



PSYCHOLOGY

Degree Program: **MASTER OF EDUCATION in PSYCHOLOGY**
Specializations: School Psychology
School Counseling

Department web site: <http://www.cwu.edu/~psych/>
Graduate Studies web site: <http://www.cwu.edu/~masters/>

The Department of Psychology offers courses of study leading to the Master of Education degree in School Psychology and in School Counseling. The intent of these programs is to place highly qualified counselors and psychologists in the schools. These programs of study lead to an M.Ed. degree and to Washington State Residency-Level Certification in School Counseling or School Psychology. In addition to regular coursework, emphasis is on practical training via practica, laboratories, field placements, internships, and thesis research.

School Counseling. The M.Ed. and certification programs in School Counseling train specialists to provide individual and group counseling in the schools and to consult with parents and teachers concerning the social, educational, and developmental tasks of children and youth. The certification program has been approved by the Washington State Board of Education under its 2004 Residency-Level Benchmarks.

School Psychology. The objective of the School Psychology Program is to prepare students for certification as school psychologists. The program is competency based with emphases on evaluation, diagnosis and on consultation in educational settings. A year-long internship is required. The certification program has been approved by the Washington State Board of Education under its 2004 Residency-Level Benchmarks and is a fully accredited program of the National Association of School Psychologists.

Special Facilities, Equipment, and Other Resources. The programs' primary training facility is in the Community Counseling and Psychological Assessment Center (CCPAC) located in the Psychology Building. The CCPAC's features include interview rooms, group rooms, and a video recording system. Other Psychology Building features are a psychological testing library, animal research labs, a human behavior laboratory, a computer lab and extensive mechanical and electronic instrumentation support service. There is also a variety of regional liaison relationships with school districts for student internship placement.

Admission Requirements: Admission to these programs is based on evaluation of the student's prior scholastic record; verbal and quantitative scores on the Graduate Record Examination; recommendations by instructors or employers; a statement of professional objectives; and, where appropriate, the applicant's potential to succeed in required practica and internships. If prerequisite background courses or their equivalents have not already been completed, they must be taken as soon as possible. Courses will not be accepted as meeting program prerequisites if taken on a credit/no-credit basis.

By the end of the first quarter in residence, each student is expected to file a Course of Study form with the Office of Graduate Studies and Research. The Course of Study is structured in consultation with the student's academic advisor and is approved by the Department Chair. The student is expected to complete at least 30 credits after full admission to the program.

Students who wish to use faculty time or departmental resources for completion of thesis work must register for at least two credits of PSY 595 or PSY 700 during each quarter for which they require assistance and resources. Students must be registered for two credits of PSY 595 or PSY 700 during the quarter in which the final thesis defense is held.

Practica and Internships. Satisfactory completion of all required practica and internships is mandatory for retention in all degree and certification programs. Grades assigned in these courses are S/U.

Final Examination. Candidates for the Master's degree must pass an oral final examination on work offered for the degree. This examination will include a presentation and defense of the thesis and may include a review of courses completed in the student's area of specialization.

Course Descriptions and Faculty Research Interests: Course Descriptions are available at <http://www.cwu.edu/~catalogs/>. Choose the most recent catalog version and then choose the section of the catalog that describes graduate courses. Faculty research interest summaries are available at <http://www.cwu.edu/~psych/Psyfacultyinterests.pdf>.

Specialization: School Counseling

Program Director: Dr. Robert Brammer

Office: Psychology 427

The M.Ed. and certification programs in School Counseling train specialists to provide individual and group counseling in the schools and to consult with parents and teachers concerning the social, educational, and developmental tasks of children and youth.

The state Board of Education's residency-level benchmarks for initial certification of school counselors require that the candidate complete an approved Master's degree program in counseling which has been developed in concert with school and professional organizations. Central Washington University is affiliated with an Educational Staff Associate (ESA) Professional Education Advisory Board for the preparation of school counselors. The program emphasizes supervised practicum and field experiences. Upon completion of the Master's degree and certification program, the individual will be qualified for the residency level certificate as a school counselor in the state of Washington.

Candidates for residency certification generally follow the two-year program leading to the Master of Education degree in School Counseling. It is possible to obtain certification without becoming a candidate for the M.Ed. degree. The latter is recommended for those persons who have earned or are earning Master's or Doctoral degrees in such allied disciplines as Education, Special Education, Mental Health Counseling, Speech Pathology, School Psychology, and School Social Work. For those candidates seeking the M. Ed. degree in School Counseling, the courses listed are required. Those who desire to meet certification requirements in School Counseling and who already hold a Master's degree must complete the required courses with the exception of the thesis. The certification program also requires satisfactory completion of a comprehensive written and oral examination.

Course Requirements

We reassess our curriculum frequently and make changes to our graduate programs to improve the preparation of our students and implement the best professional practices. To view the school counseling course requirements of any catalog year, please see the graduate sections of the university catalog for the appropriate year at <http://www.cwu.edu/~catalogs/>.

Specialization: School Psychology

Program Coordinator: Dr. Eugene R. Johnson

Psychology 118

The State Board of Education's standards for certification of School Psychologists require that the candidate complete an approved Master's degree program in psychology that has been developed in concert with school and professional organizations. Central Washington University is affiliated with an Educational Staff Associate (ESA) Professional Education Advisory Board for the preparation of school counselors and is fully accredited by the National Association of School Psychologists. Candidates who have already received a Masters degree in a related field are not required to earn a second Masters, but must complete all requirements or their equivalent, with the exception of the thesis. Successful completion of the preparation program at Central Washington University leads to eligibility for residency level certification as an Educational Staff Associate-School Psychologist and national certification through the National Association of School Psychologists.

Course Requirements

We reassess our curriculum frequently and make changes to our graduate programs to improve the preparation of our students and implement the best professional practices. To view the school psychology course requirements of any catalog year, please see the graduate sections of the university catalog for the appropriate year at <http://www.cwu.edu/~catalogs/>.