DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

The Department of Educational Psychology offers a Bachelor of Science (BS) degree in Education with teacher certification concentrations in Bilingual Education or Special Education. The department also offers a BS in University Studies with a non-certification concentration in Child Professional Services. The department’s minor in Creative Studies focuses on developing and growing one’s creative thinking ability for personal and professional situations.

Requirements for Admission to Professional Phase

The undergraduate curricula in the Department of Educational Psychology are composed of two phases: the pre-professional phase and the professional phase. Upon acceptance into the department, all students enter the pre-professional phase. The pre-professional phase consists of University Core Curriculum requirements and introductory courses to the major field of study. After successful completion of these requirements, students are eligible to apply for admission into the professional phase. Cohorts in bilingual and special education are limited in number and students are admitted on a competitive basis; meeting the minimum program prerequisites does not guarantee admission to the professional phase. The professional phase consists of advanced work in the major field of study and professional development courses with field-based experiences.

Requirements for Admission to the Professional Phase of Teacher Education Programs

The State of Texas establishes standards for teacher education programs. All certification programs at Texas A&M are in compliance with these requirements. Students must meet state, University, College of Education and Human Development and department/program requirements for matriculation into a teacher education program. Below are the requirements for the traditional certification program. Students are responsible for contacting a departmental advisor to obtain information about specific requirements for majors and program areas, as some programs have requirements beyond those listed below. University-wide requirements for admission to teacher education include the following:

1. An approved degree plan or certification and teaching field plan(s).
2. Minimum GPA of 2.75 for the special education program and 2.75 for the bilingual education program based on all coursework completed at Texas A&M University. (See departmental advisor for additional grade requirements.)
3. Completion of all required University core courses.
4. A grade of B or higher in all certification courses. (See departmental advisor for additional grade requirements).
5. Satisfaction of English proficiency requirement by:
   a. Earning a grade of B or higher in ENGL 103 or ENGL 104 (or receiving credit by exam for the course); or
   b. Earning a grade of B or higher in ENGL 210, ENGL 235 or ENGL 241; and
   c. Earning no grade below C in any course taken in (a) or (b) above.
6. Pass the THEA, ACCUPLACER, ASSET or COMPASS test or show proof of exemption from the test with appropriate STAAR, SAT or ACT scores.
7. Oral interview required for admission to upper level for Hispanic Bilingual Education.
8. Documentation of foreign language and computer literacy requirements on file in the Texas A&M University Office of Admissions.
9. Transcripts from all institutions of higher education on file in the Texas A&M University Office of Admissions.

Requirements for Admission to Student Teaching

1. Successful admission to Professional Phase of Teacher Education.
2. Complete Application for Clinical Teaching by the given deadlines for each semester.
3. Completion of all courses listed on the degree plan. All coursework must have a grade of C or better. See departmental advisor for additional grade requirements.
4. A minimum GPA of 3.0 in upper-level courses in Special Education. See departmental advisor for additional grade requirements.
5. A minimum GPA of 2.75 on all coursework completed at Texas A&M. See departmental advisor for additional grade requirements.
6. Satisfaction of Spanish proficiency requirements (Hispanic Bilingual Education ONLY).
7. In addition to #6, satisfactory performance on the written and oral Spanish proficiency component of the Hispanic Bilingual Education program admission process.

Faculty

Acosta, Sandra T, Associate Professor
Educational Psychology
PHD, Texas A&M University, 2010

Alexander, Joyce M, Professor
Educational Psychology
PHD, University of Georgia, 1992

Baek, Eunkyeng, Assistant Professor
Educational Psychology
PHD, University of South Florida, 2015

Blake, Jamilia J, Professor
Educational Psychology
PHD, University of Georgia, 2007

Brossart, Dan F, Professor
Educational Psychology
PHD, University of Missouri at Columbia, 1996

Castillo, Linda G, Professor
Educational Psychology
PHD, University of Utah, 1999

Castro Olivo, Sara M, Associate Professor
Educational Psychology
PHD, University of Oregon, 2007

Department of Educational Psychology
Thompson, Christopher G, Assistant Professor
Educational Psychology
PHD, Florida State University, 2016

Thompson, Julie L, Assistant Professor
Educational Psychology
PHD, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, 2014

Tong, Fuhui, Professor
Educational Psychology
PHD, Texas A&M University, 2006

Walichowski, Miranda F, Clinical Associate Professor
Educational Psychology
PHD, Texas A&M University, 2009

Whiteside, Erinn, Clinical Assistant Professor
Educational Psychology
PHD, University of Georgia, 2019

Woltering, Steven, Associate Professor
Educational Psychology
PHD, University of Toronto, 2012

Woodward, Robert S, Clinical Associate Professor
Educational Psychology
PHD, Texas A&M University, 2004

Yoon, Myeongsun, Associate Professor
Educational Psychology
PHD, Arizona State University, 2007

Zhang, Dan D, Professor
Educational Psychology
PHD, University of New Orleans, 1998

Majors

• Bachelor of Science in Education, Bilingual Education-EC-6 (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/education-human-development/educational-psychology/education-bs-bilingual-ec6/)
• Bachelor of Science in Education, Special Education-EC-12 (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/education-human-development/educational-psychology/education-bs-special-education-ec12/)

Minors

• Creative Studies Minor (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/education-human-development/educational-psychology/creative-studies-minor/)

Certificates

• Interdisciplinary Studies Certificate (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/education-human-development/educational-psychology/interdisciplinary-studies-certificate/)