PROGRAM HANDBOOK

Master of Science Degree in Applied Behavior Analysis (MS ABA)

2021-2022
(This handbook is effective for students beginning the program in Fall 2021)

**A jointly administered program between the
Psychology Department
at the University of Nebraska Omaha (UNO)
and the Munroe-Meyer Institute (MMI)
at the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC)**

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2021-2022

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Master of Science in Applied Behavior Analysis Program
University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) and Munroe-Meyer Institute (MMI)

Introduction

The contents of this handbook are intended to help current and prospective students understand the structural and procedural operations of the UNO and MMI Applied Behavior Analysis training program. In addition to program information, this handbook reviews relevant departmental and graduate school policies for the program. The MS ABA program is jointly administered between UNO and UNMC/MMI. This handbook reflects policies and procedures particular to the MS ABA program. More specific information pertinent to respective graduate college policies and procedures at each campus will be found at the links below:

https://www.unomaha.edu/graduate-studies/masters-degree/index.php

https://www.unmc.edu/gradstudies/current/index.html

It is expected that students will be familiar with the contents of this handbook as well as the policies and procedures of their respective campus.

Program Mission

The University of Nebraska Omaha and Munroe Meyer Institute Applied Behavior Analysis Program's mission is to graduate students who have met high levels of academic excellence in clinical and research skills in applied behavior analysis and mental/behavioral health. The ABA Program trains students in a behavior analytic orientation to provide much needed services for children and adolescents, including those with behavioral and intellectual/developmental disabilities.

Program Description

The Applied Behavior Analysis Program prepares students to be behavioral health practitioners with advanced knowledge and skills related to the provision of behavioral therapy for children. Students who graduate from the program will be eligible to sit for the examination administered by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board®[www.BACB.com] for certification as Board Certified Behavior Analysts® (BCBA®). Students in the program complete 48-51 credit hours to earn a Master of Science Degree in Applied Behavior Analysis (MS ABA). The MS ABA Program typically takes two years of full time study to complete.

Coursework in the MS-ABA Program also addresses content areas required for licensure as a mental health practitioner in Nebraska. Upon completion of the program, students will have obtained necessary prerequisites for Provisional Licensure as a Mental Health Practitioner (PLMHP) pending approval of the student's graduate transcript by the mental health board of the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services. With the PLMHP, the student will need an additional 3000 hours of supervised experience and will need to successfully pass a licensing exam to be a

Licensed Mental Health Practitioner (LMHP) in the State of Nebraska. Practitioners holding the BCBA® and/or the LMHP typically work in clinical mental health settings, behavioral health community agencies, inpatient and outpatient clinics in hospitals, and schools.

The MS-ABA Program is a collaborative program administered jointly through the UNO Psychology Department and the MMI at UNMC. The program has faculty with experience and expertise in the area of applied behavior analysis. The coursework is a Verified Course Sequence (VCS) approved by the Association for Behavior Analysis International (ABAI). The coursework includes online and on-campus courses.

Training Competencies and Objectives

Based on the program's mission, students are trained in eight core competency areas:

1. Ethical, Legal, and Professional Practice
2. Collaboration and Consultation
3. Cultural Competence
4. Theoretical Foundations
5. Research and Scientific Literacy
6. Application of Assessment and Behavior Change Procedures
7. Employability, Higher Education, and Professional Development skills
8. Certification and Licensure success

As part of these competencies, the following specific objectives are considered the *minimal objectives* that will be acquired as part of this training program. These objectives are derived directly from the Behavior Analyst Certification Board® 5th Edition Task List available at

https://www.bacb.com/bcba-bcaba-task-list/

MS ABA Program Faculty

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Faculty Advisement

Students are assigned a faculty advisor after admission to the program. The role of the faculty advisor is to provide mentoring and supervision for the student with regards to progression through the program, professional development, research, and practicum experiences. We strive to provide a faculty advisor-student match that will best facilitate the student's learning experience. If either the faculty or the student determine that another faculty-student match would be better for the student, then a petition for advisor change would be made by the current faculty advisor and student and potential faculty advisor to the ABA program committee for review and approval. The ABA program director should be contacted to assist with this process as it will vary depending upon the student's campus of enrollment. Note that it is expected that the current faculty advisor and student first attempt to work out any difficulties with the advisement relationship and that these attempts be documented prior to seeking a change in faculty advisors.

