

EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

Degree Requirements

Master of Science (M.S.)

Requirements listed here are in addition to Graduate Council policies listed under GCAC-600 Research Degree Policies. (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/>)

Students in the master's degree program are required to take 30 credits, including:

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
EDPSY 421	Learning Processes in Relation to Educational Practices	3
EDPSY 450	Principles of Measurement	3
EDPSY 475	Introduction to Educational Research	3
EDPSY 505	Statistical Applications in Educational Research	3
Total Credits		12

The 30 credits must be at the 400, 500, 600, or 800 level, and at least 18 of those credits must be at the 500 and 600 level, combined. Students will also take at least one foundational course in educational theory, philosophy, or individual differences. The remaining credits will be taken in a way to develop the student's area of specialization, in consultation with the student's adviser. The program offers two pathways, M.S. with a thesis, and an M.S. without a thesis. Students wishing to go on to the Ph.D. are required to complete the M.S. with thesis.

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)

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Students in the doctoral degree program will select a major emphasis in either learning and instruction or measurement. Students in the doctoral program must complete the core required courses as listed in the Master of Science (M.S.) program. All students must also have at least one advanced-level course in learning and in measurement. Students will also have three courses spread across the foundational areas of:

1. educational theory and history,
2. philosophy,
3. and individual differences.

Students must pass a qualifying examination to enter into the doctoral program, assessing their mastery of the content in the core courses. Students must also pass a comprehensive examination assessing their areas of specialization near the end of their doctoral studies. Students are also expected to develop and defend a theoretically based scholarly research proposal that will become their dissertation project. The doctoral program culminates in the production of and defense of the student's dissertation that is expected to be a publishable quality independent research study.