



FAIRFIELD UNIVERSITY GRADUATE PROGRAMS



SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

GSEAP offers programs leading to the master of arts degree and the sixth year certificate of advanced study (SYC) in School Psychology. The programs are shaped by the belief that school psychologists are best prepared when they are instilled with a scientist/practitioner problem-solving orientation, encouraged to think reflectively, motivated to intervene at the primary prevention level, and inspired to be proactive agents of change.

The program is approved by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP). The NASP training standards provide best practice competencies in the areas of assessment, consultation, and direct intervention. Candidates evolve as professionals through classroom experiences and opportunities to apply their growing knowledge and skills in school and clinical agencies.

To be endorsed for state certification, a candidate must complete both the MA and CAS requirements. Upon completing the MA, candidates must formally submit an application for entry into the CAS program. Those wishing to enter the program at the CAS level must hold a related master's degree and must complete a minimum of 30 credits at Fairfield.

COURSE OF STUDY

MA IN SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY (33 CREDITS)

- FT 433 Social Justice and Diversity in Professional Practice
- SE 405 Exceptional Learners in the Mainstream
- SE 413 Introduction to Learning Disabilities
- PY 430 Issues in Professional Practice in School Psychology
- PY 433 Behavioral Statistics
- PY 435 Psychology of Personality
- PY 436 Psychopathology and Classification I
- PY 438 Treatment Models for School-Age Youth
- PY 446 Developmental Psychology I:
Theory and Application in Professional Practice
- PY 534 Theories of Learning
- PY 537 Psychoeducational Assessment I:
Behavioral Approaches
- PY 99 Comprehensive Examination in School Psychology
(non-credit course)

SYC IN SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY (30 CREDITS)

- PY 449 Introduction to Clinical Child Neuropsychology
- PY 535 Collaborative Consultation
- PY 538 Psychoeducational Assessment II:
Standardized Approaches
- PY 540 Psychoeducational Assessment III:
Clinical Approaches
- PY 544 Psychoeducational Assessment IV:
Integrated Assessment
- PY 548 Psychotherapeutic Techniques for
School-Age Youth
- PY 576 Practicum I: Assessment and Group Process

- PY 577 Practicum I: Counseling and Group Process
- PY 598 Internship in School Psychology I
- PY 599 Internship in School Psychology II

FIELD EXPERIENCE

The program seeks to provide opportunities to apply theory in practical settings. All courses in the three content areas – consultation, assessment, and direct intervention – include both theoretical foundations and practical experience. Experience with teachers, children, and schools culminates in a 1,200-hour internship required for state certification.

PORTFOLIOS

Students complete two types of portfolios. Throughout the program, students maintain a cumulative portfolio documenting their growth. The portfolio consists of assignments required in various courses, including the personal mission statement, the philosophy of school psychology and counseling, case analyses, assessment reports, journal entries, and self- and supervisor evaluations. The portfolio serves as a tool with which to evaluate and establish goals and as helpful documentation when seeking employment or applying to doctoral programs. The second portfolio is an e-Portfolio, which is a culminating scientist-practitioner assessment completed during the three program field placements. Students develop five interventions at a student, teacher, small group, parent/family, and system level. For each intervention data is collected to demonstrate positive measurable outcomes.

PREPARE WORKSHOPS

All students are trained in the national evidenced-based crisis management program, PREPaRE, while in the SYC program during Practicum and Internship.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Graduates of Fairfield's program are employed widely throughout Connecticut and in other states. Many of these alumni are helpful to new school psychologists and students in the program, providing professional and personal support.



Fairfield University

Graduate School of Education
and Allied Professions

The program encourages networking among students and alumni, and sponsors several social events that bring them together during the course of the year. This networking not only fosters support among students but also promotes leadership, reflective discussion and practice.

GRADUATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Dr. Paula Gill Lopez

Phone: 203-254-4250

E-mail: pgilllopez@fairfield.edu

Please e-mail Dr. Gill Lopez for more information.

For a complete faculty listing, see
www.fairfield.edu/gseapfaculty.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants for a master's degree must hold a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university (or the international equivalent) and give promise of meeting the standards set by the school.

FORMAL ADMISSION PROCESS

Application deadline: DECEMBER 1st for Summer or Fall term.

Candidates admitted for the fall semester may take courses in the summer prior to their first fall term after obtaining approval from an advisor, or they may wait and begin courses in the fall.

Students seeking admission must complete and submit the following online:

1. A completed formal application.
(Apply online at www.fairfield.edu/atcapp.)
2. A non-refundable \$60 application fee.
3. A professional résumé. Applicants are required to submit a current résumé that includes employment and educational history.
4. A personal statement. Students should describe why they want to undertake graduate studies in the program for which they are applying.
5. Official transcripts from all universities/colleges attended. We generally expect applicants to have a minimum undergraduate cumulative GPA of 3.0. Any applicant whose undergraduate GPA is lower than 2.67 must request and receive a GPA waiver from the department. Waivers are granted on a case by case basis and may require supplemental undergraduate coursework to increase the undergraduate GPA and/or earning a B or better in two or more approved graduate-level courses. All foreign transcripts must be evaluated by an approved evaluating service. A list of approved evaluators is available at www.fairfield.edu/eval. Students may be required to take one or more English writing courses if their writing skills do not meet graduate level standards. Upon the granting of a GPA waiver, an approval form signed by the Department and the Dean's office will be placed in the student's file. Candidates who are granted a GPA waiver and are admitted must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0 to be permitted to continue in the program. Candidates applying for admission to a certification program should note that Connecticut State certification program standards for formal admission to an approved initial educator certification program require candidates to possess a minimum undergraduate cumulative grade point average of B- (2.67 on a 4.0 GPA scale), unless an approved GPA waiver form documents that a waiver was granted.

