

SPECIAL EDUCATION APPLIED BEHAVIORAL ANALYSIS CONCENTRATION

MASTER OF EDUCATION
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

www.sru.edu/aba



ABOUT THE APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS (M.ED.) PROGRAM

Are you empathetic, caring, kind and patient? If you enjoy helping others, consider becoming a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA). BCBA's can support all persons with exceptionalities and have been instrumental in the support of persons having Autism Spectrum Disorders. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, behavior analyst jobs are growing rapidly and the overall employment rate is expected to grow much faster than the average for all professions combined between 2012 and 2022.

In education, behavior analysts support a variety of individuals including parents, guidance counselors, healthcare providers, and others to provide evidenced-based assessment and behavior-based interventions. The focus is on the learning environment and teacher behavior as the primary methods to proactively address behavioral challenges. Behavioral analysts also contribute to classroom and schoolwide Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS). Areas of practice also include: autism, community based mental health, social work, and counseling.

Slippery Rock University's M.Ed. in Special Education with a concentration in Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) is a 36-39 credit program aimed at training practitioners in Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) services consistent with the standards set forth through the Behavior Analysis Certification Board (BACB). The Behavior Analyst Certification Board, Inc.® has verified the course sequence listed under curriculum as meeting the coursework requirements for eligibility to take the Board Certified Behavior Analyst Examination.

ABA PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

SRU's Master of Education in Special Education with a concentration in Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) offers:

- 100% online
- World class faculty considered to be the leaders in Special Education in Pennsylvania
- A program curriculum grounded in theory and research supported by a practical, hands-on approach
- Course sequence alignment with the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB) that meets eligibility requirements to take the Board Certified Behavior Analyst Exam



ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

All applicants must submit the following materials along with a completed online graduate application and non-refundable application fee:

1. Official undergraduate transcripts from the applicant's baccalaureate granting institution and any graduate transcripts (if applicable)
2. Copy of teacher certification (optional)
3. Resume
4. Recommendation forms: one academic reference from a former or current college or university faculty member with knowledge of the applicant's academic abilities and one professional reference from a school administrator, teacher, or supervisor with knowledge of the applicant's professional attributes. Recommendations must be on the appropriate forms, which are available electronically at www.sru.edu/graduate, under "Forms"

Unconditional admission may be offered to applicants who submit acceptable credentials as listed above, and who have earned an undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or higher (based on a 4.0 scale).

Applicants who do not meet all of the above criteria may be offered conditional admission upon recommendation of the graduate coordinator and approval by the Director of Graduate Admissions. Applicants should have their final official transcripts forwarded directly to the Office of Graduate Admissions.

SlipperyRock
University

A member of Pennsylvania's State System
of Higher Education

EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE

www.sru.edu/graduate

CURRICULUM (36-39 CREDITS)

SRU's Master of Education in Special Education with a concentration in Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) consists of courses in the following areas:

***Students starting in Fall term will begin with the SPED 660 course**

Area I - Core Courses (9 credits; Fall/Winter/Spring/Summer):

SPED 611: Special Education Law
 SPED 617: Current Research in Special Education
 SPED 625: Instructional Strategies for Learning and Behavior Problems

Area II - Applied Behavior Analysis Courses (18 credits; Fall/Spring only):

SPED 660: Basic Behavior Principles*
 SPED 661/861: Techniques in Applied Behavior Analysis
 SPED 669/869: Applications in Applied Behavior Analysis
 SPED 663: Ethical Issues in the Science & Practice of Behavior Analysis
 SPED 664: Issues in the Behavioral Treatment of Autism
 SPED 665/865: Research in ABA

Area III - Additional Concentration Courses (6 credits; Fall/Winter/Spring/Summer):

SPED 602: Advanced Study of Exceptional Persons
 SPED 643: Communication and Social Competency

Practicum (3 credit minimum – optional 3-6 credits;

Fall/Spring only):

SPED 668: Thesis in Applied Behavior Analysis
 SPED 648: Clinical Practicum (for students pursuing PA Certification in Special Education Birth to Grade 8 or Grades 7-12)

TUITION & ASSISTANTSHIPS

Information on current tuition and assistantships can be found on the main Graduate Admissions website at www.sru.edu/graduate. Financial Aid brochures are available through the Financial Aid Office at www.sru.edu/FinAid or in the Office of Graduate Admissions.

CLEARANCES

Clearances are due no later than one (1) week prior to deadline of course registration for each program's practicum/field experience. No student will be permitted to register for the program's practicum and take part in practicum/field experiences without Clear clearances on file at SRU. Students are to send the following by the established due date:

- Clear Act 34 Criminal History Record NO record...NONE concerning prohibitive offenses. A meeting headed by the Dean of the College of Education is required if clearances show non-prohibitive offenses. Clearance must be less than one year old at the time of submission.
- Clear Act 114 FBI Record Check NO record...NONE concerning prohibitive offenses. A meeting headed by the Dean of the College of Education is required if clearances show non-prohibitive offenses. Clearance must be less than one year old at the time of submission.
- Clear Act 151 Child Abuse Background Check NO record...NONE concerning prohibitive offenses. A meeting headed by the Dean of the College of Education is required if clearances show non-prohibitive offenses. Clearance must be less than one year old at the time of submission.
- Act 24 Arrest/Conviction Report and Certification NO record...NONE concerning prohibitive offenses. A meeting headed by the Dean of the College of Education is required if clearances show non-prohibitive offenses. Students must file an updated Act 24 with SRU if any additional arrests/convictions occur while enrolled at SRU.

RECOGNITION & AWARD



FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT ACADEMICS AND COURSE SCHEDULING:

Eric J. Bieniek, PhD, BCBA-D
 Graduate Coordinator
 208 McKay Education Building
 724.738.4106
eric.bieniek@sru.edu

The educational policies and procedures are continually being reviewed and changed in keeping with the mission of the university. Consequently, this document cannot be considered binding and is intended to be used as only an informational guide. Students are responsible for being informed of official policies and regulations for meeting all appropriate requirements.

FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT ADMISSIONS:

Office of Graduate Admissions
 104 North Hall, Welcome Center
 Slippery Rock, PA 16057
www.sru.edu/graduate
 724.738.2051 or 877.SRU.GRAD
graduate.admissions@sru.edu