Admission Policies and Requirements

Application materials must be submitted by **January 10** for consideration for admission to the MS-ABA Program. Admission is made only for fall semester.

All UNO or UNMC Graduate College admission requirements are prerequisite for admission to the MS ABA program. A minimum of 15 undergraduate semester hours or the equivalent of psychology courses including basic statistics and an upper level laboratory course emphasizing the experimental method, data collection, statistical analysis, and report writing are required. For example, classes offered at UNO that would fulfill this requirement include laboratory research in Cognitive Psychology (PSYC-4074), Sensation and Perception (PSYC-4214), Behavioral Neuroscience (PSYC-4234), Animal Behavior (PSYC- 4280), and Learning (PSYC- 4024).

The following information is required for every individual applying to the ABA program:
- Undergraduate and Graduate (if applicable) grade point average (GPA)
- 3 Letters of Recommendation
- Statement of purpose
- Senior authored writing sample
- Vitae
- Transcripts
- Graduate College forms

Degree Requirements

All students take the same program of study. The course sequence reflects the requirements for a Verified Course Sequence of the Association of Behavior Analysis International (ABAI) allowing eligibility to sit for the BCBA exam upon completion of fieldwork experience requirements also. The coursework also meets current requirements for the PLMHP outlined by the Nebraska Mental Health Board of the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services.

Required Coursework
PSYC 8000: The Profession of Psychology (no credit)
PSYC 9040/MMI 904: Proseminar: Learning (3 credits)
PSYC 9560: Proseminar: Developmental Psychology (3 credits)
MMI 813 Applications of Statistics in Psychology (3 credits)
　　　　or PSYC 9130 Applications of Advance Statistics in Psychology (3 credits)
PSYC 8520: Foundations of Assessment (3 credits)
PSYC 9050/MMI 905 Applied Behavior Analysis in Education (3 credits)
PSYC 9140/MMI 914 Assessment and Treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorders (3 credits)
PSYC 8550/MMI 855: Psychotherapeutic Interventions (3 credits)
PSYC 8576/MMI 857: Behavior Analysis and Intervention (3 credits)
PSYC 8700/MMI 870: Ethics and Law for Psychology and Applied Behavior Analysis (3 credits)

PSYC 9570/MMI 957 Applied Behavior Analysis (3 credits)
PSYC 9100/MMI 910 Small n Research Designs (3 credits)
PSYC 9470 Practicum in Applied Behavior Analysis (12 credits, 750 hours- 1500 hours)
PSYC 9960/MMI 896 Research other than Thesis (3 credits)
        or PSYC 8990/MMI 899: Thesis (6 credits)

Courses are available online. Most online courses have a synchronous weekly meeting requirement. Students who are on campus will typically attend in person if possible. All students off campus will attend via a Video platform (e.g., Zoom). Research advisement may be online, but research will typically need to be onsite where the student is participating in practicum. Similarly, practicum is in-person, but may be off campus and supervision may be arranged to be virtual if needed and available. The placement and modality of research and practicum experiences need to be arranged between the student and faculty advisor.

UNO students taking UNMC courses and UNMC students taking UNO courses need to complete an intercampus registration application every semester at
https://intercampus.nebraska.edu/pre_inter_campus.aspx

Once intercampus registration is approved, students will complete registration for the course at the campus from which the course is being taught

Total Credit Hours Required: 48-51

Comprehensive Exam (required):

There are 2 parts to the Comprehensive Examination, a case presentation and an exam, and students must pass both parts.

First, students will select one case from their Practicum and make a formal presentation to a subgroup of faculty. The comprehensive exam presentation will be scheduled for March or April of the student's second year in the program. The presentation is typically about 30 minutes. Faculty will evaluate the presentation content and give feedback to the student. A pass/fail grade will be assigned.

The Presentation Content should address:

- o Presenting Problem/Reason for referral for the case being presented
- o De-identified demographics of child/adolescent and family
- o Review of relevant research literature for the presenting problem with direct link to assessment and treatment
- o Describe the assessment conducted and data collected
- o Provide conceptual model of the problem based on assessment, research and behavioral principles and direct link to treatment
- o Describe treatment

- o Describe progress monitoring (e.g., single subject graphs) and subsequent decision making
- o If available, present treatment integrity data, inter-rater agreement data
- o Describe what went as planned and what did not throughout the case and why
- o Hopefully the audience will have questions or points for discussion, but plan to have at least 4 questions/points of discussion to generate discussion

The content will vary for each case presentation depending upon the unique features of the case so that some presentations may include all points and lots of data whereas others have less data. The evaluation of this presentation is less about the quantity of data collection and primarily about each student's understanding of relevant research and conceptual presentation of relevant behavioral principles that guide decision making.

