

School Psychology Program

Mission and Curriculum

Student Handbook

The School Psychology Student Handbook contains detailed information concerning all aspects of the ASU school psychology program.

Program Mission

The School Psychology Program at Arizona State University adheres to a scientist-practitioner model in preparing students for careers as psychologists in schools, other educationally related settings, and universities. Students learn that good practice entails a problem-solving process that is grounded in the knowledge base derived from empirical research. During their doctoral training, they are familiarized with several theoretical and conceptual perspectives that foster understanding, prediction, and modification of behavior in applied settings. Students are exposed to various perspectives for conceptualizing human functioning including ecological, biological, cognitive, social learning, behavioral, and preventative/public health models.

During the course of their graduate careers students learn to critically evaluate research and develop basic proficiency in designing and conducting empirical studies. They develop competence in employing a wide range of assessment, intervention, consultation, and evaluation methods with children, adolescents, and their families. Students' coursework and research is integrated with off-campus field experiences during the program's final three (pre-internship) years. The curriculum promotes ethical and culturally sensitive provision of services and each student also receives supervised, scaffolded experiences that enable culturally and ethically competent service delivery.

We believe that the strong basis in scientific principles and research findings afforded by the program's early years followed by increasingly complex field experiences later in the program is an appropriate method for developing school psychologists whose practice is informed by science. Upon completion of the program, students are well-equipped to assume leadership positions in a variety of settings, including universities, school districts, agencies that provide educational and psychological services to children, hospitals, and mental health and research centers.

Program Coursework

The School Psychology Program at ASU is a full-time program conducted during the typical workday week. It is not an isolated collection of courses, credits, or clinical experiences. Rather, it is an organized and integrated training program designed to prepare professional school psychologists. In addition to a broad base of psychological knowledge and specialized preparation in school psychology, the School Psychology Program includes coursework and study in learning and instruction, ethics and law, human development, measurement, research design, and statistics. School psychology coursework is integrated with laboratory and fieldwork components and may be complemented by coursework in other programs or departments (e.g., clinical psychology, counseling psychology, special education, etc.). Students are also provided with opportunities to become involved in research projects prior to developing a dissertation proposal.

It is assumed that students enter the School Psychology Program with adequate academic preparation to undertake graduate studies. In particular, entering students are expected to have completed undergraduate coursework, including basic descriptive and inferential statistics, before enrolling in the program. Students who do not demonstrate sufficient entry knowledge will be advised and required to complete a vestibule course in the specific area that requires more in-depth knowledge. A summary of program coursework is provided below.

Research Core

| Course | Title | Hours |
|---------|---|-------|
| EDP 552 | Multiple Regression and Correlation Methods | 3 |
| EDP 554 | Analysis-of-Variance Methods | 3 |
| EDP 652 | Multivariate Statistics | 3 |
| EDP 550 | Measurement in Education | 3 |
| EDP 598 | ST: Applied Research in School Psychology | 3 |
| EDP 599 | M.A. Thesis | 6 |
| EDP 799 | Dissertation | 12 |

School Psychology Professional Core

| Course | Title | Hours |
|---------|--|-------|
| EDP 535 | Applied Behavior Analysis | 3 |
| EDP 560 | Individual Intellectual Assessment | 3 |
| EDP 561 | Assessment Lab | 3 |
| EDP 562 | School Psychology: Ethics, Theory, and Practice | 3 |
| EDP 564 | Academic Interventions | 3 |
| EDP 567 | School Psychological Services to Minority Students | 3 |
| EDP 598 | Pro-seminar in School Psychology | 1 |
| CPY 613 | Child Counseling | 3 |
| EDP 563 | Interventions in School Psychology | 3 |
| EDP 566 | Diagnosis of Learning Difficulties | 3 |
| EDP 568 | Diagnosis and Interventions for EH | 3 |
| EDP 783 | Fieldwork I | 3 |
| EDP 783 | Fieldwork II | 3 |
| EDP 783 | Fieldwork III | 3 |
| EDP 783 | Fieldwork IV | 3 |
| EDP 784 | Internship | 6 |

Psychological and Educational Foundations & Electives

| Title | Hours |
|--|-------|
| Special Education (SPE 515 Methods in Remediation of Learning Problems of Exceptional Children) | 3 |
| Social Bases of Human Behavior (CPY 691 Social Basis of Behavior is offered even years; PSY 550,551 Advanced Social Psychology) | 3 |
| Biological bases of behavior (EDP 536 Physiology of Behavioral Disorders) | 3 |
| Childhood Psychopathology (EDP 691 Child and Adolescent Psychopathology; PSY 578 Developmental Psychopathology) | 3 |
| Cognitive-Affective Bases of Behavior (EDP 540 Theoretical Views of Learning) | 3 |
| Developmental Bases of Behavior (EDP 530 Theoretical Issues and Research in Human Development; EDP 598 Lifespan Human Development) | 3 |
| History and Systems of Psychology (CPY 679) | 3 |
| General electives (can include Fieldwork) | 10 |

Program Fieldwork

Fieldwork is in public school settings and/or other agencies or institutions in the Phoenix metropolitan area. At present, students in the School Psychology Program complete a minimum of four semesters of formal fieldwork for 12 credit hours and at least 500 fieldwork hours. Additionally, several classes require field-based projects or experiences that are integrated into course requirements. Additional specialty fieldwork courses are elective, including preschool fieldwork, advanced fieldwork, and summer fieldwork. Fieldwork is arranged by members of the School Psychology faculty and local practitioners provide on-site supervision.

Program Internship

The school psychology internship is a planned and structured experience designed to facilitate the development of a professional identity as a school psychologist. It is the culminating experience of the student's clinical training and must, therefore, include the full range of school psychology services. At least 600 hours of the internship must be in a school setting. The intern is exposed to a full range of activities in which school psychologists participate to gain an appreciation of the diverse responsibilities associated with the profession.

Representative Practicum and Internship Sites

| Setting | Location |
|---|------------------|
| Baker Neuropsychology Associates | Phoenix, AZ |
| Cartwright Elementary School District | Phoenix, AZ |
| Chandler Unified School District | Chandler, AZ |
| Developmental Pediatrics | Scottsdale, AZ |
| Gilbert Public Schools | Gilbert, AZ |
| Glendale Elementary School District | Glendale, AZ |
| Houston Independent School District | Houston, TX |
| Illinois Internship Consortium | Springfield, IL |
| Kyrene School District | Tempe, AZ |
| Lanier County School District | Lakeland, GA |
| Maricopa County Department of Counseling and Psychological Services | Phoenix, AZ |
| Mesa Public Schools | Mesa, AZ |
| Milwaukee Public Schools | Milwaukee, WI |
| Nebraska Internship Consortium | Omaha, NE |
| Paradise Valley Unified School District | Phoenix, AZ |
| Phoenix Children's Hospital | Phoenix, AZ |
| Phoenix Union High School District | Phoenix, AZ |
| Portland Public Schools | Portland, OR |
| Scottsdale Unified School District | Scottsdale, AZ |
| Southwest Autism Research and Resource Center | Phoenix, AZ |
| Tempe Elementary School District | Tempe, AZ |
| Tempe High School District | Tempe, AZ |
| Washington Elementary School District | Phoenix, AZ |
| Horry County Schools | Myrtle Beach, SC |