



**NEW PROGRAM PROPOSAL FORM**

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**Sponsoring Institution(s):** University of Central Missouri

**Program Title:** Psychology – Behavior Analysis and Therapy

**Degree/Certificate:** Master of Science

**Options:** None

**Delivery Site(s):** University of Central Missouri, Warrensburg MO

**CIP Classification:** 42.2814

\*CIP code can be cross-referenced with programs offered in your region on MDHE's program inventory [highered.mo.gov/ProgramInventory/search.jsp](http://highered.mo.gov/ProgramInventory/search.jsp)

**Implementation Date:** Fall, 2016

**Cooperative Partners:** N/A

\*If this is a collaborative program, form CL must be included with this proposal

**AUTHORIZATION:**

Michael J. Grelle, Vice Provost

Name/Title of Institutional Officer

Signature

3/13/2015

Date

Michael J. Grelle

Person to Contact for More Information

660 543-4116

Telephone



**STUDENT ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS**

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Year	1	2	3	4	5
Full Time	8	20	24	24	24
Part Time					
Total	8	20	24	24	24

Please provide a rationale regarding how student enrollment projections were calculated:

The M.S. Psychology- Behavior Analysis & Therapy addresses a workforce need identified by the state of Missouri and throughout the nation. We anticipate that prospective students would be interested in obtaining a degree that qualifies them a career in behavioral health care, board certification and licensure and also provides excellent job prospects. We are estimating conservatively for the first year. Future enrollments are anticipated to be 10-12 per year based on enrollment in a similar program offered by the University of Maryland-Baltimore County.

Provide a rationale for proposing this program, including evidence of market demand and societal need supported by research:

The Missouri Department of Mental Health (DMH) has done a needs assessment and determined there is a desperate need for Master and Doctoral-level Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBA) and license eligible Behavior Analysts to work in the DMH system. DMH has asked universities to develop curricula that address this work force need. The proposed curriculum builds on currently available courses while adding necessary new courses and will allow students to obtain a Master of Science in Psychology-Behavior Analysis and Therapy (BAT). Courses will be taught using a Blended Learning format (some face to face and some online). Students who complete the BAT concentration will meet academic requirements to sit for the Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) and licensing exam for Behavior Analyst in Missouri.



## PROGRAM CHARACTERISTICS AND PERFORMANCE GOALS

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Institution Name      University of Central Missouri  
Program Name        M.S. Psychology – Behavior Analysis and Therapy  
Date      March 9, 2015

(Although all of the following guidelines may not be applicable to the proposed program, please carefully consider the elements in each area and respond as completely as possible in the format below. Quantification of performance goals should be included wherever possible.)

### 1. Student Preparation

- Any special admissions procedures or student qualifications required for this program which exceed regular university admissions, standards, e.g., ACT score, completion of core curriculum, portfolio, personal interview, etc. Please note if no special preparation will be required.

Applicants must submit three letters of recommendation, a formal goal statement, and an official Graduate Record Examination (GRE) score report. Selection will be based on GPA, GRE scores, consistency of statement of purpose with program goals, and letters of recommendation indicating high potential for graduate work in psychology. A minimum GPA of 3.0 is required in at least 12 hours of undergraduate Psychology courses at an accredited institution or at least 12 hours of graduate Psychology courses at an accredited institution. Preference will be given to candidates scoring 297 or higher on combined GRE Verbal + Quantitative scores.

- Characteristics of a specific population to be served, if applicable.  
The population served is expected to be mainly individuals who have completed a bachelor's degree in Psychology, although students completing other majors with Psychology coursework in behavior analysis may also be eligible.

### 2. Faculty Characteristics

- Any special requirements (degree status, training, etc.) for assignment of teaching for this degree/certificate.

A Ph.D. in an appropriate area of Psychology or related area is required with appropriate training and experience appropriate to each course. Individuals who are Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) or BCBA eligible are preferred for teaching applied behavior analysis coursework.

- Estimated percentage of credit hours that will be assigned to full time faculty. Please use the term "full time faculty" (and not FTE) in your descriptions here.  
We anticipate that full time faculty will teach 19 out of the 40 required hours, or approximately 48%.

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- Expectations for professional activities, special student contact, teaching/learning innovation.  
Qualified adjunct faculty will be hired who will be able to share professional experience relevant to each course. Many of the courses will be taught in online or hybrid formats and will use evidence-based methods for student learning.