Second, students will be required to complete the modules from Behavior Development Solutions with at least a 90% passing grade. Students will be provided access to these modules starting in the Fall semester of their second year and will have until April 1st to complete all modules and exams. Note that there may be a student fee required for these modules and exam.

Typical Program Course Sequence

First Year

Fall

PSYC 8000 Professions of Psychology (0 credits)
PYSC 9040/MMI 904 Proseminar: Learning (3 credits)
PSYC 9570/MMI 957 Applied Behavior Analysis (3 credits)
PSYC 8520 Foundations of Assessment (3 credits)
PSYC 9470/MMI 947 Practicum in ABA (3 credits)

Spring

MMI 914/PSYC 9140 Assessment and Treatment of Autism (3 credits)
PSYC 9100/MMI 910 Small n Research Methods (3 credits)
PSYC 8576/MMI 857 Behavior Analysis and Intervention (3 credits)
PSYC 9470/MMI 947 Practicum in ABA (3 credits)

Summer

Will continue with practicum PSYC 9470/MMI 947 but no scheduled classes

<u>Second Year</u>

Fall

PSYC 8700/MMI 870 Ethics and Law for Psych and ABA (3 credits)
PSYC 9560 Proseminar: Developmental Psychology (3 credits)
PSYC 9470/MMI 947 Practicum in ABA (3 credits)

Spring

MMI 905/PSYC 9050 ABA in Education (3 credits)
PSYC 8550/MMI 855 Psychotherapeutic Interventions (3 credits)
MMI 813/ PSYC 9130 Applied Statistics (3 credits)
PSYC 9470/MMI 947 Practicum in ABA (3 credits)

Comprehensive Examination (required)

Research credits (3 credits for Research other than Thesis PSYC 9960/MMI 896 or 6 credits for Thesis PSYC 8990/MMI 899) are typically taken during the summer after the first year and/or during the second year of the student's program.

Applied Experiences

All students will be expected to be participating in supervised field experiences as part of practicum and coursework.

Ethical Conduct

Students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with professional ethical standards taught in the first semester and reviewed as relevant in each course. Students will be discussing sensitive material at the site and university supervision meetings. The rules of confidentiality apply to the content discussed in these meetings. All information that could potentially identify a student, teacher, or school must be removed from any reports and/or presentations. The university supervisor should be notified immediately if any confidentiality issues should arise.

Students are reminded that they represent the UNO MMI MS-ABA Program when attending classes and engaging in practicum experiences. As such, students should always present themselves in a professional and appropriate manner. This includes dressing, speaking, and writing professionally at all times. Students should ensure that if they maintain any personal websites (e.g., Facebook, Twitter, etc.), their sites are private and unavailable to the general public. Recognizing that almost nothing is entirely private on the internet, students should refrain from posting anything that may present themselves or the program in a negative manner.

Background Checks and Procedures

All applied behavior analysis graduate students are required to complete a background check prior to any school-based experience or clinic-related practica (includes classroom observations, participation in assessment, school and clinic practica) associated with their graduate program. The purpose of this check is to evaluate the background of students with regard to their ability to complete program requirements and be eligible for state certification and/or licensure.

The background check will be conducted:
•   by a vendor selected by the university
•   prior to the student's participation in any public or private, PK-12, school-based or clinic-based experience (this may include activities participated in during the summer prior to enrollment)

Students will be responsible for:
•   completing the online process required to initiate the background check
•   completing the check with enough time to process results before any school-based experience (at least one month)
•   printing/completing/signing/submitting necessary forms
•   paying the fee directly to the vendor if required by the campus

As part of the process, students will be asked to access the vendor's website where they will provide information regarding current/previous addresses (for the past 20 years), current/previous minors who have resided with them, social security number, birth date, previous names/aliases, driver's license number, telephone number, and email address. These data will be stored in a secured server maintained by the vendor.

