



Master of Education

# Autism/Behavior Analyst (California)

• CIP code 422814 • 38 credits, 6 terms

**Program Description** — Autism is becoming more prevalent in our society and the need for specialists dedicated to serving this population is growing rapidly. This program provides knowledge of the autism spectrum and the skills necessary to meet the needs of individuals with autism. By completing the Behavior Analyst program, students meet the course requirements to sit for the national BCBA examination, earning a credential that is in high demand. To sit for the BCBA examination, coursework completed in this program must be reviewed by the BACB for required content for the minimum amount of instructional hours. The BACB will only make determinations about the acceptability of non-verified coursework as either (a) part of a formal application for exam or (b) an independent application for coursework evaluation.

**Learning Outcomes** — Students will demonstrate knowledge of applied behavior analysis (ABA) and associated scientific principles that govern human behavior and the treatment of individuals with autism spectrum disorders (ASD). Students will demonstrate knowledge of clinical, educational and ethical issues pertaining to the application of ABA across a broad range of treatment contexts and behaviors.

**Careers — Careers/BCBA certification** — Students who complete the ABA course sequence including supervised fieldwork and successfully pass the BCBA examination may apply for national certification. They will be able to work in a wide range of clinical and treatment settings as a BCBA in the treatment of individuals with autism spectrum disorders and other behavior and learning challenges. There is currently significant demand for persons with the BCBA credential, so that it is highly portable and desired across the state, the country and internationally.

**Required to begin the ABA course sequence:**

- Master’s degree or higher in education, special education, behavior analysis or psychology in an area that meets the current BACB™ standards at time of enrollment. Please consult the BCBA program chair prior to enrollment.
- Active employment in a relevant, related field with at least one year of experience in an ABA-based treatment setting.
- Be working with or supervised by certified BCBA personnel. (Supervisor name and contact information must be submitted and verified upon program entry.)

**Student responsibility:** A high level of professional acumen and decorum is required. Students are expected to be fluent in the BACB ethics standards from the start and throughout the program. Students must have basic competence with technology-based academic applications.

**Program and course schedule subject to change.**

**Program chair, Moderate Disabilities:**  
Mary Garrity, EdD • mary.garrity@cambridgecollege.edu

(All courses @ 3 credits except as noted.)

## Autism & Special Education Courses . . . . . 17 credits

• This course sequence is strongly recommended.

		Fall Entry	Spring Entry
ESP610	Autism: History, Prevalence, Diagnosis & Characteristics . . . . .	Fall 1 . . .	Spring 1
ESP621	Assessment & Appraisal Process (ASD) . . . . .	Spring 1 . . .	Spring 2
ESP630	Social & Psychological Perspectives in Autism Spectrum Disorders . . . . .	Summer 1 . .	Summer 1
ESP615	Assistive Technology: Modifying Curric for Diverse Learning Styles . . . . .	Fall 2 . . .	Spring 2
ESP800B	Supervised Learning Project (2 credits) . . . . .	Spring 2 . . . . .	Fall 2
ESP616	Communication Disorders (ASD) . . . . .	Summer 2 . . . . .	Fall 2

## ABA Course Sequence . . . . . 21 credits

• All courses 3 credits @ 45 contact hours, unless otherwise noted.  
• Courses **must** be taken in the order delineated here.

		Fall Entry	Spring Entry
ESP510	Intro to Applied Behavior Analysis (1 credit) . . . . .	Fall 1 . . .	Spring 1
ESP500	Advanced Applied Behavior Analysis Seminar (1 credit) . . . . .	Fall 2 . . . . .	Fall 2
ESP622	Basic Applied Behavior Analysis (ASD) . . . . .	Fall 1 . . .	Spring 1
ESP726	Advanced Applied Behavior Analysis (ASD) . . . . .	Spring 1 . . . . .	Fall 1
ESP704	Ethics & Professionalism in Applied Behavior Analysis . . . . .	Summer 1 . .	Summer 2
ESP724	Research Design in Applied Behavior Analysis - ASD . . . . .	Fall 2 . . . . .	Fall 1
ESP722	Clinical Applications of Applied Behavior Analysis (ASD) . . . . .	Spring 2 . . .	Spring 2
ESP723	Implementing Behavior Analysis in Educational Settings (ASD) . . . . .	Summer 2 . .	Summer 2
ESP705*	Applied Behavior Analysis Fluency Seminar (1 credit) required at end of program . . . . .	Spring 2 . . . . .	Fall 2

\*ESP705 is completed over two terms, with credit applied in the second term of enrollment for course completion.

**Timely completion of ABA course sequence:** ABA coursework, including supervision and fieldwork, are specifically aligned with current BACB standards and its corresponding edition of the BCBA exam. Standards and exam are subject to change, therefore timely completion is essential.