

Program:	Psychology	Dept:	Psychology
Major:	Psychology - School Psychology	College:	Education and Professional Studies
Degree:	Master of Arts (M.A.)	Major Code:	3712

Psychology - School Psychology, M.A.

The School Psychology master's degree at UCO is a NASP accredited program leading to state and national certification as a specialist-level school psychologist. There are two options. The M.A. in School Psychology option leads to a master's degree and culminates in a post-graduate six credit hour [1,200 clock hour] internship and awarding of the College of Education Advanced Studies in School Psychology certificate and eligibility to sit for the national exam leading to credentialing as an NCSP. The Advanced Studies option is available to those currently holding an earned graduate degree in a related field who wish to pursue state and/or national certification in school psychology. Both M.A. in School Psychology and Advanced Studies candidates complete the same 60 credit hour program and the culminating 6 credit hour internship. Advanced Studies candidates may apply to have courses from their previous graduate degree substitute for coursework in the 60 credit hour school psychology program if the course meets the equivalency and recency requirements set by the UCO school psychology board. Courses submitted for equivalency must be accompanied by a catalog description and a syllabus from the institution where the course was taken.

The School Psychology Program at the University of Central Oklahoma is designed to prepare school psychologists who work at the specialist level with children, youth, and families to prevent and solve individual, school and family-related problems. At UCO, school psychology is viewed as a specialty within the area of psychology. Our philosophy is that all children and youth have a right to maximize their personal potential, gain social competencies, and accomplish meaningful goals. We believe that prevention is the best intervention; however, when problems arise, we believe that problem solving must occur in the full light of cultural, ethnic, and family diversity with particular attention given the culture of the school in which the problem exists.

The program emphasizes utilizing the full range of psychological services in schools and school-related mental health settings. The school psychologist's role is viewed as one that includes the prevention, assessment, and remediation of child and adolescent learning and behavior problems through direct and indirect services. Training is broad and provided in the context of research and highest ethical standards and adheres to the conceptual framework of the College of Education. (Program objectives are based on the NASP domains National Association of School Psychologists standards for training and practice.) School Psychology is accredited by NASP.

Program Objectives

1. Use several models and methods of assessment in order to identify individual and group strengths and needs and use these models and methods as part of a systematic data collection system for evidence-based decision making.
2. Collaborate effectively with others in planning and making decisions at the individual, group, and system levels using consultation and collaboration models best suited to the situation at hand.
3. Work collaboratively with others in developing appropriate cognitive and academic goals for students with different abilities, disabilities, strengths, and needs and evaluate the effectiveness of selected interventions.
4. Use knowledge of human developmental processes to collaboratively assess and design services that will enhance the behavioral, affective, adaptive, and social skill development of students of varying abilities, disabilities, strengths, and needs as well as implement and evaluate those services.
5. Demonstrate the sensitivity and skills needed to work within various school cultures and with individuals of diverse characteristics and implement strategies selected and/or adapted based on individual characteristics, strengths, and needs.
6. Integrate knowledge of schools, regular, and special education services as well as other service delivery systems to facilitate policies and practices that create and maintain safe, supportive, and effective learning environments for children and others.
7. Use knowledge of human development, psychopathology, and associated biological, cultural, and social influences on human behavior to provide or contribute to prevention and intervention programs that promote the mental health and physical well-being of all students.
8. Work effectively with families, educators, and others in the community to promote and provide comprehensive services to children and families by using knowledge of family systems and service delivery methods that combine home, school, and community resources.
9. Evaluate research across all the fields that impact school psychology and translate good research into practice, and be able to plan and conduct investigations and program evaluations needed to improve services.
10. Represent the profession of school psychology by understanding the history and foundations of the profession; knowing various service models and methods, continually upgrading professional knowledge, and maintaining a posture of practice that maintains the highest ethical, professional, and legal standards.