If you are an employee of UNO or UNMC, you may still need to complete a separate background check for Human Resources. The UNO and UNMC Graduate Colleges and Psychology Departments do not share background check database with Human Resources; the checks are for two different purposes and Human Resources has its own policies and procedures.

One Source will be conducting a background check that is similar to those used by most K-12 school districts, many non-profit organizations, and health care facilities. The background check includes:

•   Applicant Verification.   A search of the Social Security Administration (SSA) Database to confirm that the SSN is valid, when the SSN was issued, and if registered as a SSN reported as deceased.
•   County Criminal History (Statewide if Available). The criminal history will cover all names and locations from the last 7 years. The County Criminal Records report includes a search of felony, misdemeanor and all non-traffic infraction court records in applicants' counties of residence. If statewide is available, all counties within the state will be investigated. The report will include jurisdiction, case number, disposition and date, charges, amended charges, and how the record was verified.

• Multi-Court Jurisdictional Database. The Nationwide Alert is a Multi-Court Jurisdictional Database that includes:

o Proprietary Offender Data

o Department of Corrections

o Administrative Office of the Courts-dated back 7 years

o Department of Public Safety

o Traffic Court

• National Sex Offender Registry. This search includes Sex Offender Registration Information from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and Guam.

• Federal Criminal Search. One Source searches the government's Public Access to Court Electronic Records (PACER) U.S. Party Case Index. This search is a national index for U.S. district and appellate court cases. One Source cross references these searches with a search of Federal Bureau of Prisons.

• Global Watch. This search involves accessing a variety of federal, state, and industry sanctions lists or Terrorist Watch Lists. These lists include:

o OFAC Specially Designated nationals (SDN) & Blocked Persons

o OFAC Sanctioned Countries, including major cities and ports

o Non-Cooperative Countries and Territories

o Department of State Trade Control (DTC) Debarred Parties

o U.S. Bureau of Industry and Security Unverified Entities List, Denied Entities List, Denied Persons List

o FBI Most Wanted Terrorists and Seeking Information, Top 10 Most Wanted

o INTERPOL Most Wanted List

o Bank of England, OSFI Canadian, United Nations Sanctions List

o Politically Exposed Persons List

o European Union Terrorism List

o World Bank Ineligible Firms

• State Health and Human Services Adult and/or Child Abuse Registry. Searches the Department of Health and Human Services or designated state agency records for documented records/reports of abuse against children or adults.

• OIG. OIG-Office of Inspector General-Department of Health and Human Services, under a Congressional mandate, established a program to exclude individuals and entities affected by these various legal authorities, contained in sections 1128 and 1156 of the Social Security Act, and maintains a list of all currently excluded parties called the List of Excluded Individuals/Entities. This legislation is to prevent certain individuals and businesses from participating in federally-funded health care programs. Basis for exclusion include convictions for program-related fraud and patient abuse, licensing board actions and default on Health Education Assistance Loans.

• System for Award Management (SAM). The System for Award Management (SAM) combines federal procurement systems and the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance into one system. SAM includes Central Contractor Registry (CCR), Federal Agency Registration (Fedreg), Online Representations and Certifications Application and Excluded Parties List System (EPLS).

At UNO, once the database searches are completed, the vendor will forward each student's background check report to the designated faculty member(s) in the Psychology Department (currently Sara Kupzyk). To ensure the safety and confidentiality of all students, the reports will be

maintained in a secure manner by the UNO Psychology Department. At UNMC, the background checks are maintained with the UNMC Graduate College.

We will NOT share specific background check results with parties outside the University of Nebraska system. However, because the contents of the background check are public record, we may report (to a school district, for example) that a student "passed" the background check, along with a disclosure of what was checked. Students may request a copy of their background check from the vendor

MS ABA faculty will screen all background check reports. It is possible that during this process, the screening may reveal information that would make a student ineligible to complete school-based experiences or clinic practica, or obtain professional certification or licensure. ABA Program graduate students who have an offense which may preclude them from participating in school-based experiences, clinic practica, and/or receiving a professional certificate or license will be:
•   contacted immediately by an ABA faculty member
•   asked to meet with staff members in the ABA program to discuss the background report
•   allowed to review the report
•   asked to provide documentation of the incident to keep on file with their background check record

In most cases, sufficient documentation of court proceedings relevant to the issue will be required to allow a student to be eligible for school-based experiences and certification. If a student has a felony on his or her record, the student must work with the appropriate licensing agency to determine the appropriate course of action for filing an appeal to be eligible for certification/licensure. If an appeal is not possible, then the student will not be eligible for school-based experiences, practica, or certification and will be dismissed from the program.

