I found that in many ways the faculty, staff and my peers have become like a second family. Faculty are always willing to provide extra support when needed and make themselves available to their students.

- Javier Briones

PURPOSE OF PROGRAM
The MA-SPSY program is designed to provide the academic and practical training necessary to become a Licensed Specialist in School Psychology by the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists. Graduates also will be eligible to apply for certification as a Nationally Certified School Psychologist, which is a nationally-recognized professional certification granted by the National Association of School Psychologists.

The program includes advanced coursework and field-based experiences related to psychological assessment, counseling, consultation, learning, development, child psychopathology, research, statistics and professional issues. Students also complete a full-time internship in a school setting.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES
School Psychology has been identified by the U.S. Department of Labor as a specialization that is likely to have faster than average employment growth. In addition, Texas has been identified as a state that will encounter one of the most serious shortages of School Psychologists in the near future. Thus, the job prospects for School Psychologist are very favorable. Minority and bilingual school psychologists are especially needed given the increasing diversity of public schools. The average salary for students completing this degree is $50,000-$57,000.

PROGRAM OPTIONS
The MA/SPSY program is a 66-hour program, and typically requires three to four years to complete. Students should be aware that coursework will include field-based experiences beginning in their second semester and a full-time internship experience in their last year of study. Placements occur in educational, clinical, health care facilities, hospital, and/or medical settings which require a criminal background check. Due to the clinical nature of this program and number of hours required, the degree does not have a Thesis option.

- Students who attend full-time (12 semester credit hours in fall/spring; 6 semester credit hours in summer) can expect to complete the program in 3 years, on average.
- Students who attend part-time (9 semester credit hours in fall; 6 semester credit hours in spring; 3 semester credit hours in summer) can expect to complete the program in 4 years, on average.
ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS
• Applicants must provide official transcripts indicating a Bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited college or university in the United States, preferably in a related field such as Psychology or Education, or show proof of equivalent training at a foreign institution
• A Grade Point Average (GPA) of at least a 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) in the last 60 semester credit hours of coursework for the baccalaureate degree, as well all graduate-level coursework taken (if applicable)
• Applicants must submit GRE Test Scores (including the Verbal Reasoning, Quantitative Reasoning and Analytical Writing test). A minimum of a 3.5 is required on the Analytical Writing portion. GRE scores cannot be more than five years old
• Complete requirements, forms and directions are available on the UTSA Graduate Catalog

* Students who do not meet the minimum admission requirements should contact the program’s Student Development Specialist and consult the Graduate School Catalog for more information, special, or conditional admissions

HOW TO APPLY
Apply through the UTSA Graduate School:
> graduateschool.utsa.edu

Send electronic transcripts to:
• graduate.documents@utsa.edu

FINANCIAL AID & SCHOLARSHIPS
To apply, complete the Free Application for Federal Student Assistance (FAFSA):
> studentaid.gov/h/applying-for-aid/apply-for-fafsa

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

Additional graduate student scholarship information:
> graduateschool.utsa.edu/tuition-funding/
> future.utsa.edu/scholarships/
> education.utsa.edu/current_students/scholarships

Cost of Tuition:
> https://www.utsa.edu/financialaffairs/services/fiscal-services/tuition-fees/what-my-tuition-and-fees.html