

Learning Sciences, MA

EDPSYCHMA

Learning happens everywhere. Use the power of design thinking to enhance learning experiences in a variety of settings. Interdisciplinary in scope and blending theoretical insight with practical tools, this program prepares you to be a creative thinker and an effective doer.

Program description

Degree awarded: MA Learning Sciences

The MA program in learning sciences emphasizes an understanding that learning happens in many places outside of traditional school settings, and doing so focuses on the power of design thinking to improve educational systems.

The curriculum's systems-level approach includes cognitive, social and contextual factors as well as the interactions among them.

Individualized guidance provides students with the support they need to succeed in today's rapidly evolving educational environment. Students work with faculty to determine whether they'll conduct an applied project or complete a research thesis study. Applied projects provide evidence of mastery of the skills and knowledge obtained through the program, while a thesis project requires students to complete a research study within an area of inquiry in the learning sciences and also has the potential for scholarly recognition.

This program does not lead to teacher certification but can prepare graduate students for doctoral credentials in education after graduation.

At a glance

- **College/School:** [Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College](#)
- **Location:** [Tempe](#)

Accelerated program options

This program allows students to obtain both a bachelor's and master's degree in as little as five years. It is offered as an **accelerated bachelor's plus master's degree** with:

Educational Studies, BAE

Acceptance to the graduate program requires a separate application. Students typically receive approval to pursue the accelerated master's during the junior year of their bachelor's degree program. Interested students can learn about eligibility requirements and [how to apply](#).

Degree requirements

30 credit hours including the required applied project course (LSE 593), or
30 credit hours, a thesis and a written comprehensive exam

Required Core (12 credit hours)

LSE 540 Theoretical Views of Learning in the Learning Sciences (3)

LSE 542 Research Methods in the Learning Sciences (3)

LSE 570 Case Exemplars of Learning Systems (3)

LSE 571 History of the Learning Sciences (3)

Other Requirements (6 credit hours)

LSE 591 Seminar (6)

Electives (6 or 9 credit hours)

Culminating Experience (3 or 6 credit hours)

LSE 593 Applied Project (3) or

LSE 599 Thesis (6)

Additional Curriculum Information

Students completing an applied project will complete nine credit hours of electives. Students completing a thesis will complete six credit hours of electives. Electives must be taken at the graduate level and selected in conjunction with your advisor. LSE 591 should be taken for three credit hours twice for a total of six credit hours.

With advisor approval, EDP 540 may be taken in place of LSE 540 for the core requirement.

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.

Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor's degree program, or a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (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. three letters of recommendation
4. personal statement
5. resume
6. proof of English proficiency

Additional Admission Information

An applicant whose native language is not English must provide [proof of English proficiency](#) regardless of their current residency.

The letters of recommendation should be from individuals who can speak to the applicant's potential for success in a graduate program, and the personal statement should describe the applicant's interests and reason for seeking this degree.

Tuition information

When it comes to paying for higher education, everyone's situation is different. Students can learn about [ASU tuition and financial aid](#) options to find out which will work best for them.

Career opportunities

Students gain skills in facilitating learning using an interdisciplinary approach, drawing upon cognitive science, educational psychology, computer science, anthropology, sociology, information sciences, neurosciences, instructional design and more. This prepares students to expand or pursue a variety of educational careers tailored to their professional goals.

Graduates of the program are equipped to design effective learning and teaching systems in a broad range of settings such as museums, libraries, workplaces and schools. The program prepares graduates to become leaders in the development, integration and improvement of these systems.

Career examples include:

- educational and interactional designer
- educator in community organization
- educator in educational institution
- training specialist, coordinator, manager or director

Contact information

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