At any time during their time in the program, students may be asked to complete an additional background check. Students should report ANY misdemeanor or felony charge that occurs while enrolled in any graduate program IMMEDIATELY to program faculty members, upon which time the steps described above will be followed.

Practicum in Applied Behavior Analysis

Course description: This is a 750 (minimum) – 1500 hour practicum* designed to provide students with concentrated supervised fieldwork providing applied behavior analytic services to improve the well-being of children and their families. Students will participate in at least two different practicum experiences described below; typically a major and a minor rotation. Students will have a major rotation where they will obtain the majority of their hours. At some point over the course of the two years, they will work with their advisor and practicum instructor to participate in a minor rotation that provides a different experience delivering ABA services then their major rotation.

Note that 1500 hours of concentrated supervised fieldwork or 2000 hours of supervised fieldwork are required to sit for the BCBA exam. If a student has not accrued 1500 by the end of their graduate program, they may choose to extend their graduation until the hours are accrued or they may

graduate and accrue hours under an independent contract with a BCBA supervisor until they reach 1500 or 2000.

A student's practicum is expected to adhere to requirements of the Behavior Analysis Certification Board (BACB) fieldwork experience standards as outlined at https://www.bacb.com/bcba/

Most practicum experiences occur at the Munroe-Meyer Institute through the Psychology Department, the integrated Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders (iCASD), Severe Behavior, or the Pediatric Feeding Department.

Students will be working in a professional setting providing services to children and families and students and will be expected to be knowledgeable of and adhere to all relevant professional and ethical standards (i.e., BACB and APA).

Students may also complete practicum experiences with another agency outside of MMI or with whom MMI does not have a contractual relationship with yet. The faculty advisor and/or practicum coordinator will visit and discuss with that agency the requirements for practicum placement and determine if the experience meets BACB standards for providing relevant experiences in applied behavior analysis. The student will be responsible for helping identify and establish a contract agreement with a BCBA supervisor at that agency consistent with BACB standards and approved by the faculty advisor and practicum coordinator.

Additional detail regarding Practicum can be found in the PSYC 9470/MMI 947 Practicum in Applied Behavior Analysis syllabus each semester.

Student Research

The scientist-practitioner model, evidence-based practice, and applied behavior analysis emphasizes the importance of utilizing empirically-based practices. To this end, the MS-ABA Program trains students to be critical thinkers when reading and applying research.

All students will participate in research activities as part of their program experiences. Early in the first semester, students are required to take an on-line IRB course for CITI training (http://www.unmc.edu/irb/) and provide a certificate of successful completion to your research advisor.

There are two options available to students in the MS-ABA Program to conduct independent research projects.

The first research participation option is Research Other than Thesis. This is an independent research project conducted under the supervision of a graduate faculty member. The student and faculty member agree upon a project and the faculty member will provide the grade for the student's research project. The final product is required to be a formal presentation at a conference as first author or publication in a peer-reviewed journal as first or second author.

The second research participation option is the Thesis. The Thesis requires a committee of graduate

faculty and involves a formal proposal meeting and defense meeting. There is a written product of the thesis project. Rather than the traditional chapter format, the completed thesis for the MA-ABA program should be a somewhat longer form of a peer-review journal submission ready manuscript.

For students interested in completing a research thesis: the following timeline is provided as guidance of necessary activities toward successful completion within the two years you are in the program. Keep in mind that UNO faculty are not available during the summer for thesis proposal or defense meetings. Also, it may take *at least* several weeks to schedule thesis proposals and defenses as faculty on your committee likely have full schedules, <u>so plan early</u>.

