School Psychology

Founded in 1969, the school psychology program at Texas State University has a rich history in the training and preparation of school psychologists.

Located in the College of Education, the program is housed in the department of Counseling, Leadership, Adult Education and School Psychology and includes faculty from Curriculum and Instruction, Psychology, as well as faculty experienced in school psychology. Texas State’s program, which is approved by the National Association of School Psychologists, is sensitive to cultural diversity and promotes respect for the individuality and worth of all people.

The program offers a specialist in school psychology degree that prepares students to become skilled clinicians and problem solvers. School psychologists collaborate with educators, parents and other professionals to create safe, healthy and supportive learning environments for all students. This strengthens connections between home and school and promotes high academic achievement, positive behavior, healthy relationships, tolerance and respect for others, competence, self-esteem and resiliency.
Course Work
The full-time program is a 69-hour specialist in school psychology degree that includes 600 hours of practicum experience and 1,200 hours in a professional internship. Students must pass the National School Psychology Examination to be awarded certification and licensure. Graduates are eligible for the Nationally Certified School Psychologist credential and the Licensed Specialist in School Psychology license from the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists. Students also gain valuable supervised clinical experience in our campus-based clinics.

Course Content
• Ethics, Standards and Procedures in Professional School Psychology
• Psychoeducational Assessment
• Social, Emotional and Behavioral Assessment
• Individual and Group Counseling Techniques for School Psychologists
• Multicultural School Psychology
• Psychology of Learning
• Data-Based Decision-Making
• Consultation and Professional Issues in School Psychology
• Classroom and Behavior Management Strategies for Students with Disabilities
• Biological Bases of Behavior

Faculty Interests and Research Opportunities
The school psychology faculty members have diverse research and teaching interests that include:
• counseling and interventions for children with affective disorders
• impact of the family environment on child psychopathology
• early predictors of school success and difficulties
• school psychology training/professional development
• applied ethical decision-making
• school-family collaboration
• school-based assessment and intervention for children with traumatic brain injury
• pervasive developmental disorders
• bilingual school psychology

Admission Policy
In addition to the general requirements for admission to the Texas State Graduate College, the school psychology program requires a GPA of 3.0 or higher on the last 60 hours of undergraduate coursework leading to the bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited university and an official Graduate Record Exam (GRE) score.

Each applicant must submit the following to The Graduate College:
• the online Graduate College application through ApplyTexas
• application fee
• one official transcript from each four-year college or university attended
• official Graduate Record Exam (GRE) score. See www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/schpsy.html for details about GRE requirements.

• three reference letters
• statement of purpose
• résumé to include work and volunteer experience, organizations, interests and hobbies, and honors and awards
• departmental application

Visit www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/apply for access to an online application, where to submit application documents and additional details. Applications are due February 15 for consideration for fall semester admission and October 15 for spring semester admission.

Career Possibilities
School psychologists work to find the best solution for each student and situation; they use different strategies to address student needs and to improve school and district support systems.

School psychologists work with students individually and in groups. They also develop programs to train teachers and parents about effective teaching and learning strategies and management of behavior at home and in the classroom. School psychologists work with students with disabilities or special talents, address abuse of drugs and other substances, and collaborate to prevent and manage crises. In addition, most school psychologists provide the following services: consultation, evaluation, academic and behavioral intervention, prevention, research and planning.

Financial Assistance
A limited number of teaching and research assistantships are available through the department. Contact the Department of Counseling, Leadership, Adult Education and School Psychology for information. Support may also be available through our bilingual school psychology track: www.projectsuperb.education.txstate.edu.

For more information about scholarships, financial aid and application deadlines, visit The Graduate College website at www.gradcollege.txstate.edu and click on Financing Your Graduate Education. Please note that program admission priority deadlines must be met in order to be considered for scholarships, fellowships and assistantships.

Contact
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