Special Education (Applied Behavior Analysis), MA

ASU's Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College is one of the top-ranked graduate colleges of education in the U.S. Our graduate programs develop purposeful innovators who bring people and ideas together to improve the lives of learners, the impact of educators and the performance of education systems.

Program Description

Degree Awarded: MA Special Education (Applied Behavior Analysis)

The MA program in special education with a concentration in applied behavior analysis combines research and experience to prepare professionals to use principles of ABA with individuals who have special learning and behavior needs. The coursework prepares students to use applied behavior analysis to address a variety of learning and behavior needs across a range of professions and settings. All courses are online, combining an assortment of resources and technologies to provide students the opportunity to interact directly with program faculty and classmates.

Program graduates will be well prepared to provide applied behavior analysis and evidence-based consultative services and support to clients, community and family members across a variety of settings. Coursework is verified by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board for students interested in sitting for the Board Certified Behavior Analyst examination. BCBA supervision hours, required for certification, are arranged and completed by the student separately from ASU coursework.

At a Glance

- **College/School:** Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College
- **Location:** online
Degree Requirements

30 credit hours and a Capstone Course (SPE 597), or
30 credit hours including a Applied Project (SPE 593)

Required Core (12 credit hours)
SPE 564 Controversial Therapies; Science, Fad and Pseudoscience in Educational Settings (3)
SPE 565 Behavior Change Systems (3)
SPE 566 Applied Behavior Analysis in Inclusive Settings (3)
SPE 568 Behavior Assessment (3)

Concentration (15 credit hours)
SPE 531 Methods of Applied Behavior Analysis for Exceptional Populations (3)
SPE 562 Personnel Supervision and Organizational Behavior Management in Educational Settings (3)
SPE 563 Philosophical Foundations of Applied Behavior Analysis in Educational Settings (3)
SPE 567 Ethics of Applied Behavior Analysis (3)
SPE 569 Research Methods in Applied Behavior Analysis (3)

Culminating Experience (3 credit hours)
SPE 593 Applied Project (3)
SPE 597 Capstone (3)

Admission Requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree in any field, from a regionally accredited institution. A degree in education or another field related to applied behavior analysis is preferred.

Applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. personal statement
4. three letters of recommendation
5. resume
6. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information
An applicant whose native language is not English (regardless of current residency) must provide proof of English proficiency.

The personal statement should demonstrate the applicant's goals with respect to the program outcomes and success in a graduate and online program. The statement should also demonstrate high-quality writing and awareness that the student understands the demands of graduate school.

Three letters of recommendation from individuals who can speak to the applicant's potential for success in a graduate program are required for admission.

Attend Online

ASU offers this program in an online format with multiple enrollment sessions throughout the year. Applicants may view the program description and request more information here.

Global Opportunities

PLuS Alliance
Global Experience
Global Degree

Career Opportunities

Contact Information

Educational Leadership & Innovation, Division | FAB 200
graduateeducation@asu.edu | 602-543-6358
Admission Deadlines