

Why School Psychology?

School psychology is challenging and rewarding! The profession requires knowledge of empirical research in psychology and education, precise assessment techniques, critical analysis of data and problem behaviors, clear oral and written communication, and excellent interpersonal skills. School psychologists work with teachers, parents and administrators to create appropriate learning environments for all students. They serve children with special education needs from birth to age 22. School psychologists also provide prevention, intervention, and mental health services for students in general education. Roles of school psychologists include:

- **Consultation:** Working with parents and teachers to develop academic and behavioral alternatives and interventions
- **Assessment:** Evaluating academic skills, learning aptitude, emotional development, and social skills
- **Intervention:** Implementing individual and class-wide interventions, conducting groups and providing individual counseling
- **Prevention:** Developing and facilitating programs such as parent training, conflict management, and bully prevention
- **In-Service:** Developing training on classroom management, crisis response, early academic interventions, etc.
- **Research:** Evaluating academic programs, behavioral interventions, and curricula. Working with schools and systems to provide leadership for change.



Why Choose the Fresno State School Psychology Program?



- The program is accredited by the state through California Teacher Credential (CTC). Upon completion of the program, students obtain an Educational Specialist (Ed.S) degree in Psychology and are eligible for the California Pupil Personnel Services (PPS) Credential with Advanced Specialization in School Psychology.
- The Fresno State School Psychology Program was one of the first in the state to receive full approval by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP), an acknowledgement of cutting edge curriculum and low student:faculty ratios.
- Four semesters of practica are arranged at primary and secondary levels, in diverse rural and urban settings. Students implement in the schools what they are learning in classes; our students are well prepared for internship and a career in school psychology. To date we have 100% employment!
- Faculty provide cutting-edge curricula on Best Practices, mentoring of fieldwork with an emphasis on cultural competence, and strong connections to the professional community at local, state, national, and international levels.
- The Department of Psychology is housed within the College of Science and Mathematics. California State University, Fresno has an annual enrollment of approximately 24,000 students. The U.S. Department of Education designates our university as both a Hispanic-Serving Institution and an Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution.

Program Faculty

Marilyn S. Wilson, Ph.D., NCSP



Dr. Wilson joined the Fresno State faculty in 1992. Dr. Wilson received her B.S., M.S., Ed.S., and Ph.D. degrees from Iowa State University. She has 40 years of experience in education, including over 25 years as a school psychologist. She serves as coordinator of the Fresno State School Psychology Program. Dr. Wilson's areas of interest are changing roles of school psychologists and early intervention.

Hong Ni, Ph.D., NCSP



Dr. Ni joined the faculty in 2009. Dr. Ni received her B.A and M.A. in sociology in China. She earned her Ed.S. in school psychology, and Ph.D. in educational psychology from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Dr. Ni practiced as a school psychologist in Iowa. Her primary areas of interest are cultural studies in education settings, international school psychology, school-based mental health, and system changes for school psychological services.

Carlos O. Calderón, Ph.D., NCSP



Dr. Calderón joined the faculty in 2014. He received his Ph.D. degree from Arizona State University. Dr. Calderón practiced as a bilingual school psychologist in Arizona. He received the Outstanding Postdoctoral Award from the Arizona Psychological Foundation in 2013. His areas of expertise include assessment and research methodology with culturally and linguistically diverse populations, cognitive and academic assessment, social psychology in education, and school-based prevention. Dr. Calderón received the Trainer of School Psychologists Junior Faculty award in 2016.

Program Description

- Our school psychology program is a three-year, full-time program requiring a minimum 69 semester hours.
- Years 1 & 2:
 - Average 15 units per semester
 - 8 to 12 hours of practicum / week for a total of 600 hours
- Year 3: full-time (1200 hours) academic year internship
- Students are awarded the Ed.S. degree and are eligible for the PPS credential in School Psychology and the NCSP (national certification) upon graduation.

CURRICULUM

- Intervention Strand
 - Applied behavior analysis, consultation, behavior interventions, prevention programs, instructional consultation
- Mental Health
 - Counseling courses, social skills training, psychopathology, psychopharmacology
- Assessment Strand
 - Cognitive and adaptive, achievement and CBA, social, emotional, and behavioral, FBA
- Multicultural skills and knowledge are woven throughout the courses and field work, plus one specific multi-cultural course

Graduates of the school psychology program at California State University, Fresno have enjoyed a 100% employment placement rate. Demand for school psychologists continues to be strong. U.S. New & World Report ranks school psychology as #1 Social Services job.

Application Information

Applications are due February 1st to begin the next fall. General Graduate Record Examination (GRE) and California Basic Educational Skills Test (C-BEST) scores must be submitted, along with three letters of recommendation and an official transcript of previous undergraduate and graduate work. A minimum GPA of 3.0 is required. A separate application is required for the university. Applications are available through [Cal State Apply](#). Prerequisite courses should be completed prior to starting the program; interested potential applicants should meet with an advisor early in their university program. Information on recommended courses and experiences are available on the Psychology Department website.

For More Information

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Department of Psychology

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CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY,
FRESNO

School Psychology



DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY
GRADUATE PROGRAM