

GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY, MASTER OF SCIENCE (M.S.)

Information About the Master's Degree

There are two Master's Degrees in General Psychology: A concentration leading to ABA Certification, and another one in Experimental Psychology which requires a thesis.

Information About the ABA Concentration (Within the General Psychology M.S. Degree)

To obtain a BCBA Certification students must:

1. hold a Master's or Doctoral degree;
2. have completed Board approved ABA coursework;
3. have completed the required and documented supervised practical experience; and
4. pass an examination administered by the Behavioral Analyst Certification Board.

The **M.S. General Psychology Degree with ABA Concentration** is designed for students interested in earning a Master's degree that will provide expertise in applied behavior analysis, and allow them to work toward eligibility to sit for the BCBA Certification Exam.

The M.S. General Psychology Degree with ABA Concentration provides:

1. the required Master's degree and
2. the required Board approved ABA coursework.

Students are responsible for expanding their own practical experiences in order to accumulate the required hours of supervised experience, and for scheduling and paying for the BCBA Certification Exam. Information can be found at www.bacb.com (<http://www.bacb.com>).

Information About the Experimental Psychology Master's Program

The Master of Science degree program in General Psychology offers students advanced training in the core areas of psychology and the opportunity to develop and explore specialized areas of interest. Students work closely with a faculty mentor to design an individualized course of study that combines classroom training and hands-on research experience, and culminates in a Master's thesis. Graduates will have a solid foundation for pursuing doctoral-level training in psychology and related fields or for entry into a variety of work settings.

Admission Requirements

M.S. General Psychology: ABA Concentration

- Minimum overall undergraduate grade point average of 3.0 or 3.5 in the last 60 hours
- Minimum of one research course
- Minimum of one upper level course in psychology and 2 additional courses in psychology or a related discipline
- GRE: If undergraduate GPA is below 3.2, then satisfactory performance on the general sections of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is required.

- For applicants pursuing Kentucky educator rank change: Must hold a teaching certificate to be admitted into the program
- Personal statement must address the following areas:
 - a. What personal characteristics do you possess that you believe are important to the practice of applied behavior analysis? Do you possess any particular strengths that you feel will be an asset to you in graduate school? What about any personal challenges that you think might hinder your progress?
 - b. What are your professional goals?
 - c. Describe any experiences that have particularly prepared you for graduate study in applied behavior analysis (e.g., co-op/ internships, work experiences, life experiences).
 - d. If you feel that any portion of your application does not accurately reflect your academic skills or preparation for graduate school in psychology (e.g., GRE, GPA, etc.), please explain.

Program Requirements

CIP Code: 42.2799

A total of 33 credit hours is required for candidates for the Master of Science in General Psychology. In order to complete the degree program, ABA concentration students must earn a grade of B or better in the following core courses: PSY 817, PSY 813, PSY 814, PSY 815, PSY 816, PSY 833, PSY 843, PSY 855, PSY 866, PSY 895.

Code	Title	Hours
Core Courses in Psychological Foundations		
PSY 833	Beh Research and Measurement	3
PSY 837	Social Psy & Cultural Diversity	3
PSY 849	Advanced Developmental PSY	3
PSY 853	Biological Bases of Behavior	3
PSY 859	Cog/Affect Bases of Behavior	3
Concentrations		
Students must select one of the following Concentrations:		18-27
Applied Behavior Analysis Concentration (Online Only)		
Experimental Concentration		
Exit Requirements		
GRD 857J	MS Psy Written Comp Exam	0
GRD 858J	MS Psychology Oral Comp Exam	0
Total Hours		33-42

Applied Behavior Analysis Concentration (Online Only)

Code	Title	Hours
Concentration Courses		
PSY 813	Ethics and Prof Conduct Appl B	3
PSY 814	Basic Behavior Analysis	3
PSY 815	Applied Research in ABA	3
PSY 816	Philosophical Underpinning ABA	3
PSY 817	Intro Foundations in Beh Analy	3
PSY 843	Practicum	3
PSY 855	Addressing Problem Behaviors	3
PSY 895	Building New Behaviors	3
Capstone Requirement		
PSY 866	Adv Topics Applied Beha Analys	3
Total Hours		27

Experimental Psychology Concentration

Code	Title	Hours
Concentration Courses		
PSY 862	Statistic & Research Design II	3
Electives		
Choose from nine hours of electives approved by graduate advisor		9
Thesis		
PSY 898	Thesis Research	6
Total Hours		18

Exit Requirements

Students in the Applied Behavior Analysis Concentration must register for a written comprehensive examination in their area of study (GRD 857J MS Psy Written Comp Exam) (0 credit hours), and complete this examination.