### 3. Enrollment Projections

- Student FTE majoring in program by the end of five years.  
Approximate enrollment of 24, based on admitting 12 students per year.
- Percent of full time and part time enrollment by the end of five years.  
100% full time (6 hours or more per semester)

### 4. Student and Program Outcomes

- Number of graduates per annum at three and five years after implementation.  
We expect about 8 graduates per year at three years after implementation, with the number of graduates remaining steady at 8-10 per year five years after implementation.
  - Special skills specific to the program.  
The curriculum is aligned with the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB) Content Area and Knowledge Task List (4th edition) that describe core skills and knowledge. The courses in the program are needed to ensure eligibility for licensure and certification.
  - Proportion of students who will achieve licensing, certification, or registration.  
90%
  - Performance on national and/or local assessments, e.g., percent of students scoring above the 50th percentile on normed tests; percent of students achieving minimal cut-scores on criterion-referenced tests. Include expected results on assessments of general education and on exit assessments in a particular discipline as well as the name of any nationally recognized assessments used.  
Not applicable.
  - Placement rates in related fields, in other fields, unemployed.  
100% in related fields
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- Transfer rates, continuous study.  
Transfer in or out of the program is not expected to be a common phenomenon, as there are few similar Master's programs available.

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## **5. Program Accreditation**

- Institutional plans for accreditation, if applicable, including accrediting agency and timeline. **If there are no plans to seek specialized accreditation, please provide a rationale.**  
BACB pre-approval of the curriculum will be pursued during the first year that the program is offered.

## **6. Alumni and Employer Survey**

- Expected satisfaction rates for alumni, *including timing and method of surveys*.  
Graduating students will be asked to complete a satisfaction survey.
- Expected satisfaction rates for employers, including timing and method of surveys.  
Supervisors at practicum sites will be asked to provide feedback on satisfaction with student performance for each supervised student. A program advisory board will review feedback from alumni and employers.

## **7. Institutional Characteristics**

- Characteristics demonstrating why your institution is particularly well-equipped to support the program.

The proposed program ties directly to the mission of preparing students with the knowledge and skills to succeed. The mission of the University of Central Missouri has been and continues to be the preparation of students for service. This professional track will prepare graduate students who are dedicated to the delivery of behavioral health care services whose goal is to improve the functioning of individuals and systems within which individuals interact. This program will be offered on an entrepreneurial basis, with required courses offered by adjunct faculty funded through program enrollment. We plan to offer 2-3 courses per semester (in addition to courses already offered in our M.S. in General Psychology program, which overlap with some of the requirements for the M.S. in Psychology-Behavior Analysis and Therapy). These courses will be taught either by adjunct faculty hired for that purpose, or by tenure-track faculty who would have some of their normal loads covered by an adjunct faculty hire. We have already identified several Ph.D. level individuals with the BCBA credential who are interested in teaching on an adjunct basis. We currently offer an undergraduate certification program in Applied Behavior Analysis and have created an advisory board for that program. We anticipate that the scope of the advisory board will include the new M.S. program once it is approved.



PROGRAM STRUCTURE

A. Total credits required for graduation: 40

B. Residency requirements, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

C. General education: Total credits: 0

Courses (specific courses OR distribution area and credits):

Course Number	Credits	Course Title

D. Major requirements: Total credits: 40

Course Number	Credits	Course Title
PSY 5130	3	Psychology of Learning
PSY 5150	3	Ethics and Professional Issues in Psychology
PSY 5350	3	Behavior Analysis and Therapy-1
PSY 5360	3	Behavior Analysis and Therapy-2
PSY 5410	3	Adult Psychopathology
PSY 5420	3	Behavioral Medicine
PSY 5450	3	Behavior Therapy
PSY 5510	4	Research Methods in Applied Settings
PSY 5520	3	Advanced Statistics for Behavioral Sciences
PSY 5570	3	Behavioral Assessment
PSY 5970	6	Practicum
PSY 5980 or 5990	3	Research Project or Thesis

E. Free elective credits:

0

(Sum of C, D, and E should equal A.)

F. Requirements for thesis, internship or other capstone experience:

All students must complete either a Research Project or Thesis. Two practica are also required to meet the requirement of 750 clinical hours supervised by a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA); this satisfies a supervision requirement in order for the graduate to be eligible to sit for the BCBA exam.

G. Any unique features such as interdepartmental cooperation:

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