

# EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY, MA

The MA in Educational Psychology provides an advanced introduction to the field. Students may select a thesis or nonthesis option. There are also two MA options offered in collaboration with the Educational Research program. These options include a Learning and Evaluation option (thesis and non-thesis options) and a Program Evaluation option (nonthesis only).

Additionally, a MA in Learning and Assessment, specifically designed for practitioners, is available in an online form. Educators interested in developing their research skills as they relate to the learning process and to school-based assessment practices are encouraged to apply. See here for further information on this program.

See the Admission Criteria section of this catalog for more information.

## Admission Requirements

A statement of purpose and letters of recommendation consistent with goals of the program, GRE score of at least 300 or a MAT score in the 50th percentile or above and a GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale are needed for regular admission.

Please see the link below for general Graduate School admissions requirements.

See the Admission Criteria section of this catalog for more information.

## Summary of Degree and Program Requirements

A major part of graduate training is successful participation in courses. Coursework requirements for the MA degree options in Educational Psychology are listed below. The MA degree requires 30 graduate credit hours. Main campus students may choose from non-thesis and thesis options.

Each student is appointed a temporary faculty adviser upon initial acceptance into the program. A student may select a permanent adviser after beginning coursework. Advisers assist students with planning coursework, registering for courses, completing program planning records, portfolio evaluations and other activities. Students are expected to maintain Program Planning Records with their advisors in order to monitor completion of coursework requirements.

### Course Requirements for Educational Psychology, MA (Non-Thesis Option)

Code and Title	Hours
<b>Core Courses</b>	
BEP 500 Adv Educational Psych	3
BEP 505 Motivation and Self-Regulation	3
BEP 541 Learning and Cognition	3
BEP 550 or Life Span Development	3
HD 501 Child Development	
BEP 561 Social Cult Basis Behav	3
BEP 565 Personality & Social Dev	3
<b>Methods Courses</b>	
BER 500 Intro Educatn Research	3
BER 540 Statistical Methods In Educ	3
<b>Specialization course</b>	
Advisor-approved specialization course	3

### Capstone Experience

BEP 598 Non-Thesis Research	3
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>30</b>

### Course Requirements for Educational Psychology, MA (Thesis Option)

Code and Title	Hours
<b>Core Courses</b>	
BEP 500 Adv Educational Psych	3
BEP 505 Motivation and Self-Regulation	3
BEP 541 Learning and Cognition	3
BEP 550 or Life Span Development	3
HD 501 Child Development	
BEP 561 Social Cult Basis Behav	3
BEP 565 Personality & Social Dev	3
<b>Methods Courses</b>	
BER 500 Intro Educatn Research	3
BER 540 Statistical Methods In Educ	3
<b>Master's Thesis</b>	
BEP 599 Thesis Research	6
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>30</b>

### Course Requirements for Educational Psychology, MA (Learning and Assessment)--Online

Code and Title	Hours
BEP 500 Adv Educational Psych	3
BEP 505 Motivation and Self-Regulation	3
BEP 541 Learning and Cognition	3
BEP 550 Life Span Development	3
BEP 561 Social Cult Basis Behav	3
BER 500 Intro Educatn Research	3
BER 540 Statistical Methods In Educ	3
BER 550 Eval Classroom Learning	3
BER 660 Eval I:Theory & Practice	3
BEP 598 Non-Thesis Research	3
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>30</b>

### Program Outcomes

All degree requirements in the Educational Psychology Program are carefully designed and sequenced according to program outcomes. Program outcomes are the areas of knowledge and skill students are expected to demonstrate upon successful completion of the coursework and other training activities.

### Transfer of Credit and Use of Previous Graduate Work

The University of Alabama allows students to transfer equivalent courses from other accredited institutions where the student was enrolled in the graduate school. The greater of 12 hours or 25 percent of the required coursework for a master's degree may be transferred from another institution. Credits may be transferred only if they were earned during the six-year period prior to graduation from the program. Transfer of courses must be approved by the student's adviser. The Dean of the Graduate School must also approve transfer of courses. The form to

request consideration of transfer of credits is available from the Graduate School's website.

### **Limits on Coursework**

Educational Psychology Program requirements exclude credit for undergraduate study, study which is remedial, or study which is designed to remove deficiencies in meeting requirements for program admission. In addition, the program limits the number of courses not open exclusively to graduate students to no more than one-third of a student's program.

### **Continuous Reviews**

All students in the Educational Psychology Program are required to participate in a continuous review process in order to monitor student progress and determine that program outcomes are being achieved.

### **Research Participation**

All students in the Educational Psychology Program are expected to obtain skills in research. Each student is expected to join a faculty member's research team during the first semester of graduate study. Master's students take a number of research courses and are encouraged to participate in research projects during courses and field experiences.

### **Comprehensive Examinations**

All degree students in the Educational Psychology Programs are required to successfully complete written comprehensive examinations before the degrees will be granted. The specific procedures for comprehensive examinations for the M.A. degree are designed in collaboration with the student's advisor. For the non-thesis option, the examination is in the form of the Capstone experience; for the thesis option, it is the thesis. The examinations are completed independently on a "take-home" basis and require students to integrate knowledge and skills obtained during coursework and other training activities. Each student is allowed to take comprehensive examinations only twice.

<http://courseinventory.ua.edu/graduate/about/academic-policies/degree-requirements/>