School Psychology Internship 1 (600 hours) | |
| EDPY 656 | School Psychology Internship 2 (600 hours) | |
| Semester 5 | | |
| Select one of the following: | | 5 |
| EDPY 695 | School Psychology Fieldwork 1 (600 hours) | |
| EDPY 696 | School Psychology Fieldwork 2 (600 hours) | |
| Total Units | | 11 |

Students will complete the following in order to earn the Educational Specialist (Ed.S.) with an embedded Pupil Personnel Services Credential in School Psychology:

- Designated Ed.S. coursework (17 units)
- 1,200 hours of fieldwork/internship hours (primary and secondary setting)
- Passing the PRAXIS II (School Psychology) with a 147 or higher

| Code | Title | Units |
|--|-------------------------|-------|
| Clinical and Educationally Related Mental Health Counseling | | |
| EDCO 555 | Group Counseling Skills | 15 |

| | |
|----------|--|
| EDCO 571 | Introduction to Clinical Practice: Basic Skills |
| EDCO 573 | Additions, Assessment, and Interventions |
| EDCO 574 | Introduction to Clinical Practice: Advanced Skills |
| EDCO 575 | Clinical Practica |

Students may participate in commencement.

Additional Requirements

1. Students must earn a passing score of 147 on the PRAXIS II exam to demonstrate their competence in school psychology prior to completion of the program. Upon passing the PRAXIS II with a score of 147, the student is eligible to apply to become a Nationally Certified School Psychologist (NCSP).
2. Students prepare a Graduate Research Project (GRP) which includes a formal research paper or program evaluation and must be approved by APU's Institutional Review Board (IRB). The GRP content will be related to a topic that the student chooses to study in depth and will have relevance to the field of school psychology. The research portion of the project will be completed through the following courses: EDCO 592, EDPY 690, and EDPY 636. In addition to the GRP, students are required to present their research findings and paper to a faculty and peer panel.
3. Students will complete a performance-based portfolio during Practicum and Internship/Fieldwork that will be evaluated by program faculty and field experience mentors for evidence of skills competency.

Advisory Notes

- Students intending to pursue two Master of Arts in Education degrees should review the university requirements for additional master's degrees as stated in the Academic Policies and Procedures (<http://catalog.apu.edu/graduateprofessional/academic-policies-procedures>) section of the catalog.
- Students cannot pursue the Master of Arts in Education: Educational Counseling (<https://www.apu.edu/education/programs/masters-in-school-counseling>) as a second master's degree after completing the requirements for the Master of Arts in Education: Educational Psychology and Educational Specialist in School Psychology.
- The practicum experience at APU consists of 450 hours (required by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing). A minimum of 300 hours must be completed in a pre-K-12 public school setting. Up to 150 hours may be completed through on-campus agencies (e.g., child study centers, psychology clinic) or community-based agencies (e.g., private schools, community-based mental health clinics). These hours are to be completed prior to beginning fieldwork/internship. The required hours are to be completed under the direct supervision of a credentialed school psychologist with no fewer than two years of experience.
- For LPCC Licensure EDCO 549 must also be taken.
- At some sites, students may need to delay enrollment until there is a sufficient number of beginning students to provide the appropriate adult learning opportunities. Applicants can obtain detailed information about dates for beginning coursework by requesting an advisement appointment at the Azusa campus or any of the regional campuses.
- Students in an educational counseling or educational psychology program may request to waive a course (see Waivers (<http://catalog.apu.edu/graduateprofessional/academic-policies-procedures/waivers>)) provided that the student can document completion of an equivalent course at another institution in the five-year period prior to requesting the waiver. Department approval of the request is required. If the course accepted for waiver also meets all the university standards for transfer credit (see Transfer Credit (<http://catalog.apu.edu/graduateprofessional/academic-policies-procedures/transfer-credit>)), up to 20 percent of the total program units may be transferred to meet requirements. If the course accepted for waiver does not meet the university standards for transfer credit (i.e., not applicable to a master's degree at the university where it was taken, not taken from a regionally accredited institution, etc.), then the student must choose alternative elective courses to satisfy the unit requirements of the degree program.
- A student has a maximum of five years to complete all coursework, including waivers and transfer of units, beginning the first date of enrollment for coursework in the degree program.
- Students approaching program completion must obtain a credential application from the credential analyst office in the School of Education. Students must complete all credential requirements to apply for the credential.
- Students approaching graduation must obtain an Intent to Commence and/or Graduate Form (<http://www.apu.edu/graduateprofessionalcenter/registrar/forms>) from the Graduate and Professional Registrar at least 90 days before intended graduation. The registrar will determine whether the student has met all requirements.