

Office of Extended Studies *presents*

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY

EDUCATIONAL SPECIALIST (ED.S.)

University of
Northern Colorado
Denver Center

WHY STUDY SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY AT UNC?

The School Psychology (Ed.S.) program is housed within the School of Applied Psychology & Counselor Education at the Extended Studies Denver Center at Lowry. Successful completion of the program leads to the Educational Specialist degree (Ed.S.).

The aim of the program is to develop professionals who are able to apply psychological and educational principles to improve the psychosocial environments of children (ages birth-21) and their families. Attention is directed toward the development of skills in planning and implementing direct academic and social/emotional interventions with a focus on evidence-based and culturally sensitive practice; and providing individual and systems consultation within schools and the larger community. These skills are further enhanced with knowledge, practice and expertise in the areas of intellectual and emotional assessment and cognitive and social development of children.

Students who successfully complete the Education Specialist degree are eligible for state licensure and national certification. The Extended Studies program in Denver is located on the Lowry Campus of the Colorado Community College System. Evening and weekend classes meet the needs of adult learners and working professionals who have jobs, families, and other responsibilities. You study side-by-side with other professionals who share ideas, successes and problems related to challenges you face every day. Advising and instruction is offered on campus by an academic advisor and program faculty. For added convenience, distance technology is utilized as needed.

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NORTHERN COLORADO



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WHAT DOES THIS PROGRAM PREPARE ME TO DO?

- Consult with teachers, parents, administrators and other professional service providers
- Plan and implement direct interventions, as well as curriculum and environmental modification
- Assess the intellectual, emotional and social development of children
- Evaluate programs and conduct field-based research

For more information about the role and function of school psychologists please visit the web site of the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) at www.nasponline.org

This program is offered as part of the statewide coordinated program of off-campus instruction authorized by and in compliance with policies of the Colorado Department of Higher Education.

ARE CLASSES CONVENIENT FOR ME?

This program is designed for adult learners who are working professionals, thus instruction is offered during convenient weekend hours. To facilitate communications with faculty, program support staff and other students in your cohort, it is necessary to have access to a computer (*preferably a laptop*), email, and the Internet. Computer training is provided as part of the program and is included in APCE 670. We encourage you to bring the laptop to class to view handouts and assigned readings.

A LOOK AT THE PROGRAM

A detailed schedule is available through the website of the UNC Office of Extended Studies.

- Go to www.unco.edu/extendedstudies
- Click on Extended Degree Program, Licensure, Certificates
- Click on Prospective Students
- Scroll down the page and click on information listed under School Psychology, Ed.S.

Some courses during the second year of studying require that you spend 180 hours working under the supervision of a school psychologist. This translates to one day per week during the semester.

WHAT WILL I STUDY AND WHAT COURSES ARE REQUIRED?

Prerequisites/ 5 hrs.

- APCE 558 Abnormal Psychology (3)
- APCE 670 Psychological Testing and Measurement (2)

Psychological Foundations/ 39 hrs.

- APCE 607 Theories of Counseling (3)
- APCE 638 Human Behavior Analysis (3)
- APCE 655 Social & Community Psychology (3)
- APCE 660 Psychological Consultation: Theory and Practice (3)
- APCE 667 Crisis Intervention in the Schools (2)
- APCE 738 Practicum & Evidenced-Based Interventions (3)
- APCE 737 Single-Case Research Methods (2)
- APCE 747 Psychological Aspects of Academic programming and Intervention (4)
- APCE 757 Intervention for Severe and Low Incidence Disabilities (3)
- APCE 758 Advanced Psychopathology (3)
- APCE 763 Legal & Professional Foundations of School Psychology (4)
- APCE 781 Measurement and Evaluation of Psychological Services (3)
- PSY 530 Lifespan Developmental Psychology (3)

Assessment and Intervention/ 24 hrs.

- APCE 618 Practicum in Child, Adolescent and Family Interventions (5)
- APCE 674 Assessment for Intervention: Cognitive and Achievement (5)
- APCE 676 Assessment for Intervention: Infant and Toddler (3)
- APCE 678 Assessment for Intervention: Personality and Behavior (5)
- APCE 758 Advanced Psychopathology (3)
- APCE 779 Practicum in School Psychology (3)

Multicultural Understanding/ 3 hrs.

- APCE 623 Understanding and Counseling Diverse Populations (3)

Supervised Internship/6 hrs.

APCE 789 Internship in School Psychology/ 6 hrs.
Full-time field experience in school psychology under qualified supervisors in a school setting, taken during one school year at the end of the program. Alternatively, can be completed as part-time field experience during two school years.

