

Graduate Studies Programs

Ph.D. in Applied Behavior Analysis

About the Program

The Ph.D. program in Applied Behavior Analysis is a 60-credit doctoral program designed to train and position qualified behavior analysts to make significant contributions to the science and to the community. Candidates should have the motivation and capacity to contribute to professional literature. They should also be interested in a fusion style of research wherein the findings from other disciplines are used to improve behavior analytic research. While many students in our Applied Behavior Analysis programs are drawn from the fields of education and special education, the potential applications for this degree vary widely and include behavioral medicine, organizational behavior management, instructional design, and animal training.

Program Requirements

Candidates must have a Master's degree or higher in Behavioral Education, Applied Behavior Analysis or a related field, including psychology, education, or special education, and must be a Board Certified Behavior Analyst™. Additional requirements include official transcripts from all coursework completed since high school, three letters of recommendation, a résumé, a statement of purpose, an analytical writing sample, an interview, and official GRE general test scores.

The Simmons Difference

For more than 100 years, Simmons has put the needs of our students first. Through an education that combines intellectual leadership with professional preparation, we help students lead meaningful lives and build successful careers for the 21st Century. The College's commitment can be seen in our state-of-the-art facilities for teaching, learning, living, and working at Simmons, as well as through our exceptional faculty and staff. Simmons College is located in the heart of Boston, a world-class city renowned for unlimited educational, career, and social opportunities. All programs provide a challenging educational experience in which every student develops an informed, critical, and committed voice, and learns to be a leader and collaborative member of the professional community. Simmons College was named a "Best College" in its category in the 2010 US News & World Report. Simmons was also included in the 2010 Princeton Review "Best 351 Colleges," and was named among the "Best in New England" in the first-ever edition of Princeton Review's Best Northeastern Colleges.

Simmons Behavior Analysis students are actively engaged in research. Recent publications include:

Cameron, M.J., Maguire, R.W., & McCormack, J. (online 2011). Stress-induced binge eating: A behavior analytic approach to assessment and intervention. *Journal of Adult Development*

Allen, R., Kupfer, J. & Malagodi, E.F. (2008). The reinforcing effects of houselight illumination during chained schedules of food presentation. *Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior*, 90, 187-205.

Sweeney-Kerwin, E. J., Carbone, V. J., O'Brien, L., Zecchin, G., & Janecky, M. N. (2007). Transferring control of the mand to the motivating operation in children with autism. *The Analysis of Verbal Behavior*, 23, 89-102.

Lee-Vieira, A., Mayer, M.D., & Cameron, M.J. (2006). Constructed-response spelling and literacy development: An application in an urban classroom. *Journal of Behavioral Interventions*. 21, 111-122.

Cameron, M.J., Shapiro, R., & Ainsleigh, S.A. (2005). Bicycle riding: Pedaling made possible through positive behavioral interventions. *Journal of Positive Behavior Interventions*, 7(3), 153-158.

Coursework

This program requires 60 semester hours, the equivalent of 15 courses. Students may enroll on either a full- or part-time basis beginning in the fall, spring, or summer semesters.

CORE COURSES

DEDU 651	Applied Statistical Analysis I
DEDU 652	Applied Statistical Analysis II
DEDU 653	Qualitative Research
DEDU 654	Quantitative Research
DEDU 655	Diversity in Education
DEDU 656	Pedagogy for Adult Learners
DEDU 657	Education Leadership
DEDU 670	Dissertation Seminar
DEDU 699	Dissertation

COGNATE COURSES

DABA 601	History of Applied Behavior Analysis
DABA 610	Verbal Behavior
DABA 615	Behavioral Research in Education
DABA 616	Behavioral Consultation in Schools
DABA 620	Stimulus Control
DABA 625	Advanced Functional Assessment and Analysis
DABA 630	Experimental Analysis of Behavior
DABA 635	Behavioral Medicine
DABA 640	Professional and Scholarly Activity

Faculty

Susan A. Ainsleigh, Ed.D., BCBA™

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Contact Us

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