Educational Psychology

The Master of Science in Educational Psychology with a concentration in applied behavior analysis (ABA) in the School of Education and Human Development at the University of Southern Maine prepares students to be eligible to become Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBA). BCBAs provide clinical services for individuals with developmental disabilities and other conditions requiring direct and systematic programs to support activities of daily living. The USM degree program includes the courses necessary to meet the BCBA requirements of the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB). The USM M.S. program is accredited by the BACB to provide the necessary coursework in preparation for the BCBA. In order to become a BCBA, graduates will need to complete 1,500 hours of BACB approved supervised practice and pass the national certification exam. The supervised work can take place while the coursework is being completed. Students must obtain a Master’s Degree before sitting for the BCBA examination. Information about the BCBA application process can be obtained from: bacb.com

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS
The M.S. in Educational Psychology with a concentration in ABA requires 36 credit hours of coursework. The program may be completed on either a full-time or part-time basis. It takes two full years to complete the program on a full-time basis. Only two Educational Psychology courses (up to six credits) may be taken prior to admission. Prospective applicants may want to start with one of the following: SPY 601, SPY 671, or SPY 673.

The Certificate in Applied Behavior Analysis (CABA) is a seven-course, 21-credit hour program. This certificate is available to individuals who have a prior master’s degree in psychology, special education, or another field approved by the BACB. The completion of the CABA constitutes partial fulfillment of the requirements to obtain the Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) credential. The USM CABA program is accredited by the BACB to provide the necessary coursework in preparation for the BCBA. In order to become a BCBA, graduates will need to complete 1,500 hours of BACB approved supervised practice and pass the national certification exam. The supervised work can take place while the coursework is being completed. Information about the BCBA application process can be obtained from: bacb.com

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS
The Certificate in Applied Behavior Analysis (CABA) requires 21 credit hours of coursework. The program may be completed on either a full-time or part-time basis.

Please visit the School’s website for a complete list of course descriptions: usm.maine.edu/sehd/sehd-course-descriptions.
APPLICATION DEADLINES
Applications for admission are considered on a rolling basis.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS
M.S. in Educational Psychology
• A completed online application with the USM Office of Graduate Admissions
• A non-refundable application fee of $65
• Current Resume
• Official transcripts for all colleges or universities attended. The Office of Graduate Admissions is able to obtain transcripts of courses completed after 1985 from any University of Maine system campus, so you do not need to request those; however, you do need to list them on your application
• Three letters of recommendation attesting to the applicant’s ability to study at the graduate level.
• Essay (see usm.maine.edu/educational-psychology/ms-educational-psychology-concentration-applied-behavior-analysis)
• Official GRE or MAT test scores (see usm.maine.edu/educational-psychology/ms-educational-psychology-concentration-applied-behavior-analysis)
• Certificate of Finances (international students only)
• Submission of official TOEFL or IELTS scores (if English is not first language)

Certificate in Applied Behavioral Analysis
• A submitted online Certificate of Graduate Study
• Application
• A non-refundable application fee of $25
• Current Resume
• Official transcripts for all colleges or universities attended. The Office of Graduate Admissions is able to obtain transcripts of courses completed after 1985 from any University of Maine system campus, so you do not need to request those; however, you do need to list them on your application
• Personal statement (see usm.maine.edu/educational-psychology/certificate-applied-behavior-analysis)

SPECIFIC PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS
Applicants to the program can find full admission application details on the Educational Psychology website, located here: usm.maine.edu/educational-psychology.

For more information contact:
Educational Psychology
(207) 780-5300
espy@maine.edu
218a Bailey Hall
Gorham campus
usm.maine.edu/educational-psychology

For assistance with the application process:
Office of Graduate Admissions
(207) 780-4386
gradstudies@usm.maine.edu