Examination

The program and the Graduate School require the successful completion of the National School Psychology (NCSP) Examination administered through the Educational Testing Service. www.ets.org/praxis --within the site, search for NASP (National Association of School Psychologists) National Certified School Psychology (NCSP) Examination.

WILL I HAVE A FACULTY ADVISOR?

Academic program advisors from UNC meet with you in Denver and are available by phone and e-mail at other times. Dr. Achilles N. Bardos coordinates the program and serves as the academic advisor. He can be reached at achilles.bardos@unco.edu or abardos@comcast.net, (970) 351-1629 or by cell phone: (970) 405-6694.

IS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE?

Students enrolled in UNC degree and licensure programs may be eligible for financial aid. Obtain detailed information from the UNC Office of Financial Aid (see “Who Do I Contact?”).

WILL THIS PROGRAM MEET MY EXPECTATIONS FOR QUALITY?

High Standards

UNC offers accredited programs and maintains high teaching standards. Program faculty are committed to the development of broadly based, competent professionals who apply psychological and educational principles to improve the psychosocial environment of children and adolescents within the school and larger community settings. Faculty view potential program candidates as unique, with strengths and assets to be identified, encouraged, and developed during graduate education.

The educational specialist's program is designed to serve students who wish to become practitioners, meeting state licensure requirements for school psychologists.

Accreditation

The University of Northern Colorado is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The Ed.S. program in School Psychology is accredited by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) and the Colorado Department of Education.

Exceptional Faculty

Highly qualified UNC faculty and, occasionally, practicing school psychologists will teach your courses. Faculty affirm strong connection between the world of theory and the world of practice and are in constant and close contact with K-12 and postsecondary educators and other professionals, collaborating, consulting and researching.

An Educational Leader

Since its founding more than 100 years ago, the University of Northern Colorado has been at the educational frontier. Today, the University prides itself on its quality, diversity and personal touch. We offer a wide range of academic programs on the Greeley campus and at sites throughout Colorado via distance delivery formats, both site-based and online. Degrees and endorsements awarded through extended programs carry the same academic recognition as those earned on the Greeley campus.

HOW AND WHEN CAN I APPLY?

You must possess a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university and be accepted by the UNC Graduate School. Admission to the graduate program in school psychology is a two stage process consisting of: 1) preliminary screening by the Graduate School; and 2) final review by the school psychology faculty. GRE scores required: 1000 or better for Verbal and Math with no less than 450 on each section; minimum score of 3.5 for Writing Assignment.

New student cohorts typically begin in the spring or summer term. Please contact the Extended Studies Denver Center for information on the application timeline.

Submit to the Graduate School:

1. Completed application for admission.
2. \$50 admission processing fee.
3. Academic transcripts (two official copies) from each college or university you have attended (except UNC). A grade point average of at least 3.3 in the most recent 100 hours of academic work is preferred.
4. GRE score report.

When the Graduate School has determined that minimum university requirements have been met, your materials will be forwarded to the program area for consideration.

Submit to UNC's Extended Studies Denver Center:

1. The Notice of Intent form (enclosed).
2. Your written statement (300-500 words) indicating your “Personal and Professional Reasons for Selecting School Psychology as a Profession.” Address this statement to the school psychology program coordinator.
3. Your vitae or resume.
4. Three letters of recommendation addressing both your ability to successfully complete the respective graduate program and the probability of your functioning effectively in the field.

Participate in an interview with Program Faculty: Selected program candidates will be invited for an interview with program faculty in Denver.



Please contact us for information on additional programs offered online or in Colorado Springs, Loveland and Denver.

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WHO ARE THE SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY FACULTY?

Michelle S. Athanasiou, Ph.D., N.C.S.P., doctorate from University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Professor of School Psychology. Early childhood assessment and intervention, behavior analysis, consultation, professional issues in school psychology.

Achilles N. Bardos, Ph.D., N.C.S.P., doctorate from Ohio State University. Professor of School Psychology. Psychoeducational assessment, research methods, measurement, and program evaluation.

Robyn Hess, Ph.D., N.C.S.P., doctorate from University of Northern Colorado. Professor of School Psychology. School completion, culturally responsive assessment and intervention, individual counseling, cognitive assessment, consultation.

Kathrine Koehler-Hak, Ph.D., N.C.S.P., doctorate from University of Oregon. Assistant Professor of School Psychology. Instruction and curriculum design, effective teaching practices, Response to Intervention, early childhood assessment and intervention, early literacy.

WHO DO I CONTACT?

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