6. Two recommendations. Suggested recommendations include your undergraduate or graduate professors, your major advisor, your work supervisor, or a professional in the field that you wish to study who knows you. Note that recommendations from friends or co-workers are not accepted.

Applicants must have taken one of the following tests: the Praxis Core, SAT, ACT or GRE and provide official scores for their file. Applicants who do not have passing scores on one or more sections may be required to remediate any deficient area. Remediation may include re-taking and passing the sections that were not passed, taking additional coursework, or other remediation activities. If additional courses are required, the candidate must complete the coursework at a grade of B (3.0) or above and provide an official transcript to the Dean's office prior to student teaching or internship. Please see advisor for additional details and recommendations. If students provide their social security number to Educational Testing Services (ETS) www.ets.org/praxis when registering for the Praxis Core exam, the reported score will automatically be uploaded to their Fairfield application file. Our code is 3390.

7. Participate in an admissions interview (applicants are notified regarding an interview after a paper review of their credentials.)
8. All international students whose native language is not English must demonstrate proficiency in the English language by taking either TOEFL or IELTS exams. For admission to the graduate school, a TOEFL composite score of 550 for the paper test, 213 for the computer-based test, 84 on the internet-based test with a minimum score of 21 in reading and 23 in writing is required. An IELTS score of 7.5 is required. Scores must be sent directly from the Educational Testing Service (TOEFL) or www.IELTS.org. Fairfield's ETS code is 3390.

Submit transcripts and any other documents that cannot be uploaded to:

Fairfield University
Office of Graduate Admission
Kelley Center
1073 North Benson Road
Fairfield, CT 06824

BACKGROUND CHECK AND FINGERPRINTING

Fingerprinting and background checks are required for certification programs. Please contact the Dean's office at 203-254-4250 for updated information.

MANDATORY IMMUNIZATIONS

Connecticut State law requires each full-time or matriculated student to provide proof of immunity or screening against measles, mumps, rubella, varicella (chicken pox), meningitis and tuberculosis. Certain exemptions based on age and housing status apply. Matriculating students are defined as those enrolled in a degree seeking program. More detailed information and the required downloadable forms are available online at www.fairfield.edu/immunization. Completed forms should be submitted directly to the Student Health Center. Although this is not required to complete an application, you must provide proof of immunity/screening prior to course registration. Please consult your private health care provider to obtain the necessary immunizations. Questions may be directed to the Student Health Center: 203-254-4000 ext. 2241 or e-mail health@fairfield.edu.

NON-MATRICULATED STUDENT STATUS

Under our Non-Matriculated Status option, qualified students may take two or three courses (depending on the program of study) before gaining admission to a degree or certification program. This option provides a wonderful opportunity for qualified students to explore degree options and to confirm personal goals and readiness for graduate study. Qualifications to be considered include a bachelor's degree (required) and other qualifications related to your preparedness for graduate-level studies in the field of interest to you. Successful completion of coursework does not guarantee formal admission.

Individuals enrolled as non-matriculated students are not eligible for any tuition and/or financial support.

NON-MATRICULATED ADMISSION

Qualified applicants who have not completed the formal admission process may apply for permission to enroll as a non-matriculated student and earn up to 6 credits in a certification program and up to 9 credits in a non-certification program. (The number of non-matriculated credits are limited if the student has transfer credits to be considered.)

Application Instructions for non-matriculated admission:

- Apply online - Graduate Admission Application:
www.fairfield.edu/applynow
- Submit \$60 application fee
- Answer "Yes" to the Non-Matriculated student question
- Choose Term to begin course work
- Upload unofficial undergraduate transcript with degree posted to application file *
- Contact the GSEAP Dean's office at 203-254-4250 to be directed to the appropriate advisor for an interview.

*In order to become a fully matriculated student see Formal Admission Process.

MAXIMUM CREDITS ALLOWED BEFORE FORMAL ADMISSION

The total number of credits earned before formal admission to a program (i.e., the total number of transfer credits plus any credits earned as a non-matriculated student) may not exceed 6 (six) credits for applicants to certification programs or 9 (nine) credits for applicants to non-certification programs.

TUITION/FINANCIAL AID

Academic Year 2018-19

Tuition: \$775 per credit hour

A graduate education can provide countless professional and personal rewards in the future. Many students need to look beyond their own financial resources or the resources of their employer for assistance. There are many ways to finance a graduate education, including graduate assistantships, federal direct loan programs and our Veterans Pride Program, which are all discussed at www.fairfield.edu/gradfa.

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AID

Advisors from the Office of Financial Aid are committed to helping students find the options that best suit each of their needs. We encourage all Fairfield University graduate students to contact the Financial Aid office with any questions or to make an appointment to speak with a counselor.

FINANCIAL AID CONTACT INFORMATION

Phone: 203-254-4125

Fax: 203-254-4008

E-mail: finaid@fairfield.edu

FINANCIAL AID OFFICE OPERATIONS

Days: Monday-Friday

Hours: 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Location: Aloysius P. Kelley, S.J. Center

MORE INFORMATION

ADMISSION QUESTIONS

Questions about the application process should be directed to the **Office of Graduate Admission**.

Phone: 203-254-4184

Fax: 203-254-4073

E-mail: gradadmis@fairfield.edu

OFFICE OPERATIONS

Days: Monday-Friday

Hours: 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Location: Aloysius P. Kelley, S.J. Center

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND ALLIED PROFESSIONS WEBSITE

www.fairfield.edu/gseap

ONLINE CATALOG

For detailed course descriptions and other University information, please refer to our online catalog www.fairfield.edu/catalogs.

For gainful employment disclosures, see www.fairfield.edu/gainfulemploy.