Doctor of Philosophy in School Psychology

Ph.D. in School Psychology

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The program leads to the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree. The curriculum prepares the student to function professionally as a school psychologist and to develop the skills of a psychoeducational consultant. The program emphasizes current issues and trends in school psychology. The doctoral program adheres to a scientist-practitioner model of training that extends the student’s professional skills and theoretical understanding of school psychology issues. This approach helps the student to acquire competence in research and in the teaching of psychology. Completion of the program typically requires 4 years of full-time study followed by a year of internship.

The doctoral program is accredited by the American Psychological Association, the National Association of School Psychologists, the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education, and the Kansas State Department of Education. If you have questions about our program’s APA accreditation status, please contact:

American Psychological Association (http://www.apa.org/ed/accreditation)
750 1st Street, NE
Washington, DC 20002-4242
Phone: (202) 336-5979
Fax: (202) 336-5978
Email: apaaccred@apa.org

Graduate Admission to the School of Education

Graduate programs in education are open to students with acceptable baccalaureate degrees, as specified by the admitting departments, whose academic records indicate that they can do successful work at the graduate level. Regular admission requires a grade-point average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale; provisional admission requires a grade-point average of at least 2.5. Individual departments may require additional information and may have more stringent admission and retention requirements.

Special provisional admission categories are available to students who may not qualify under traditional admission criteria but can provide evidence of ability to work successfully at the graduate level, including experience in and commitment to the profession. Exceptions to established policies must be sought individually by petition to the Graduate Division of the School of Education.

See Admission in the Graduate Studies (http://catalog.ku.edu/archives/2014-15/graduate-studies) section of the online catalog for more information.

Ordinarily, complete application materials should be received by July 1 for fall admission, December 1 for spring semester, and May 1 for summer session. Prospective graduate students should contact their departments for admission deadlines.

Graduate Admission

Prerequisites for Regular Admission

Prerequisites include the following:

- Undergraduate grade-point average of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale
- Graduate grade-point average of 3.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale
- Graduate Record Examination general test scores
- Completed bachelor’s or master’s degree in counseling, psychology, or a related area. (An applicant who does not have an undergraduate degree in education or psychology should have a minimum of 14 undergraduate credit hours in the behavioral sciences.)

At the first enrollment, a doctoral student reviews any previous graduate work with an advisor to identify any course work in which the student is deficient. Students holding master’s degrees in other areas should recognize that such course work may require up to a year to complete and, in some instances, must be taken before the actual doctoral course requirements.

See individual programs for specific admission requirements and deadlines.

Submit your graduate application online (http://www.graduate.ku.edu) . Send 1 copy of all original transcripts to the department:

The University of Kansas
Department of Psychology and Research in Education
Joseph R. Pearson Hall
1122 W. Campus Road, Room 621
Lawrence, KS 66045-3101

Admission

The admission deadline is December 15 to begin course work in the following summer or fall.

Required Admission Materials

1. Graduate application (http://www.graduate.ku.edu) and application fee. See Admission in the Graduate Studies (http://catalog.ku.edu/archives/2014-15/graduate-studies) section of the online catalog.
2. 1 copy of official transcripts of all previous college work, sent directly to the Psychology and Research in Education Department (http://pre.soe.ku.edu) .
3. GRE (general test) scores: Institution code, R6871; Department code, 3406.
4. Letter of intent.
5. Résumé.
6. 3 letters of recommendation from people who can assess the applicant’s prospects for completing the program.

The doctoral program adheres to a scientist-practitioner model of training. Doctoral study extends the student’s applied, research, and teaching skills. Research skills are described under Doctor of Philosophy with a Major in Education. Completion of the program typically requires 4 years of full-time study followed by a full year of internship.
**Research Skills and Responsible Scholarship**

The student must complete course work and demonstrate computer analysis of research data. In addition, each doctoral student must submit a manuscript and have it accepted for presentation at a convention of a scholarly association or submit a manuscript for publication in a professional journal. Before proceeding to the comprehensive examination, doctoral students also must complete the requirement for responsible scholarship training. The responsible scholarship requirement is fulfilled by completing PRE 760 Ethics, Law and Professional Issues in School Psychology, PRE 880 Ethical and Legal Issues in Professional Psychology and the Research Skills requirement (see below).

**Comprehensive Examination**

After completing course work, a student must pass a written comprehensive examination that consists of three research products. Content is the three research products based on the curricular requirements of the school psychology program. After satisfactory completion of the written examination, the student must pass a comprehensive oral examination. The program defines the nature of these examinations.

**Internship**

The internship usually is finished in one year after completion of most course work, although it may extend over two years. It is a year of supervision in which the student extends skills and continues professional development while working professionally in an approved setting. The internship gives students an opportunity to integrate theory and practice as they field-test skills and concepts. Content, structure, and supervision requirements follow guidelines of the American Psychological Association and the Council of Directors of School Psychology Programs. Information on internship sites is available in the department office.

**Dissertation**

Upon passing the written and oral portions of the comprehensive examination, the candidate, in consultation with the adviser, assembles a dissertation committee. For information on post-comprehensive enrollment and general information about doctoral programs, see the pertinent sections of the online catalog.

