Master of Science and Specialist Degree in School Psychology



Total Credits: Time to Completion: Three years

Application Deadline: January 15

Curriculum

The curriculum is organized into four general areas designed to address the NASP Model for Comprehensive and Integrated School Psychological Services:

- Psychological and Educational Foundations: Courses cover topics including but not limited to, issues and ethics in school psychology, human development, exceptional child, child and adolescent psychopathology, multicultural issues and human diversity in schools and families, organization and operation of schools, research, statistics, and the science of human behavior.
- Psychoeducational Methods: Courses cover models and methods of psychoeducational assessment: social, emotional, behavioral, cognitive, and academic assessment and intervention, counseling and mental health services, and consultation/indirect services to schools and families.
- Traineeship: In the second year of the program and in conjunction with psychoeducational methods courses, students complete a paid two-day per week, 450-hour traineeship in the schools arranged by the program.
- Internship: During the third year, students complete a paid 1200-hour internship under the supervision of credentialed faculty and field supervisors. Students also take one advanced seminar course concurrently with the internship each semester.
- Two Degrees: The full-time, three-year program leads to both a master's degree and specialist in school psychology degree (S.S.P.).

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

- Minimum undergraduate GPA of 3.0
- Required GRE Exam
- Three Letters of Recommendation
- Professional Resume
- Personal Statement
- Questionnaire

Specific Questions About the Program?

Contact

Program Director

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Why Winthrop's School Psychology?

- Program focus on collaboration, not competition
- 100% employment rate in the field within three months of graduation over the past ten years (many students had job offers before they graduated)
- Employment in states such as South Carolina, North Carolina, Georgia, Oregon, California, Connecticut, Virginia, Texas, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, and Ohio.
- 100 percent of students graduating over the past twenty years have passed the national Praxis examination in school psychology.
- Public school districts are by far the largest employer of graduates. Some alumni have also obtained positions in charter schools, private schools, National Defense Schools, and in mental health, disability, and independent practice service settings.
- Approximately one in 12 alumni pursue doctoral studies after graduation. All (that we know of) who have applied to doctoral programs have been admitted.

Program Description

- The program prepares practitioners who are competent to provide a full range of school psychological services to diverse individuals from infancy to young adulthood, and with families, teachers, and others in schools and communities.
- The program meets the school psychologist certification requirements for virtually all states
- Qualifies graduates for the Nationally Certified School Psychologist (NCSP) credential, pending attainment of a passing score on the Praxis exam in School Psychology

Faculty

Our full-time program faculty are credentialed school psychologists with doctorates and successful field experience who are active at the local, state, national, and/or international levels. Particular attention has been paid to recruiting faculty with diverse characteristics, backgrounds, experiences, and expertise who view teaching and supervision as their primary roles as graduate faculty members. Adjunct faculty who assist with some teaching or supervision are all credentialed school psychologists with experience in the schools.

What Alumni Say

"I think one of the best aspects of the program is the level of support from the professors and the comprehensiveness of the school psychology training. The program is very challenging, but the faculty is extremely supportive and helpful." -School psychology exit survey

"I feel that this program prepared me well for the career ahead, and I have been continually impressed by the reputation that this program carries outside the Winthrop community. It has challenged me in many ways on a personal and professional level, but has made me stronger for it." - Anonymous program graduate

"I really like the fact that we are provided placements for our traineeship and internship and also enjoy that we get paid for both traineeship and internship!" - Anonymous

program graduate

"I had an amazing experience at Winthrop. I like the hands-on learning in traineeship and Internship, and the guidance from faculty and field supervisors with assessment, counseling, and behavior courses. There are some amazing professors here." -Anonymous program graduate







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