



M.S. Applied Behavior Analysis

An online, part-time, 16-month graduate degree (33 credit hours)

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

A master's degree in applied behavior analysis (ABA) provides students with a broad set of skills that can be applied in a variety of industries and settings. ABA emphasizes the analysis and design of the environment to improve the performance of individuals as varied as children or adults with autism, parents of behaviorally challenging children, and the corporate executive attempting to maximize the productivity of their employees. Behavior analysts work in an array of settings such as classrooms, homes, clinics and schools, human resource departments, or nonprofit sector work. The curriculum focuses on the use of behavioral assessment methodologies, empirically driven measurement and analysis, and the selection and implementation of function-based treatment strategies that address socially significant behaviors.

PROGRAM PREREQUISITES

- A bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution
 - Undergraduate major in psychology, special education, speech pathology, or social work may be helpful, but is not required
 - Minimum recommended cumulative GPA 3.0

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

- Graduate application with \$30 application fee
- Unofficial transcripts for initial admission from all institutions of higher education previously attended.
- Essay addressing the applicant's reason for applying to the ABA program, including what factors influenced the decision and how this program will help the individual reach professional goals
- Three letters of recommendation (professors, supervisors, or other persons engaged in the practice of ABA or other human services professions)
- Language proficiency requirement must be met. Submission of TOEFL, IELTS, PTE, or Duolingo English Test may be required. See our policy for full details: <https://www.su.edu/admissions/international-students>

CURRICULUM

Courses		Credits
Fall I		
PSY 572	Legal, Ethical, & Professional Conduct in ABA	3
PSY 561	Foundations in Concepts & Principles of ABA	3
Elective	Elective	3
Spring I		
PSY 562	Research Methods in Behavior Analysis	3
PSY 571	Special Populations and ABA	3
Elective	Elective	3
Summer I		
PSY 563	Classroom Management and ABA	3
PSY 580	The Organization Context for ABA (OBM)	3
PSY 550	Capstone Research Proposal	2
Fall 2		
PSY 565	Adv. Concepts & Principles of ABA	3
PSY 564	Adv. ABA Capstone Project	4
Total		33

ADMISSION & APPLICATION

Start Term

Summer (May)
Fall (August)

Admission Deadline

Summer: May 1
Fall Priority: March 15
Fall Final: July 15

Format/Location

Online

Transfer Credits

A maximum of six semester hours of grades "B" or better may be approved by the program director.

How to Apply

Begin the online application process by going to <https://www.su.edu/admissions/graduate-students/applied-behavior-analysis-application-information/>

Foreign Transcripts

International transcript evaluation by an accredited agency is an admission requirement. Approved services are listed at www.naces.org and <http://aice-eval.org/>.

Contact Us

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SUGradAdmissions@su.edu
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Office of Financial Aid
<https://www.su.edu/financial-aid/incoming-graduate-aid/>
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Dr. Vicky Spencer, BCBA-D, LBA, IBAO
Program Director



MS APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS CURRICULUM

Shenandoah University's online Master of Science in ABA program consists of 33 credit hours, including 21 credit hours that meets the BACB's 5th Edition coursework requirements, which includes six (6) credit hours of electives and six (6) credit hours for a capstone project. Students arrange their own supervision with recommendations from SU faculty. During the program, faculty intermittently meet with students to review their supervision progress.

The [Association for Behavior Analysis International \(ABAI\)](#) has approved the verified course sequence (VCS) which meets the academic requirements to take the [Board Certified Behavior Analyst \(BCBA\) exam](#). Applicants will need to meet additional supervision requirements before they are eligible to take the exam.

Shenandoah's Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) program is certified by the [International Behavior Analyst Organization](#). Through our IBAO certification, international students can still earn their ABA degree at Shenandoah and sit for the IBAO exam.

FACULTY

You will learn from nationally and regionally renowned faculty mentors who are as passionate about teaching as they are about helping others. They are dedicated to delivering academically challenging, interactive, high quality learning opportunities in the field of applied behavior analysis.

- **Vicky Spencer, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LBA, IBAO**, brings more than 25 years of experience from positions across the globe in public schools, private practice, with the Training and Technical Assistance Center for the Virginia Department of Education, and as a Fulbright Scholar in Barbados. She served as president of the Division of International Special Education & Services (DISES), which promotes international communication, cooperation and progress in education and services for children who have disabilities and/or gifts and talents.
- **Adrienne Jackson, M.S., BCBA, LBA, IBA**, is a Behavior Analyst at Mountainside ABA for In-Home services. She has been in the field of ABA since 2016 and provides behavior analytic services to individuals with challenging behaviors from ages birth through eighteen within family's homes, daycares, and in the community.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- **What is Shenandoah's pass rate on the BCBA exam?**
Our pass rate is 100% for students that have taken the exam.
- **Does this program include supervision?**
No, but faculty will work with you on an individual level to discuss options that will allow you to earn the necessary hours.
- **What is the format for the online courses?**
Each course includes both synchronous and asynchronous classes. This ensures students that they will get to know their instructors and their peers even in an online format