

OPPORTUNITIES AT MESSIAH COLLEGE

Resources

- Career Center for Vocation and Development
Helping Professions Job and Internship Fair
Career information sheets
Graduate school information

Experiential Opportunities

- Internship Center
Full- or part-time internships
Example: Guidance counseling—
Mechanicsburg Area Intermediate School, Harrisburg School District
- Psychology Department
Practica: 1–3-credit work-learning experience
- Agape Center
Volunteer opportunities:
Harrisburg tutoring
Good Schools PA
Young Life
English language tutoring

Contact information:

John Addleman, Chair

Phone: (717) 796-1800, ext. 2980

E-mail: JAddlemn@messiah.edu

Box 3052

One College Ave.

Grantham, PA 17027

www.messiah.edu/departments/psychology



DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

06-1121

PSYCHOLOGY IN THE *School*



School Psychology

Educational Psychology

Guidance Counseling

“Psychologists in the school system may enjoy the best job growth of all psychology subfields due to growing awareness of how mental health and behavioral problems affect learning.”

(U.S. Department of Labor, 2004–2005)

A school psychologist might:

- Collaborate with teachers, parents, and school personnel to improve classroom management.
- Administer assessments to evaluate individuals or education plans, and develop preventive programs for at-risk students.
- Provide psychological counseling to help resolve interpersonal or family problems that interfere with school performance.

An educational psychologist might:

- Evaluate students' thinking abilities and assess individual strengths and weaknesses.
- Study the learning outcomes, student attributes, and instructional processes directly related to the classroom and the school.
- Utilize understanding of human learning and effective teaching to prepare standardized exams and assessments for a university setting.

A guidance counselor might:

- Counsel students in social and educational venues.
- Advise teachers and parents of student needs and potential problems.
- Lead a classroom discussion, administer placement tests, or help students arrange their classroom schedules.

Education, Training, and Certification

Education:

Minimum requirements generally include a master's degree and year-long internship. Ideal programs are accredited by the National Association of School Psychologists, Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs, or the American Psychological Association.

Training:

Graduate programs emphasize mental health, child development, school organization, learning, behavior, and motivation. Guidance counseling focuses on vocational planning and general curriculum.

Certification:

- The National School Psychology Certification System offers national certification requiring a master's degree, a 1,200-hour supervised internship, and passing an exam.
- The National Board for Certified Counselors certifies school counselors requiring graduate course work, field experience in school counseling, and post-master's supervised school counseling.
- The American School Counselor Association offers their National Model training as well as state-specific certification, requiring a one-to two-year internship or teaching experience. Many schools require guidance counselors to hold a teaching certificate.

Places of Employment

- Public or private schools (elementary, middle, or high schools)
- Child care centers
- Colleges and universities
- School-based health centers
- Private practice
- Human resource professions

Recommended Programs and Courses

Majors

- B.A. in Psychology
- B.S. in Psychology

Minors

- Counseling
- Education
- Special Education Concentration

Courses

- Child Development
- Adolescent Development
- Counseling Theories
- Psychological Testing
- Educational Psychology
- Theories of Early Learning
- Social Psychology

Additional Resources

Websites

- www.apa.org
- www.nasponline.org
- www.naspcenter.org/pdf/blue2.pdf
- www.schoolcounselor.org

Books

(Available through the Department of Psychology or Career Center for Vocation and Development.)

- Fagan, T. (1994). *School psychology: Past, present, and future*. New York: Longman.
- Kuther, T.L., & Morgan, R.D. (2004). *Careers in psychology: Opportunities in a changing world*. Belmont, CA: Thomson/Wadsworth.
- Sternberg, R.J. (1997). *Career paths in psychology: Where your degree can take you*. Washington, D.C.: APA.
- Super, C.M., & Super, D.E. (1994). *Opportunities in psychology careers*. VGM Career Horizons.

Journals

- *Professional School Counseling*
- *Educational Psychology*
- *Journal of Social and Clinical Psychology*