

Psy.D. in School Psychology

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Program Requirements

The Psy.D. in School Psychology program provides advanced training in school psychology. Psy.D. students take courses in assessment, interventions (including counseling), and consultation as well as supervision. The Psy.D. program of study prepares graduates to utilize data-based problem-solving methods to enhance outcomes for children and adolescents.

The Psy.D. in School Psychology program requires a minimum of 60 credit hours of coursework beyond a Master's degree. The Psy.D program includes two different sets of course requirements. Those students who are admitted to the Psy.D. program already holding the Nationally Certified School Psychologist (NCSP) credential are required to complete at least 60 credit hours. Those students admitted to the Psy.D. with a bachelor's degree are required to complete at least 117 credit hours. Those students admitted to the Psy.D. who hold a prior graduate degree in a field other than school psychology and who do not hold the NCSP will be required to complete the full 117 credit hour Psy.D. program except for any courses allowed to be transferred in (see policy) and any courses waived by program faculty.

The culminating experience of the Psy.D. in School Psychology program is a 1,500-hour pre-doctoral internship in a school or community setting (at least 750 hours must occur in a public school). Students are eligible for internship only after they have completed all pre-requisite courses and obtained the approval of the program faculty. The internship must be completed under the supervision of a licensed psychologist. The internship must take place over a period of no more than two calendar years with a minimum of 20 hours per week at a given site. During the course of internship, students demonstrate competencies in assessment, intervention, and consultation.

Only two (2) School Psychology courses (up to six credits) may be taken prior to admission. Those prospective applicants who wish to take a course prior to applying or being admitted to the program may want to start with one of the following: SPY 671, SPY 674, SPY 676, HRD 668, or SED 540.

Admission

Admission to the USM Psy.D. in School Psychology Program is competitive with about fifty percent of applicants having been admitted in recent years. Applications for admission are considered only once a year and the School Psychology program admission deadline is December 30th. Late applications are not accepted.

For prospective students interested in the M.S. in School Psychology please refer to the M.S. program sheet for admission information and program of study, or contact the Office of Graduate Admissions in Gorham.

For an admission application, contact:

Office of Graduate Admissions in Gorham
(207) 780-5306
(800) 800-4USM
TTY: (207) 780-5646
www.usm.maine.edu/grad/applicationmats

Monthly information sessions about the School Psychology program are held the second Tuesday of each month from September through December and February through May.

Sessions are from 2-4 pm in Bailey Hall on the Gorham campus. To pre-register for a session, contact:

Rose Mahoney
(207) 780-5220
(800) 800-4USM
TTY: (207) 780-5646
www.usm.maine.edu/cehd/prospective_students/

Special Admission Requirements

In addition to meeting the minimum admission requirements of the College of Education and Human Development, to be eligible for admission to the Psy.D. program, an applicant must meet the following requirements:

1. Hold a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution, and;
2. Have earned a cumulative grade point average of 2.75 or higher (on a 4.0 scale) in a baccalaureate degree program; or have earned a cumulative grade point average of 3.25 or higher (on a 4.0 scale) in a master's/graduate degree program, and;
3. Have earned a score of 1000 points or above on the combined verbal and quantitative scores on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE), or, for those with certification as a Nationally Certified School Psychologist (NCSP), submit a copy of a current and valid Nationally Certified School Psychologist (NCSP) Certificate and have earned a score of 900 points or above on the combined verbal and quantitative scores on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE);
4. Two personal essays (see application form);
5. Documentation of professional experiences form (see application form).