<u>Year 1</u>

<u>September</u>
Complete CITI training
Talk with your advisor and relevant faculty about research interests
Review research interests of program faculty and other UNO/MMI faculty

<u>October</u>
Identify research advisor (typically your faculty advisor)

<u>October-December</u>
Meet with research advisor regularly to begin planning and developing thesis research project

<u>January-February</u>
Identify thesis committee members (must include at least one member from outside UNO Psychology, MMI Psychology, MMI Severe Behavior, MMI Pediatric Feeding, and MMI iCASD)
Develop thesis proposal presentation

<u>March-April</u>
Propose thesis to committee
Submit IRB once proposal is approved by committee

<u>May-August</u>
Conduct research study

<u>Year 2</u>

<u>September-December</u>
Conduct research study

<u>January-March</u>
Write up thesis document
Prepare thesis defense presentation
Schedule thesis defense with committee

        Revise thesis as recommended by committee
        Submit thesis to graduate studies office (see below)

The Master's Thesis Project Guide

https://www.unomaha.edu/graduate-studies/current-students/thesis-masters.php

https://www.unmc.edu/gradstudies/current/degree-requirements/index.html

(Always check website for most up-to-date guidance!)

Research Support

Office of Sponsored Programs and Research

Funds may be available for student research through the University Committee on Research and Creative Activity (UCRCA). The application deadline is the first day of the month October - March. For more details regarding the application process read the proposal guidelines and complete the application found on the
https://www.unomaha.edu/office-of-research-and-creative-activity/students/ucrca-students.php

Funds may also be available through MMI for research conducted at MMI through the NU Foundation. Contact your MMI Research Advisor for additional information.

Academic Expectations and Quality of Work Standards

All students, regardless of campus, will be expected to follow the academic expectations and quality of work standards described below.

https://www.unomaha.edu/graduate-studies/current-students/quality-standards.php

A "B" (3.0 on a scale of 4.0) average must be maintained in all graduate work taken as part of a degree program.

Automatic Dismissal

Graduate students are expected to do work of high caliber. Failure to do so will result in dismissal. In particular, the following will result in automatic dismissal from the degree or certificate program:

1. Receiving a grade of "C-" (1.67 on a 4.0 scale) or below in any course taken in the student's major field of study or in any course included in the plan of study or program of study;

2. Departments/Schools may have additional and more stringent criteria for evaluating a student's performance and progress and may demand a higher level of performance than that demanded by the Graduate College. A department/school or program unit may, under some circumstances, recommend dismissal of a student from a graduate program even though quality of work standards has been maintained. Grounds for dismissal could include, but are not limited to:
   a. failure to be accepted by an appropriate thesis or dissertation adviser within stipulated time limitations;

   b. failure to make timely progress toward the degree or certificate; and

   c. failure to perform in course work, qualifying examination or research at an acceptable level in the respective department/school or program unit.

Probation or Dismissal

A department/school will recommend that the Dean for Graduate Studies either dismiss, or place on probation with conditions for reinstatement as a student in good standing, in the following cases:

1. A Grade of "C+" (2.33 on a 4.0 scale) or below in any course involved in the first 12 hours of graduate study for provisionally admitted students;

2. Receiving at least nine hours of graduate credit with the grade of "C+" (2.33 on a 4.0 scale) or below in any courses taken in the student's major field of study or in any courses included in the plan of study for master's or specialist's degrees or graduate certificates, regardless of the average;

3. Receiving at least six hours of graduate credit with the grade of "C+" (2.33 on a 4.0 scale) or below in any courses taken in the student's major field of study or in any courses included in the program of study for doctoral degrees, regardless of the average;

Failure to maintain a "B" (3.0 on a 4.0 scale) average in all graduate work taken as part of the degree or certificate program.

Student Responsibilities

1. Students <u>must</u> be aware of the Quality of Work Standards of the Graduate College, as well as additional criteria of satisfactory performance in their respective department/school programs.

2. It is the student's responsibility to know when his or her previous course work has failed to meet those standards.

3. Students who are attending classes are still subject to dismissal if their department/school recommends that action based on its review of their previous performance.

Special Performance Quality Rule (ABA MS Program))

If at any time two grades of "C" (2.0 on a 4.0 scale) in graduate courses become a matter of record, a graduate student in the department of psychology will be placed on departmental probation. An unexcused grade of "W" in a proseminar course will be considered equivalent to a grade of "C" for purposes of this policy. An excused "W" must be approved by the chair of the department of psychology. Students placed on this probation will forfeit any departmental graduate assistantship they may have and any approved programs of study will be subject to re-evaluation and change. Before registering for additional courses, a student placed on probation must, with the assistance and approval of the Program Director, submit a plan for remediation of his/her academic problems, and have that plan approved by the Graduate Program Committee. The Graduate Program Committee will review and, if appropriate, modify the plan. Further, any enrollment in graduate courses must be approved by the Graduate Program Committee. The student will remain on departmental probation until the Graduate Program Committee approves termination of probation status.

