



La Sierra
UNIVERSITY

DOCTOR OF EDUCATION
IN SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY

WITH AN EMPHASIS IN GENERAL SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY
(MA IN COUNSELING, EDS IN SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY,
& PUPIL PERSONNEL SERVICES [PPS] CREDENTIAL)

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY AND COUNSELING
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

LA SIERRA UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
4500 RIVERWALK PARKWAY
RIVERSIDE, CA 92515

DOCTOR OF EDUCATION IN SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY: GENERAL

This is an elective program, which will give a person an option on becoming a credentialed school psychologist through the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CCTC).

WHAT KIND OF A CAREER CAN SUCH A DEGREE OFFER?

School psychologists can work in both public and private school settings to assist students with cognitive (learning and motivation), psychosocial, and behavioral problems. They also counsel parents, teachers, as well as other school staff in addressing individual student needs more effectively. School psychologists conduct psycho-educational assessments in areas that can include attention deficit-hyperactive disorders, pervasive developmental disorders, learning disabilities, oppositional defiant disorder, conduct disorder, and separation anxiety. Their expertise in such areas is often used to modify a student's learning environment in order to maximize individual student potential.

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Individuals who obtain a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) credential can provide behavioral intervention services to any student who has demonstrated needs in the behavioral domain. BCBA's work with a variety of target populations with behavioral problems to include attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder, oppositional defiant disorder, conduct disorder, and pervasive developmental disorders such as autism.

The coursework in this program will allow you to be eligible to apply for a credential in California through the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB).

PREREQUISITES:

Legal/Health Clearance

The absence of any conviction for a felony or any communicable or contagious disease, which would prevent the student from teaching or performing other certified services, must be attested to. Students should apply for state criminal clearance immediately following admission to any of the state credential or licensure programs.

Department Interview

A preadmission interview and writing test are to be scheduled when possible with at least two faculty members in the Department of School Psychology and Counseling who will evaluate the applicant's expressiveness, commitment, values, cultural affirmation, and professional attitudes. When admission is granted without a prior interview, an appointment must be made with the department chair during the first few weeks of residence before program approval. Continuation in the program is contingent upon a satisfactory rating by the interviewers.

Graduate Record Examination

In addition, a Graduate Record Exam (GRE) is required. A student's acceptance into the Ed.S. program, or advancement into the Ed.S. program from the M.A. in Counseling program (provisionally or regularly), depends the following scores: the GPA, GRE, departmental interview, and writing sample.

Prerequisites

The Exceptional Child

EDPC 460/560

3 Units

Applicants who are lacking any of the above prerequisite coursework may be admitted to the program with the understanding that the deficiencies must be removed at the earliest possible

date prior to entry to advanced practicum or fieldwork. If taken at the graduate level, credit thus earned may be used for degree purposes if all other program requirements are met.

THE PROGRAM:

The program includes all of the coursework and fieldwork listed below. Some individuals may require more than the minimum 132 units because of particular interests or the need to remove prerequisite deficiencies as listed above and below. For course description, please check [La Sierra Academic Bulletins](#).

REQUIRED CORE & METHODOLOGY (45 UNITS):

• Educational Organization and Leadership	EDAD	524*	3 units
• Curriculum Planning	EDCI	514*	3 units
• Faith and Learning	EDCI	512	3 units
• Methods and Materials of Research	EDRS	504	3 units
• Counseling Theories and Techniques	EDPC	561	3 units
• Sociology of Education	EDFO	606*	3 units
• Dynamics of Personality	EDPC	607	3 units
• Leadership in the Organization	EDAD	687	3 units
• Moral Leadership	EDAD	688	3 units
• Educational Statistics I	EDRS	604	3 units
• Educational Statistics II	EDRS	702	3 units
• Research Design	EDRS	704	3 units
• Contemporary Issues in Education	EDFO	791	3 units
• Additional Research Method/Project Courses			6 units

* EDAD 524 can be replaced with **EDAD 540 Personality and Philosophical Aspects of Leadership**, EDCI 514 can be replaced with **EDCI 545 Brain Research and Learning**, and EDFO 606 can be replaced with **EDCI 664/EDPC 651 Social and Emotional Intelligence** at a student's discretion.

CONTENT SPECIALIZATION (75 UNITS):

• Education and Career Planning	EDPC	554	3 units
• Counseling Practicum	EDPC	562	6 units
• Group Theory and Procedures	EDPC	564	3 units
• School Psychology & Counseling Ethics/Law	EDPC	573	3 units
• Community Agency Counseling	EDPC	568	3 units
• Psychopathology	EDPC	631	3 units
• Mental Exceptionality	EDPC	650	3 units
• Advanced Counseling Theories	EDPC	655	3 units
• Intervention Methods & Consultation	EDPC	666	3 units
• Seminar: Individual & Cultural Differences	EDPC	694A	3 units
• Academic Assessment and Intervention	EDPC	661	3 units
• Behavioral Assessment and Intervention	EDPC	662	3 units
• Neuropsychological Assessment and Intervention	EDPC	663	3 units
• Assessment of Individual Intelligence I	EDPC	664	3 units
• Assessment of Individual Intelligence II	EDPC	665	3 units
• Assessment of Learning Development	EDPC	667	3 units
• Assessment of Personal Adjustment	EDPC	668	3 units
• School Psychology Seminar	EDPC	670	3 units
• Report Writing/Practicum	EDPC	674	3 units
• Field Practice in School Psychology	EDPC	675	3 units
• Additional Specialization Courses			12 Units

DISSERTATION COURSEWORK (12 UNITS)

• Ed.D. Dissertation	EDPC	798	12.0 units
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PPS INTERNSHIP (12 UNITS & PRE- OR POST-DEGREE 1200 HRS)

• School Psychology Internship	EDPC	676	12.0 units
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ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

1. A passing score on the *California Basic Education Skills Test* (CBEST) is required before any practicum, field practice, or internship hours can be collected.
2. Application for field practice six weeks prior to placement.
3. A certificate of clearance is needed from the *California Commission on Teacher Credentialing* (CCTC), which involves a fingerprint clearance. In addition, a TB clearance must be obtained as well. Again, all necessary clearances are required before gathering practicum, field practice, or internship hours in either a school setting or a community counseling agency setting.
4. *The Professional Assessments for Beginning Teachers (PRAXIS)-Specialty Area for School Psychology* is required as an exit examination. An unsatisfactory score will necessitate re-taking the Praxis until a minimum passing score is obtained. If after several tries, this is not possible, a student may be granted permission to take a departmental comprehensive examination. A satisfactory score report for the PRAXIS must be received by the University at least four weeks prior to graduation or the issuance of a diploma. Early registration for the test is essential.
5. An acceptable showcase portfolio is required, also for the exit exam.
6. Application to the School of Education Credential Office (sgallego@lasierra.edu) for a denomination or state credential, if eligible.
7. Students must procure appropriate internship placement(s). For the PPS, students must be supervised by a credentialed school psychologist whereas for the BCBA, students must be certified by a credentialed behavioral analyst. Other requirements apply—please consult with the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CCTC) and the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB) for more information.