The Psy.D. admissions process requires a formal interview. Candidates to be interviewed will be selected on the basis of the above information

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Psy.D. Course Requirements for those with Nationally Certified School Psychologist (NCSP)

Course Requirements (60-72 credits)

Psychological Foundations (6 credits)

SPY 673 Social Foundations of Behavior
SPY 709 History, Systems, and Ethics of Psychology
(Other competencies met through completion of NASP approved M.S. program or equivalent)

Educational Foundations (6 credits)

HRD 630 Facilitating Adult Learning
One course chosen from 600 level or higher in the College of Education and Human Development (Other competencies met through completion of NASP approved M.S. program or equivalent)

Assessment

(All competencies met through completion of NASP approved M.S. program or equivalent)

Interventions (15 credits)

HCE 620 Fundamentals of Counseling Theories
HCE 644 Crisis Intervention
SPY 727 Advanced Academic Intervention Methods
SPY 728 Advanced Interventions for Individuals with Behavioral Disabilities
SPY 729 Advanced Interventions for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities

Research (15 credits)

EDU 697 Statistics I
EDU 698 Statistics II
SPY 751 Advanced Research Seminar
SPY 759 Psy.D. Research Project (6 credits)

Professional School Psychology (15 credits)

EDU 671 Organizational Behavior
HCE 681 Clinical Supervision
SPY 788 Pre-Doctoral Internship in School Psychology (9 cr)

Electives (3-15 credits)

Students completing the counseling concentration need to complete the following courses:

HCE 621 Fundamentals of Counseling Skills
HCE 622 Counseling Children and Adolescents
HCE 627 Group Counseling
HCE 690 Individual Counseling Practicum (6 cr)

Students not completing the counseling concentration need to complete a minimum of 3 hours of coursework selected from 600-level or higher courses in the College of Education and Human Development.
Course Requirements (117-129 credits)

Psy.D. Course Requirements for those with Bachelor's Degree

Psychological Foundations (18 credits)

HRD 668 Human Development
SPY 671 Physical Bases of Behavior

SPY 673 Social Foundations of Behavior
SPY 674 Child and Adolescent Psychopathology
SPY 676 Behavioral Principles of Learning
SPY 709 History, Systems, and Ethics of Psychology

Educational Foundations (12 credits)

HRD 630 Facilitating Adult Learning
SED 540 Nature and Needs of Learners Who Are Exceptional
SED 682 Special Education Law
One course chosen from 600 level or higher in the College of Education and Human Development

Assessment (18 credits)

HCE 605 Psychological Measurement and Evaluation
SED 653/SPY 672 Assessment of Academic Achievement
SPY 675 Indirect Behavioral Assessment
SPY 677 Cognitive Assessment
SPY 678 Functional Behavioral Assessment
SPY 679 Seminar in Psychological Assessment

Interventions (24 credits)

HCE 620 Fundamentals of Counseling Theories
HCE 626 Group Process and Procedures
HCE 644 Crisis Intervention
SPY 603 Consultation in School Psychology
SPY 684 Advanced Applied Behavior Analysis
SPY 727 Advanced Academic Intervention Methods
SPY 728 Advanced Interventions for Individuals with Behavioral Disabilities
SPY 729 Advanced Interventions for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities

Research (21 credits)

EDU 600 Research Methods and Techniques
EDU 697 Statistics I
EDU 698 Statistics II
SPY 659 Clinical Research Methods
SPY 751 Advanced Research Seminar
SPY 759 Psy.D. Research Project (6 cr)

Professional School Psychology (21 credits)

EDU 671 Organizational Behavior
HCE 681 Clinical Supervision
SPY 609 Orientation to School Psychology
SPY 694 Practicum in School Psychology
SPY 788 Pre-Doctoral Internship in School Psychology (9 cr)

Electives (3-15 credits)

Students completing the counseling concentration need to complete the following courses:

HCE 621 Fundamentals of Counseling Skills
HCE 622 Counseling Children and Adolescents
HCE 627 Group Counseling
HCE 690 Individual Counseling Practicum (6 cr)

Students not completing the counseling concentration need to complete a minimum of 3 hours of coursework selected from 600-level or higher courses in the College of Education and Human Development.

www.usm.maine.edu/cehd/school-psychology