

# Psychology Specialist - School Psychology Program

## Master of Arts in Psychology

### INTRODUCTION

The CSU School Psychology Program is approved by the National Association of School Psychologists, with courses taught by accomplished professors and experienced professionals. Located in our Psychology Department, the program offers a training perspective that is unique in the region. U.S. News and World Report (12/06) cited School Psychology as one of 25 “Best Careers” in its 2007 guide, both for the appealing nature of the work and the profession’s growth potential.

### DEGREE PROGRAM

Students are first enrolled in a Master of Arts in Psychology degree phase, consisting of 2 years of full-time study (approximately 50 semester credit hours). (No part-time enrollment option is available.) A third year is devoted to the full-time, 9-month, paid internship that is arranged by the university with an area school district; completion of this phase (approximately 30 semester hours) results in the award of the Psychology Specialist (Psy.S.) degree. Graduates are eligible for licensure as a School Psychologist by the Ohio Department of Education, and certification by the National School Psychology Certification Board. With additional experience, graduates also may obtain a School Psychologist license for independent practice from the

Ohio State Board of Psychology. The program teaches an “eco-behavioral” approach, with a strong emphasis on intervention services for children and their families. The curriculum is enhanced by numerous service learning opportunities in the local community.

### RESEARCH

Faculty are engaged in active programs of research in the areas of applied behavior analysis; autism; program assessment and accountability; professional ethics and issues in School Psychology; bullying prevention; and Response to Intervention (RTI), an evolving approach to the delivery of intervention services to schoolchildren. Students can become involved in these research activities through graduate assistantships, grant-funded employment, and (optional) thesis projects. In the past several years, almost one dozen students have been involved in peer-reviewed conference presentations and journal publications.

### DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

The MA degree requires approximately 50 semester credit hours of coursework, well distributed over a number of competency areas, including data-based decision-making; interpersonal communication; academic and behavioral assessment and intervention;

crisis management; information technology; and child and adolescent development and disorders.



The Psychology Specialist degree program consists primarily of the School Psychology internship and related courses in the areas of reading assessment and intervention, consultation, and legal and professional issues. Applicants to the program must demonstrate familiarity with the principles of Psychology, research, and child development, although an undergraduate Psychology major is not required.

**For admission information, contact:** Graduate Admissions Office  
2121 Euclid Ave.  
Cleveland, OH 44115  
(216) 687-5599  
[www.csuohio.edu/gradcollege/](http://www.csuohio.edu/gradcollege/)

**For further information about the School Psychology Program contact:** Dr. Kathy McNamara, Director, at [k.mcnamara@csuohio.edu](mailto:k.mcnamara@csuohio.edu) (216.687.2521).