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Program: Psychology
Major: Psychology - School Psychology continued

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Admission Requirements

Submit the following items to:

Jackson College of Graduate Studies
 100 N. University Drive, NUC 404
 Edmond, OK 73034

- Online application for admission (www.uco.edu/graduate/).
- **Application deadlines: January 15 for fall admission.**
- Official copies of undergraduate and graduate transcripts from each institution attended with all degrees posted. All transcripts must be from accredited institutions. Undergraduate transcripts must show: *
 - A minimum 3.00 GPA overall or 3.00 GPA in the last 60 hours attempted.
 - Completion of 21 undergraduate hours as follows: PSY 1103, PSY 2753, PSY 3713, PSY 3833, PSY 3903, PSY 4753, and PSY 4763
- Students with a native language other than English must submit evidence of English language proficiency. See [Admission to Graduate Studies - English Language Proficiency \(p.15\)](#).
- A GRE score of at least 290 on the combined verbal reasoning and quantitative sections (900 combined on the previous scale) and a minimum of 3.5 on the analytical writing section.
- Three (3) letters of recommendation (individually sealed in separate envelopes with recommender’s signature on back flap).
- A completed School Psychology application.

**Students falling below these standards may qualify for conditional admission. See [Admissions to Graduate Studies \(p.13\)](#).*

Other Requirements

- Plan of Study. Upon acceptance into the program, each student must meet with an advisor in the school psychology program and complete a plan of study. Each student must then file it with the Psychology Department and subsequently with the Jackson College of Graduate Studies (JCGS). The plan must be signed and dated by the student and the graduate program advisor before it can be considered official. <http://www.uco.edu/ceps/dept/Professional-Studies-Programs/psy/psychology-ma.asp>
- Academic Standards. Meet the following course work standards.
 - Overall GPA of 3.00 or higher.
 - No more than six hours of “C”.
 - No more than six advisor-approved hours from traditional correspondence courses.
- Final Requirements. Apply for graduation through the JCGS by advertised deadline.

- Prior to internship, the student must take and pass either the Oklahoma school psychology exam or the National (NCSP) school psychology exam.
- A 6 credit hour Post-Graduate Internship PSY 5952-4 (variable credit) is required for program completion. Degree completion is a step toward program completion. Program completion is defined as earning the degree plus successfully passing state or national tests and successfully completing the post-degree 1 yr. (1200 clock hour internship). You must enroll in internship hours to receive credit. 1200 clock hours = 6 credit hours (3 per semester of the internship year).
- For school psychology students completing the coursework requirements for national credentialing as a Board Certified Behavior Analyst, 1500 clock hours of supervision are required prior to eligibility to sit for the national BCBA exam. State Licensure requires course completion, passing the national exam, and completing the State of Oklahoma application for licensure (through the Department of Human Services).

Graduation Requirements

Required Courses.....56 Hours

Course Prefix	Course No.	Course Title
PSY	5143	Advanced Developmental Psychology
PSY	5193	Experimental Design
PSY	5233	Psychopathology
PSY	5563	Advanced Social Psychology
PSY	5633	Cognitive Psychology
PSY	5783	Behavioral Neuroscience
PSY	5473	Individual Counseling
PSY	5523	Child and Adolescent Counseling
PSY	5253	Personality Pathology & Assessment
PSY	5722	Intro to School Psych Services
PSY	5813	Diagnostic Testing Techniques
PSY	5823	ABA I: Foundations in Behavior Analysis
PSY	5833	ABA II: Appl'd Tech in Applied Behav Analysis
PSY	5853	ABA III: Topics in Applied Behavior Analysis
PSY	5863	ABA IV: Single Subject Design
PSY	5883	School Base Psychology - Ed. Intervention
PSY	5893	Consultation in School Psychology
PSY	5900	Prac: Multi-Tier Pre/Intervent. Sys - 2 cr hrs
PSY	5900	Practicum in Clinical Base Svc. - 2 cr hrs
PSY	5900	Practicum in School Psych Svcx - 2 cr hrs

TOTAL HOURS REQUIRED 56 HOURS