**Doctoral Program Requirements**

**Professional School Psychology (SPSY) Area**

1. Psychodiagnostic Assessment, Consultation and Intervention, and Professional Practice  
   (all required unless indicated) 45 hrs
   - PRE 760 Ethics, Law, and Professional Issues in School Psychology
   - PRE 770 Developmental Psychopathology: Diagnosis, Intervention, and Prevention
   - PRE 798 Special Course: Applied Behavior Analysis and Evidence-Based Interventions in School Psychology
   - PRE 798 Special Course: Consultation Systems and Program Evaluation
   - PRE 805 Individual Intelligence Testing
   - PRE 835 Clinical Techniques in Academic Assessment and Intervention
   - PRE 855 Psychoeducational Clinic I: Assessment, Consultation, and Intervention
   - PRE 860 Assessment of Behavior Problems and Personality
   - PRE 865 Psychoeducational Clinic II: Assessment, Consultation, and Intervention
   - PRE 880 Ethics and Law in School Psychology
   - PRE 910 Practicum in School Psychology
   - PRE 911 Advanced Practicum in School Psychology
   - PRE 965 Foundations of Psychoeducational Consultation
   - PRE 975 Therapeutic Intervention: Home and School
   - PRE 995 Field Experience in __________________________
   - PRE 992 Ph.D. Internship (10 hrs)
   - PRE 993 Ph.D. Internship (10 hrs)
   - PRE 960 Assessment of Infants, Toddlers, and Young Children (elective)
   - PRE 885 Projective Assessment—not a SPSY course— (elective)
   - PRE 807 Theories and Research in Human Learning and Development (must take one learning course and one development course) 6 hrs
   - PRE 705 Human Development Through the Life Span
   - PRE 710 Theory and Application of Educational Measurement (all four courses required) 10 hrs
   - PRE 711 Lab for Introduction to Statistical Analysis
   - PRE 715 Understanding Research in Education
   - PRE 921 Theory and Application of Educational Measurement
   - SPED 725 Introduction to the Psychology and Education of Children and Youth with Disabilities

2. Learning and Development (must take the course listed below) 3 hrs
   - PSYC 961 Biological Foundations of Psychopathology

3. Statistics, Psychoeducational Measurement, and Research Design (all four courses required) 10 hrs
   - *PRE 710 Introduction to Statistical Analysis
   - *PRE 711 Lab for Introduction to Statistical Analysis

4. Special Education (must take the course listed below) 3 hrs
   - SPED 725 Introduction to the Psychology and Education of Children and Youth with Disabilities

**Psychological Foundations (all students must take coursework in the five psychological core areas)**

1. Biological Bases of Behavior (one course required) 3 hrs
   - PSYC 961 Biological Foundations of Psychopathology

2. Cognitive-Affective Bases of Behavior (met through professional SPSY area and Learning Development area) -----
3. Social Bases of Behavior (met through professional SPSY area plus one of the following) 3 hrs
   PSYC 774 Advanced Social Psychology I or
   PSYC 775 Advanced Social Psychology II or
   PSYC 777 Social Psychology: Theory, Research and Clinical Applications

4. Individual Bases of Behavior (met through professional SPSY area) -------

5. History and Systems of Psychology (met through the professional SPSY area 3 hrs
   plus one of the following courses)
   PRE 882 History and Systems of Psychology or
   PSYC 805 History of Psychology

Research Skills (students must take PRE 901 (4 semesters), PRE 947, PRE 810, PRE 811, 27 hrs
and PRE 902 plus 6 hours in measurement, statistics, evaluation, or research design)
   PRE 810 Regression Analysis
   PRE 811 Analysis of Variance
   PRE 901 Research Practicum
   PRE 902 Research Methodology in Education
   PRE 947 Specialist Research
   PRE 803 Computer Applications of Statistical Analyses (elective)
   PRE 812 Meta-analysis (elective)
   PRE 816 Evaluating School Programs (elective)
   PRE 822 Educational Scales, Questionnaires, and Sampling (elective)
   PRE 905 Multivariate Analyses (elective)
   PRE 906 Structural Equation Modeling I (elective)
   PRE 908 Structural Equation Modeling II (elective)
   PRE 921 Theory and Applications of Educational Measurement (elective)
   PRE 922 Item Response Theory (elective)
   PRE 926 Hierarchical Linear Modeling (elective)
   PSYC 887 Factor Analysis (elective)
   ABSC 735 Within Subjects Research and Methodology and Direct Observation (elective)

Appreciation/Sensitivity to Ethnic and Cultural Diversity (must take one of the following) 3 hrs
   PRE 875 Understanding Individual and Cultural Diversity in Professional Psychology or
   ELPS 830 Foundations in Multicultural Education

Supervised College Teaching (all students must take the following course) 2 hrs
   PRE 996 College Teaching Experience in ____________.

Ph.D. Internship (all students must complete a full-year internship) 10 hrs
   PRE 992 Ph.D. Internship in School Psychology

Additional Requirements (all students must complete the following)

Comprehensive exams - written and oral comprehensive exams

Dissertation 18 hrs

Total 133 hrs

* PRE 710 and PRE 711 may be waived when the student has taken an undergraduate statistics course and successfully passes a qualifying test.

** PRE 725 may be taken in place of PRE 921 if PRE 921 is not available.