SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY - PH.D.

College of Education, Health and Human Services
School of Lifespan Development and Educational Sciences
405 White Hall
Kent Campus
330-672-2294
www.kent.edu/ehhs/ldes

Description
The Ph.D. degree in School Psychology is committed to a scientist-practitioner model of training, which conceptualizes school psychologists as data-oriented problems solvers and transmitters of psychological knowledge and skill. As such, students draw upon the scientific literature as a primary basis for professional practice and focus their research agendas so as to have meaningful implications for practice. In addition, functioning as a scientist-practitioner means that professional practice is conducted in ways that are consistent with the scientific method.

Emphasis in training is placed on the provision of services through research-based practice and data-based decision making. Doctoral students gain competencies, not only in the provision of school psychological services to individual children and youth, but also in the promotion and implementation of systemic, preventative educational and mental health systems. Since the program’s emphasis is on the application of psychology in applied educational and mental health settings, students are required to demonstrate competence in the substantive content areas of psychological and educational theory; the scientific, methodological and theoretical foundations of practice in school psychology; data-based decision making; intervention design and evaluation; and cultural and individual diversity.

The school psychology doctorate prepares students to work as leaders in applied practice in educational and mental health settings.

Fully Offered At:
- Kent Campus

Accreditation
National Association of School Psychologists (NASP), American Psychological Association (APA)

Admission Requirements
- Master’s degree from an accredited college or university for unconditional admission
- Minimum 3.000 graduate GPA on a 4.000 point scale (minimum 3.500 GPA is recommended) for unconditional admission
- Official transcript(s)
- GRE scores (minimum scores at the 50th percentile is recommended)
- Résumé or vita
- Goal statement
- Sample of written work
- School Psychology Supplemental Data Form (online document)
- Questions in Anticipation of Licensure form
- Two letters of recommendation
- Interview
- English language proficiency - all international students must provide proof of English language proficiency (unless they meet specific exceptions) by earning one of the following:
  - Minimum 550 TOEFL PBT score (paper-based version)
  - Minimum 79 TOEFL IBT score (Internet-based version)
  - Minimum 77 MELAB score
  - Minimum 6.5 IELTS score
  - Minimum 58 PTE score

For more information about graduate admissions, please visit the Graduate Studies admission website. For more information on international admission, visit the Office of Global Education's admission website.

Program Learning Outcomes
Graduates of this program will be able to:
1. Demonstrate adequate knowledge and skills associated with both the National Association of School Psychologists’ Domains of School Psychology Training and Practice and those domains related to advanced psychological foundations knowledge and research skills as identified by the American Psychological Association (APA).
2. Demonstrate an appropriate level of professional deportment.

Program Requirements
Major Requirements

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<td>or PSYC 70604</td>
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<td>INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH IN SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY</td>
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<td>DOCTORAL RESIDENCY SEMINAR</td>
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<td>SPSY 80199</td>
<td>DISSERTATION I</td>
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SPSY 87987  PROFESSIONAL SEMINAR IN SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY  3
SPSY 87987  PROFESSIONAL SEMINAR IN SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY  3
or SPSY 87998  RESEARCH SEMINAR IN SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY
SPSY 87992  DOCTORAL INTERNSHIP IN SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY  12
SPSY 87998  RESEARCH SEMINAR IN SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY  3
Psychology (PSYC) Elective  3

Minimum Total Credit Hours:  91

1 Upon admission to candidacy, each doctoral candidate must register for SPSY 80199. It is expected that a doctoral candidate will continuously register for Dissertation I for a total of 30 hours, and thereafter SPSY 80299.

**Graduation Requirements**

- The total number of required credit hours in each student’s Plan of Study/Residency Plan will vary based on previous graduate coursework, point of entry into the program, program area advisor input and the school psychology program requirements. The minimum requirement for a doctoral degree is 60 credit hours beyond the master’s degree. Given the requirements of the accreditation bodies governing Kent State’s school psychology degree program, the typical number of required credit hours for the doctoral degree will exceed that of the minimum college requirements.
- Students who enter the program without recent and comprehensive training in school psychology (from a NASP-approved program) and without a school psychology license must complete relevant coursework. The total number of required hours will vary based on point of entry into the program, previous coursework and program advisor input.
- State/Federal background checks are required for all field-based experiences.

**Candidacy**

Once the student has successfully completed and orally defended their comprehensive exams, they are recommended for doctoral candidacy in line with all other program and college requirements.

**Licensure Information**

Candidates seeking School Psychologist licensure are required to pass Praxis II test School Psychologist (0401) or the domain specific School Psychology Ohio Assessment for Educators test.