EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY - PH.D.

College of Education Health and Human Services
School of Lifespan Development and Educational Sciences
www.kent.edu/ehhs/ldes

Contact Information

• Program Coordinator: Bradley Morris | bmorri20@kent.edu | 330-672-2294
• Chat with an Admissions Counselor

Fully Offered

• Delivery:
  • In person
• Location:
  • Kent Campus

Admission Terms

• Fall

Examples of Possible Careers

• University professor
• Human behavior researcher
• K-12 teacher
• Data analyst
• Curriculum specialist
• Academic counseling
• Assessment specialist
• Educational research
• Program evaluation
• Data scientist
• Researcher for business/industry
• Marketing
• Advertising

Description

The Ph.D. degree in Educational Psychology provides an advanced and interdisciplinary study in the principles of human cognition, learning and development. The program provides rigorous training in the theoretical foundations of cognition, learning, and development, as well as research design, instrumentation, quantitative analysis and research application.

Graduates are qualified to become faculty at the university level and are also prepared for careers in a variety of industry and government settings conducting research and guiding the application of evidence-based practices.

Admission Requirements

• Bachelor’s degree or higher from an accredited college or university
• Minimum 2.750 undergraduate and graduate GPA on a 4.000 point scale
• Minimum 18 credit hours of courses in psychology, education or related fields (including a course in statistics)
• Official transcript(s)
• Research experience and broad background in educational psychology
• GRE scores with recommended 50th percentile or higher (effective for spring 2023 admission, the GRE will no longer be required)
• Résumé
• Goal statement
• Three 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
  • Minimum 110 Duolingo English Test score

For more information about graduate admissions, visit the graduate admission website. For more information on international admissions, visit the international admission website.

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

1. Inform and enhance practice based on deep knowledge of research, theories, and principles of cognition, learning and development.
2. Synthesize and critically evaluate scholarly articles and texts.
3. Apply principles of research design to create rigorous experiments and studies.
4. Analyze and interpret quantitative data using appropriate cutting edge methodologies and tools.
5. Develop scientific writing skills in order to effectively communicate research findings to the scientific community and practitioners.
6. Design and conduct empirical research to investigate the cognitive and developmental basis for effective teaching and learning practices.
7. Disseminate original, empirical research through scholarly presentations, conferences, and publications.

Program Requirements

Major Requirements

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RMS 75510</td>
<td>STATISTICS I FOR EDUCATIONAL SERVICES</td>
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<tr>
<td>RMS 78713</td>
<td>MULTIVARIATE ANALYSIS IN EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH</td>
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<tr>
<td>RMS 78716</td>
<td>STATISTICS II: ANOVA AND NONPARAMETRIC TESTS</td>
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<td>RMS 78728</td>
<td>MULTIPLE REGRESSION</td>
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<td>RMS 78735</td>
<td>STRUCTURAL EQUATION MODELING</td>
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RMS 78745    HIERARCHICAL LINEAR MODELING
RMS 85515    QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH DESIGN AND ANALYSIS
RMS 85517    ADVANCED QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH IN EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

Educational Psychology Electives, choose from the following:  6
EPSY 75520    CHILD AND ADOLESCENT DEVELOPMENT
EPSY 75523    LIFE SPAN DEVELOPMENT
EPSY 75524    LEARNING THEORIES
EPSY 75529    EDUCATIONAL MOTIVATION
EPSY 78905    EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY
EPSY 87450    PSYCHOLOGICAL PRINCIPLES OF EDUCATION
EPSY 89091    SEMINAR IN LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT
EPSY 89095    SPECIAL TOPICS IN LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Educational and Psychological Science Foundations Electives, choose from the following:  6
EPSY 75520    CHILD AND ADOLESCENT DEVELOPMENT
EPSY 75523    LIFE SPAN DEVELOPMENT
EPSY 75524    LEARNING THEORIES
EPSY 75529    EDUCATIONAL MOTIVATION
EPSY 78905    EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY
EPSY 87450    PSYCHOLOGICAL PRINCIPLES OF EDUCATION
EPSY 89091    SEMINAR IN LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT
EPSY 89095    SPECIAL TOPICS IN LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT
PSYC 70413    COGNITIVE NEUROPSYCHOLOGY
PSYC 70453    INTRODUCTION TO COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY
PSYC 70604    COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT
PSYC 70895    ADVANCED TOPICS IN EXPERIMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY
PSYC 80491    SEMINAR IN COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY

Additional Program Electives, choose from the following:  21-60
EPSY 89096    INDIVIDUAL INVESTIGATION IN LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT
EPSY 89098    RESEARCH IN LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT
Other courses from categories above, or with advisor approval

Culminating Requirement
EPSY 80199    DISSERTATION I  

Minimum Total Credit Hours for Post-Baccalaureate Students 108
Minimum Total Credit Hours for Post-Master's Students 75

1 Upon admission to candidacy, each doctoral candidate must register for EPSY 80199. It is expected that a doctoral candidate will continuously register for Dissertation I for a total of 30 credit hours, and thereafter EPSY 80299 Dissertation II, each semester until all requirements for the degree have been met.

2 Post-baccalaureate students may use additional program electives to fulfill requirements for the M.A./M.Ed. Educational Psychology degree. The M.A. requires a minimum 39 credits and the M.Ed. requires a minimum 33 credits for completion. These courses may be taken at either the doctoral or master's level.

Graduation Requirements

- The doctoral program requires a minimum of four years of full-time attendance for holders of the baccalaureate degree.
- All doctoral student in educational psychology complete a program of basic core courses, select additional courses and seminars, with the aid of a faculty advisor, and complete a master's thesis and a doctoral dissertation.
- A limited number of graduate courses outside the department may be credited toward graduation.
- Doctoral program aspirants who do not hold a master’s degree upon starting the program must complete all the requirements for the M.A./M.Ed. Educational Psychology degree.

Candidacy

Students who have been admitted into the doctoral program will be considered for Ph.D. candidacy after they have met all requirements for the master’s degree. In addition, the department reserves the right to separate from the program a student who, in the opinion of a duly constituted departmental committee, is not likely to succeed professionally despite earning acceptable grades.