



La Sierra
UNIVERSITY

SPECIALIST IN EDUCATION
IN EDUCATION PSYCHOLOGY
MA IN COUNSELING

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY AND COUNSELING
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

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

EDUCATIONAL SPECIALIST IN EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

This degree is a non-credential elective program which provides advanced preparation for educational generalists, teachers in all disciplines, administrators, college instructors who are desiring a professional educational background, and especially to practitioners aspiring toward clinical and/or research applications.

WHAT KIND OF A CAREER CAN SUCH A DEGREE OFFER?

Educational psychologists can work in a variety of settings to include colleges and universities, government agencies, and/or corporate settings. Such persons are not only likely to focus on how effective learning and teaching take place, but on developing methods to continually improve such processes in academic and/or other institutional settings. Thus, they are primarily concerned with developing and implementing more effective ways to improve memory retention, learning, and motivation. As a result, such persons are often actively engaged in areas such as research, staff training, and/or program development.

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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 credentialing 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 Educational 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

A Graduate Record Exam (GRE) is required. A student's acceptance into the Ed.S. program or advancement into the Ed.S. program depends on the following scores: the GPA, GRE, departmental interview, and writing sample.

THE PROGRAM:

The following core courses, or their equivalents, are mandatory for the educational psychology program. If any of the specified courses have been previously completed for another degree, the credits cannot be applied toward the Ed.S. degree. Instead, additional cognate electives must be chosen to meet the minimum total units required.

The curriculum for a Specialist in Education degree in the School of Education comprises a minimum of 90-quarter units beyond an approved baccalaureate degree, or 45 units beyond the Master of Arts degree. For those entering the 45-unit post-master's option, the master's degree must have been earned in a relevant educational or mental health field. For course description, please check [La Sierra Academic Bulletins](#).

REQUIRED CORE (27 UNITS):

• Educational Administration 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
• Educational Statistics I	EDRS	604	3 units
• Sociology of Education	EDFO	606*	3 units
• Leadership in the Organization	EDAD	687	3 units
• Moral Leadership	EDAD	688	3 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*, *EDFO 606* can be replaced by *EDCI 664/EDPC 651 Social and Emotional Intelligence* at a student's discretion.

CONTENT SPECIALIZATION (45 UNITS):

• Standardized Testing in Education	EDPC	504	3 units
• Psychological Theories of Instruction	EDPC	505	3 units
• Lifespan Development	EDPC	524	3 units
• Education and Career Planning	EDPC	554	3 units
• The Exceptional Child	EDPC	560	3 units
• Counseling Practicum	EDPC	562	3 units
• Group Theory and Procedures	EDPC	564	3 units
• Community Agency Counseling	EDPC	568	3 units

- School Psychology and Counseling Ethics EDPC 573 3 units
- Dynamics of Personality EDPC 607 3 units
- Psychopathology EDPC 631 3 units
- Mental Exceptionality EDPC 650 3 units
- Advanced Counseling Theories EDPC 655 3 units
- Intervention Methods and Consultation EDPC 666 3 units
- Seminar: Individual and Cultural Differences EDPC 694A 3 units

ELECTIVES (18 UNITS):

Electives are selected as needed, with departmental approval, from counseling, research, advanced statistics, computer science, measurement, and other cognate areas of education and/or psychology in any department of the University. Such electives may sometimes be structured to include a teaching or professional credential together with the Ed.S. degree. The basis on which to choose from these or other courses depends on prior preparation and the ultimate interests or goals of the student. Remember that the units outlined above do not total 90 units. In order to receive an Ed.S. in Educational Psychology, you must accumulate 90 units beyond an approved baccalaureate degree. Ensure that your electives, in conjunction with the courses noted above, total 90 units.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

1. A passing score on a departmental comprehensive exam is required.
2. An acceptable showcase portfolio is required for the completion of the degree.