

# SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY, PSY.D., ADVANCED STANDING

## Overview

The Advanced Standing Psy.D. in School Psychology program will enable school psychologists to expand their practice and move into more advanced practice settings. It is a 47-credit program designed to be completed in three years for individuals who are certified school psychologists. This program requires completion of 120 practicum hours, a 1,500- to 1,750-hour internship, and a dissertation. Students interested in obtaining licensure from the State Board of Psychological Examiners for the independent practice of psychology must be supervised by a licensed psychologist during internship. The Advanced Standing Psy.D. program is designed as a full-time program with no part-time completion option. This program is only available for state certified school psychologists or graduate students graduating with a 60+-credit master's or specialist degree in school psychology. Professionals with a master's or specialist degree in non-school psychology areas (e.g., child, child-clinical, or educational psychology, counseling, etc.), who are not certified school psychologists, are not eligible for the Advanced Standing Psy.D. in School Psychology program. The program is designed to meet the program approval standards of the National Association of School Psychologists.

The Advanced Standing Psy.D. program will provide graduates with:

- the ability to serve children in schools, hospitals, clinics, and other advance practice settings by attending to their mental health and educational needs, while also emphasizing issues of diversity and social justice;
- the importance of understanding and respecting the various contexts of a multicultural, pluralistic society in which children live and shape their lives; and
- a program that reflects the university's mission and Mercy core values.

## Learning Outcomes

The program is dedicated to the principles of the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP), and it has adopted the NASP's Standards of School Psychology Graduate Education and Practice as the basis for the goals of its training model. The program structure and objectives, field placements, practicum, and externship experiences are based on these 10 standards of practice, articulated in *Standards for Graduate Preparation of School Psychologists* and adopted by the National Association of School Psychologists Delegate Assembly (2020).

These program goals, as noted in the 10 domains of practice, are to have its students develop expertise in:

- Domain 1: Data-Based Decision-Making
- Domain 2: Consultation and Collaboration
- Domain 3: Academic Interventions and Instructional Supports
- Domain 4: Mental and Behavioral Health Services and Interventions
- Domain 5: School-Wide Practices to Promote Learning
- Domain 6: Services to Promote Safe and Supportive Schools
- Domain 7: Family, School, and Community Collaboration
- Domain 8: Equitable Practices for Diverse Student Populations
- Domain 9: Research and Evidence-Based Practice
- Domain 10: Legal, Ethical, and Professional Practice

Visit <https://www.nasponline.org/standards-and-certification/nasp-2020-professional-standards-adopted/> for a complete and detailed explanation of the 10 domains of the 2020 NASP Practice Model.

## Admission

### Requirements for Admission for the Advanced Standing Psy.D. in School Psychology

Admission is contingent on the outcome of an interview with the program faculty. Candidates will be notified in writing as to their status.

Applicants for the Advanced Standing Psy.D. program must submit all application materials by February 15. Interviews will take place in February and March, and all applicants will be notified of their status before the April 15 APA/NASP commitment deadline. The Advanced Standing Psy.D. program begins during the fall semester.

- Master's and/or specialist degree in school psychology encompassing a minimum of 60 graduate credits from an accredited college or university.
- Minimum graduate grade point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale.
- Certification (standard certificate) as a school psychologist in New Jersey or possession of a valid NCSP certificate from NASP, or certification/licensure as a school psychologist in another state. Emergency and/or provisional certification will not be accepted.
- Completed self-managed application packet (see below).

#### The completed self-managed application packet must include:

- A check or money order for \$40 (nonrefundable) made payable to Georgian Court University.
- A completed graduate application form.
- All Psy.D. applicants must include a personal statement with answers to the following questions: Why do (did) you want to become a school psychologist?; What has influenced you to pursue a career in school psychology?; What experience do you have working with children and adolescents?; Why do you want to pursue a doctorate in school psychology?; What are your research interests?; and How will this program help facilitate your professional goals?
- Sealed and signed envelopes containing official transcripts of each undergraduate and graduate institution the applicant has attended. If the official seal has been broken, the transcript is considered to be unofficial and cannot be accepted for use toward the application. Official transcripts electronically transmitted directly from the Office of the Registrar of each institution will be accepted in lieu of a paper copy.
- All Psy.D. applicants must submit two letters of recommendation. At least one of the letters should be from a faculty member familiar with the applicant's academic performance. Both letters may be from faculty members at the applicant's discretion. Applicants who have graduated more than five years prior to their date of application may submit letters from certified or licensed mental health or educational professionals in lieu of letters from faculty members.

Accepted students will receive a health form that must be completed and submitted to the Office of Health Services.

## Requirements

### Advanced Standing Psy.D. in School Psychology

Course	Title	Credits
<b>First Year</b>		
<b>Fall Semester</b>		
SPS7100	History & Developmental Theory in Psych	3.0
SPS7300	Seminar in Advanced Psychopathology	3.0
SPS7500	Statistics & Research Design II	3.0
<b>Credits</b>		<b>9.0</b>
<b>Spring Semester</b>		
SPS7150	Personality Theory	3.0
SPS7400	Prac III:Systems-LevelSrvcsInEduSetting	3.0
SPS7550	Statistics & Research Design III	3.0
<b>Credits</b>		<b>9.0</b>
<b>Summer Semester</b>		
SPS7600	Research and Psychological Measurement	3.0
<b>Credits</b>		<b>3</b>
<b>Second Year</b>		
<b>Fall Semester</b>		
SPS7200	Social & Organizational Psychology	3.0
SPS7350	Physiological Basis of Behavior	3.0
SPS7700	Dissertation	3.0
<b>Credits</b>		<b>9.0</b>
<b>Spring Semester</b>		
SPS7250	Cognition & Learning	3.0
SPS7450	Supervision of Psychological Services	3.0
SPS7700	Dissertation	3.0
<b>Credits</b>		<b>9.0</b>
<b>Summer Semester</b>		
Psy.D. students must defend their dissertation proposal and pass the doctoral qualifying exam before moving on to internship.		
<b>Credits</b>		<b>0.0</b>
<b>Third Year</b>		
Fall & Spring Semesters		
SPS7900	Pre-Doctoral Internship I	4.0
SPS7901	Pre-Doctoral Internship II	4.0
<b>Credits</b>		<b>8.0</b>
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>47.0</b>

**Note:** Students will be awarded the Doctor of Psychology (Psy.D.) degree once they pass the doctoral qualifying exam, complete their internship, and their dissertation is successfully defended and filed with the university library.

Minimum levels of performance are outlined in the School Psychology program handbook. Students are evaluated and expected to maintain expected levels of performance in their academic coursework, field placements, and professional characteristics. Failure to maintain minimum levels of performance across any of these areas may lead to dismissal from the program. The program handbook is available on the program website and the program BlackBoard site.