Psychology, EdS, PhD, MEd

Specialization(s): School Counseling (MEd); School Psychology (EdS); Combined Clinical-Counseling-School Psychology (PhD); Experimental and Applied Psychological Science (PhD)
Department: Psychology Department
College: Emma Eccles Jones College of Education & Human Services

Overview

About This Degree

The Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services, which houses the Psychology Department, ranks in the top 2% of all graduate colleges of education. The college was also ranked third in the nation in total research dollars received, according to "America's Best Graduate Schools" *U.S. News & World Report*.

Psychology Department faculty actively collaborate with students on a variety of research projects, including parenting interventions for Latino families, interventions for individuals with anxiety disorders, cognition in young children, animal modeling of drug abuse, impulsivity, etc. Students are active in presenting at national conferences, authoring journal articles and book chapters, and submitting for grant funding.

Distance Education

The MS in psychology with a specialization in school counseling is available through USU's Regional Campuses.

Career Options

School Counseling Specialization

- Students who graduate with the school counseling specialization work as counselors in K-12 public and private schools.

School Psychology Specialization

- Students who graduate with the school psychology specialization work as psychologists in K-12 schools.

Combined Professional-Scientific Psychology Specialization

- With the combined professional-scientific psychology specialization, students can work as psychologists in the following capacities: hospitals, academia, university counseling centers, private practice, community mental health centers

Experimental and Applied Psychological Science

- Students who graduate with the experimental and applied psychological science specialization work at universities in faculty or research positions.

What it takes

Admissions Requirements

For most students, some psychology prerequisites will need to be completed before beginning the graduate program. However, these do not need to be taken before students can be accepted to the program.

Application Requirements:

- Complete the online application
- Pay the $55 application fee
- Score at or above the 40th percentile on the GRE. For MS students in the school counseling specialization, the MAT is also accepted.
- Have a 3.0 or higher GPA on your last 60 semester or 90 quarter credits

- Provide transcripts of all college/university credits
- Provide three contacts for letters of recommendation
- Submit a statement of professional intent/interest

International students have additional admissions requirements.

Admissions Deadlines

School Counseling specialization:

- Fall semester – May 1

School Psychology specialization:

- Fall semester – February 1

Combined Clinical-Counseling-School Psychology specialization:

- Fall semester – December 15

Experimental and Applied Psychology Science specialization:

- Fall semester – January 31

Master's Degree Plan Options

Students receiving the **EdS** must complete this plan option:

- **Plan A**, which requires students to complete graduate-level coursework and write a thesis.
- **Plan B**, which requires students to write a professional report.

Students entering the PhD programs directly from their undergraduate degrees must complete the Plan A master's degree work as well as the PhD dissertation.

Financial Assistance

A variety of funding opportunities are available, including fellowships, scholarships, assistantships, tuition awards, and travel support each year. Additionally, students may be eligible for subsidized health insurance through qualifying assistantships.

Program Requirements

Click here to see course requirements for the **Educational Specialist**.

Click here to see course requirements for the **Doctor of Philosophy**.

Click here to see course requirements for the **Master of Education**.

Each specialization requires hands-on experiences in addition to coursework.

School Counseling specialization

- 1 semester (150 hours) of Practicum
- 1-2 semesters (600 hours) of internship

School Psychology specialization

- 1 year (300 hours) of practicum
- 1 year full-time (1200 hour) internship

Combined Professional-Scientific Psychology specialization

- 3 years of practicum (300 hours each); 1 year in Psychology Community Clinic, 1 year in school/child setting; 1 year in adult setting
- 1 year full-time (2000 hour) internship
- Professional Competencies: Research Competency 1 (conference presentation; Research Competency 2 (publishable article); Clinical Comprehensive exam (written and oral)

Experimental and Applied Psychology Science specialization

- Professional Competencies: Research Competency 1 (conference presentation), Research Competency 2 (publishable article), Grant Proposal

The Psychology Department has contacts with many organizations throughout Cache Valley and surrounding areas in which students can complete practicum and internship work.

PhD Qualifying Exams:

Students in either PhD program must pass a clinical comprehensive exam, which consists of a written portion and an oral presentation. Students must also complete two research competencies: the first, a paper or poster presentation at a regional or national meeting; and the second, the authorship and submission of a publishable scholarly article. The exam and competencies must be completed by October 1 of the fall that students apply for internship.

Students in the experimental and applied psychological science specialization have additional requirements:

- Students entering with a BS or BA must pass a comprehensive exam before beginning their forth academic year. Students entering with an MS or MA must complete the exam before their second academic year. The exam will be designed by faculty within the student's emphasis area.
- Students must also complete the following professional milestones before their final dissertation defense: present a paper at a conference, author at least one publishable scholarly article, and complete and submit a grant proposal appropriate to their area of research.

Contact

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Get Involved

Professional Organizations, Honor Societies, and Clubs

American Psychological Association: The APA is a scientific and professional organization that represents psychology in the United States. With 150,000 members, APA is the largest association of psychologists worldwide.

Labs, Centers, Research

American Indian Support Project: This project was launched in 1986 as an effort to impact the shortage of Native American mental health professionals and school psychologists. The Psychology Department at USU remains committed to training American Indian graduate students at the master's and doctoral levels.

Center for Clinical Studies: This center has one overarching objective: to assist in advancing the field of clinical psychology in developing effective and acceptable psychological interventions.

Center for Persons with Disabilities: The CPD is a nationally recognized research center that joins the expertise of researchers and faculty with community partners to address the most difficult challenges facing persons with disabilities and their families. Research addresses issues that cross fields ranging from biomedicine to education. In clinical experiences, learners join teams of professionals, family members, and individuals with disabilities to deliver services and supports.

Laboratory Animal Research Center: The LARC is a controlled laboratory that utilizes animals in teaching and

research. The proper care of animals is of utmost importance as it relates to the effectiveness of research and the safety of the animals and researchers.

Multisensory Cognition Laboratory: This lab uses both habituation and choice paradigms to investigate the development of numerical cognition across the human lifespan. The lab is particularly interested in whether multisensory information enhances our abilities to discriminate between and perform computations on numbers.

Office of Methodological and Data Sciences: The primary goal of the OMDS is to provide high-quality, faculty-supervised research desgin and quantitative analysis services to graduate students. It also provides essential methodological consulting experiences to graduate students in the Department of Psychology.

Psychology Community Clinic: This clinic serves as the primary mental health service and training site for graduate students studying clinical, counseling, and school psychology. It provides mental health services to a broad range of clients in the area, as well as students and staff at USU. Services are provided by graduate students working at a level approparite to their training under the supervision of licensed psychologists.