

# Applied Behavior Analysis, M.A.

## DEPARTMENT

PREB in Pre-Psychology  
MN in Psychology, Minor  
BA in Psychology, B.A.  
MA in Psychology, M.A.  
EDS in Psychology, Ed.S.  
MA in Applied Behavior Analysis, M.A.

## REQUIREMENTS

Department

### Master of Arts Degree in Applied Behavior Analysis - Requirements

The Master of Arts degree in Applied Behavior Analysis is a two-year, full-time graduate program that meets the degree, coursework, and experience requirements needed in preparation for national certification as a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA). Students are required to take 44 units of coursework, including 3 thesis units and 4 practicum units. Students are also able to acquire the required number of supervised experience hours over the two years of the program. Students must apply for admission to the M.A. in Applied Behavior Analysis during the graduate application process.

This degree program, particularly the practicum, emphasizes behavior analytic applications with typically developing and developmentally disabled children and adults.

### Course Requirements for the M.A. in Applied Behavior Analysis

PSYCH 221 (4 units)  
PSYCH 223 (4 units)  
PSYCH 231 (3 units)  
PSYCH 244A (4 units)  
PSYCH 245 (4 units)  
PSYCH 268 (Practicum) (4 units)  
PSYCH 271 (3 units)  
PSYCH 288 (4 units)  
PSYCH 289 (4 units)  
PSYCH 299 (Thesis) (3 units)  
Electives (7 units)

Elective courses must be approved by the ABA program coordinator.

**Total (44 units)**

### Graduate Programs

The Master of Arts in Psychology, Master of Arts in Applied Behavior Analysis, and Educational Specialist degrees in Psychology are designed to provide students with a broad background in psychology while allowing them opportunities to pursue areas of special interest. Completion of the requirements for all master's degrees prepares students for positions in community mental health service agencies, school settings, community college teaching, research, or entry into Ph.D. or Psy.D. programs in Psychology.

Admission to Master of Arts in Psychology, Master of Arts in Applied Behavior Analysis, and Educational Specialist degrees is based upon the satisfactory completion of prerequisite courses selected from the core courses required for the California State University, Fresno undergraduate major in psychology, or their equivalent. Potential graduate students should submit transcripts of all academic work and three letters of recommendation. In addition, students must submit scores from the GRE general test to be considered for admission. School Psychology program applicants must submit scores from the CBEST as well and complete other prerequisites as outlined in the department's application. All students must submit applications to both the Division of Graduate Admissions and the Department of Psychology.

Admission to the graduate program in psychology is based on the evaluation of a student's capacity to successfully complete master's level work. The graduate committee uses multiple criteria to assess an applicant's qualifications including coursework completed, grades, test scores, essays, and letters of recommendation. In addition, an applicant's professional interests and goals are evaluated in terms of the interests of the faculty and the resources of the Department of Psychology. Separate evaluations of applicants are made for the M.A. general/experimental program, the M.A. in Applied Behavior Analysis program, and the Ed.S. School Psychology program. Although many applicants meet our minimum admission requirements, we are limited in the number of positions available and many qualified applicants cannot be offered admission.

Admission to classified graduate standing requires a minimum undergraduate grade point average of 3.0, as well as a minimum grade point average of 3.0 in undergraduate psychology courses. A combined score of at the 50th percentile or higher on the Verbal and Quantitative sections of the GRE General Test is preferred. Applicants lacking minimum scores in one area with compensating strengths in other areas may apply. The Department of Psychology does not typically admit unclassified students into the graduate program.

In order to apply for advancement to candidacy, students in psychology graduate programs must earn grades of A or B in PSYCH 244 and pass the Psychology Department Graduate Writing Requirement and the Psychology Department Statistical Proficiency Exam.

In order to apply for advancement to candidacy, students in psychology graduate programs must earn grades of A or B in PSYCH 244A and PSYCH 244B and pass the Psychology Department Graduate Writing Requirement.

The graduate writing requirement can be fulfilled in PSYCH 244A. Further information can be found in the course syllabus and graduate handbook.

Under the direction of a graduate advisor, a coherent program is prepared and submitted, directed toward the achievement of the student's goal in graduate study.

## **FACULTY**

All full-time faculty members in the department have a Ph.D. in psychology or a closely related field. Their areas of expertise represent the breadth of contemporary scientific psychology. In addition to being dedicated teachers, most faculty members also conduct and publish original research. Many are also licensed or certified as practitioners of clinical psychology, school psychology, or applied behavior analysis.

For faculty phone numbers and e-mail, see the campus directory.

For more on the faculty, see the faculty pages.

The faculty pages are updated by the department or program.