If a student receives a grade of C or C+ in any course of his/her Program of Study, this course must be retaken and a grade of B- or better is necessary to receive credit toward degree completion. If the student wants to take the course at a different University or replace the course with a different course, the student must make a petition to the ABA Program Committee for approval.

Academic Integrity (from UNO Student Affairs)

All students, regardless of campus, will be subject to the academic integrity policy and procedures outlined at the link below

https://www.unomaha.edu/campus-policies/academic-integrity.php

Transfer of Graduate Credit

The Transfer of Graduate credit for course work taken at another accredited university differs across the UNO and UNMC campuses. Students wishing to use credit taken from a university outside the University of Nebraska system should contact the MS ABA program director and review the transfer of credit policy respective to their home campus.

Transfer of Credits Taken at the University of Nebraska

There are no a priori limits on the transfer and applicability of credits earned in one program of the University of Nebraska toward meeting degree requirements in another such program, except as they are used to earn distinct degrees. However, such credits must be individually evaluated and approved by the appropriate Graduate Program Committee and campus Dean of Graduate Studies before they can actually be transferred.

Time Limit for Graduate Degrees

The degree program (as defined in the plan of study) for Master's degrees must be completed within ten consecutive calendar years. Course work over 10 years old at the completion of the degree program (as defined in the plan of study) cannot be used for a Master's degree. The first day of class of the earliest course which appears on the student's plan of study is the beginning of the student's graduate education.

If the student is not enrolled for two consecutive semesters, he or she shall be removed from the MS-ABA Program and must reapply for admission to the Program, as well as potentially to the Department and the Graduate College.

Graduation Policies

While advisors and faculty will do what we can to support a student's timely completion of program requirements for graduation, students are ultimately responsible for knowing and adhering to timelines for graduation requirements at their respective campus. Failure to do so can result in a delay in graduation.

https://www.unmc.edu/gradstudies/current/degree-requirements/index.html

https://www.unomaha.edu/graduate-studies/current-students/graduation-checklist.php

Counseling and Psychological and Disability Services

Accommodations are available for students with disabilities at either UNO or UNMC campus.

https://www.unmc.edu/student-success/support-services/accessibility-services/index.html, www.unomaha.edu/disability/index.php.

In addition, counseling and psychological services are available on UNO and UNMC campuses.

https://www.unmc.edu/stucouns/

https://www.unomaha.edu/student-life/wellness/counseling-and-psychological-services/index.php

We encourage students to utilize the resources on each of the campuses that will help ensure and enhance their wellness.

Plan of Study Checklist

___ PSYC 8000: The Profession of Psychology (no credit)
___ PSYC 9040/MMI 904: Proseminar: Learning (3 credits)
___ PSYC 8520: Foundations of Assessment (3 credits)
___ PSYC 9570/MMI 957 Applied Behavior Analysis (3 credits)

___ PSYC 9140/MMI 914 Assessment and Treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorders (3 credits)
___ PSYC 9100/MMI 910 Small n Research Designs (3 credits)
___ PSYC 8576/MMI 857: Behavior Analysis and Intervention (3 credits)

___ PSYC 8700/MMI 870: Ethics and Law for Psychology and Applied Behavior Analysis (3 credits)
___ PSYC 9560: Proseminar: Developmental Psychology (3 credits)

___ PSYC 9050/MMI 905 Applied Behavior Analysis in Education (3 credits)
___ PSYC 8550/MMI 855: Psychotherapeutic Interventions (3 credits)
___ MMI 813 Applications of Statistics in Psychology (3 credits)
      or *PSYC 9130 Applications of Advance Statistics in Psychology (3 credits)

___ PSYC 9470 Practicum in Applied Behavior Analysis (12 credits, 1500-2000 hours)

___ Research
            ___ PSYC 9960/MMI 896 Research other than Thesis (3 credits)
      OR
            ___ PSYC 8990/MMI 899: Thesis (6 credits)

___ Comprehensive Exam

            ___ BDS Modules

            ___ Case presentation