Master of Arts in Educational Psychology

Purpose of Program
The M.A. degree in Educational Psychology aims to prepare culturally competent scientist-practitioners and researchers to effectively contribute to the psychological development and well-being of children and adolescents. The degree offers four areas of concentration from which students can choose based on their professional goals and interests, each of which prepares students for career-specific applications of the degree. The coursework provides students with a strong foundation in Educational Psychology theory and principles as well as the skills to apply this learning to relevant contexts (e.g., educational settings, clinic settings, community settings, industrial/organizational settings, home settings). Students who wish to complete an intensive research project have the option of completing a Master’s Thesis for 6 semester credit hours.

Program Options
General Educational Psychology concentration: (36 hours) This concentration is designed for students who want to expand their knowledge and skills in areas such as teaching, learning, development, evaluation, research methods, and motivation. This concentration offers the greatest amount of flexibility in terms of elective courses that best match the student’s interests, and can be used in preparation for doctoral study in a range of academic fields.

Behavior Assessment and Intervention concentration: (36 hours) This concentration builds on the department’s Certificate in Applied Behavior Analysis and prepares graduates for eligibility to become Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBA®) through approved coursework and practicum opportunities. BCBA® professionals conduct systematic functional behavioral assessments, which allow them to design and supervise intervention plans according to the specific needs of their clients.

Program Evaluation concentration: (36 hours) This concentration focuses on evaluation, measurement, research design, and statistical methods. In addition to coursework in these areas, all students complete a practicum experience in a setting relevant to their career interests. Individuals with expertise in program evaluation and related skills are often employed in educational, government, public health, organizational, and business settings.

Applied Educational Psychology concentration: (36 hours) This concentration includes coursework in psychological assessment, mental health, and advanced practicum experiences. The focus is on providing coursework that students can apply towards the Licensed Psychological Associate (LPA) credential, which is governed by the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists.

Career Opportunities
Each program concentration prepares students for unique career opportunities, including employment in a variety of settings (e.g., public school, preschool, private school, clinic, hospital) as a master’s-level certified behavior analyst; developing and evaluating programs for schools, non-profits, health facilities, businesses, and government agencies; and providing psychological services in community settings.
Admission Requirements
The number of students admitted to this program may be limited, and admission may be competitive. Admission to the program is based on the following criteria:

- Official transcripts indicating a Bachelor’s degree preferably in a related field such as Psychology or Education.
- Grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) in the last 60 semester credit hours of coursework for the baccalaureate degree, as well as in all graduate-level coursework taken (if applicable).
- GRE Test Scores (including the Verbal Reasoning, Quantitative Reasoning, and Analytical Writing test). GRE scores cannot be more than 5 years old.
- Applicants whose native language is not English must submit an official score on either the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or the International English Language Testing System (IELTS). Minimum scores include a score of at least 550 on the TOEFL paper version, at least 79 on the TOEFL Internet version, or at least 6.5 on the IELTS.
- Two letters of recommendation from professional references. These letters should specifically address the applicant’s academic and/or professional skills, and potential to succeed in a rigorous graduate program.
- A Statement of Purpose (approximately 500 words) which outlines the applicant’s (1) reasons for pursuing the M.A. degree in Educational Psychology, (2) area of concentration they are most interested in, (3) experiences relevant to the concentration they are most interested in, and (4) career plans.

How to Apply
Apply through the UTSA Graduate School

Send all USPS mail (transcripts, etc.) to:
The University of Texas at San Antonio
Attn: The Graduate School
One UTSA Circle
San Antonio, TX 78249

Contact Information
College of Education and Human Development

Graduate School

Financial Aid and Scholarships
To apply, complete the Free Application for Federal Student Assistance (FAFSA)

Graduate assistantship positions available within the college (average of 19 hours per week)

Additional graduate student scholarship information: