

# MASTER OF ARTS IN COLLEGE STUDENT PERSONNEL



## Why the Master of Arts in College Student Personnel?

The College Student Personnel (CSP) program prepares practitioners for positions in student affairs through an integration of theory-based course work emphasizing student learning, growth and development that is complemented by professional internships in college and university settings. Both aspects of this program enable students to become reflective practitioners who combine knowledge and skill with their personal and professional values as they serve their profession.

## Why the MA in College Student Personnel at BGSU?

The outstanding academic and professional reputation of BGSU's CSP program is widely recognized by professionals in higher education and student affairs. Many factors contribute to the quality of the curriculum and the degree awarded. CSP faculty are committed to teaching and are accomplished and active scholars in the field. The CSP program selects graduate students from across the United States and internationally, leading to a diverse classroom and learning experience for students. Finally, students complement their experiences with internships in the field, which provide valuable work experience prior to graduation.

## Learning outcomes

Coursework includes a balance of classroom-based academic learning and field-based experiential learning designed to be completed in a two-year/ four-five semester sequence.

CSP courses address the following topics:

- history, philosophy and functions of student affairs work
- theory and assessment of college student development and educational environments
- multicultural competence as it relates to work in student affairs
- educational outcomes of colleges and universities in the United States
- capstone seminar centered around the creation of a professional portfolio and preparation for the job search
- intentional connection of theory and class content to the field experiences

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact Department Chair, Dr. Maureen E. Wilson,  
Department of Higher Education and Student Affairs,  
at [hesa@bgsu.edu](mailto:hesa@bgsu.edu) or call 419-372-7382.

## Program strength and uniqueness

- Required internship provides valuable field experience in a variety of settings to maximize personal and professional growth
- Practicum experiences are encouraged to complement classroom theory and to deepen knowledge within a functional area
- International study abroad courses are offered to help students gain exposure to other cultures and higher education institutions abroad
- The capstone project is a mechanism for students to showcase their growth and development through artifacts developed during practica, internships and class projects
- Faculty academic advisors are assigned to each student in the CSP program to assist the student in achieving academic and career goals
- Professional development opportunities are encouraged and many CSP students regularly attend and present at regional, national and international conferences

## Professional opportunities

The program is enriched by an outstanding network of more than 1,800 alumni who assist in placing new graduates in colleges and universities nationwide and in other countries. CSP alumni serve in a full range of positions across the career spectrum. In addition to entry-, mid-, and senior-level positions, our alumni hold posts as faculty, deans, vice-presidents, and presidents. The CSP program also prepares students for top doctoral programs.



*"The CSP program has equipped me with the skills, experiences, and knowledge to be the professional I am today. The Theory to Practice framework allowed me to include my assistantship and practicum experiences in the classroom. One of my favorite aspects about the program is the flexibility with electives. I was able to take classes that interested me as well as practicum for credit to gain more hands on experience. Finally, I would not have been successful if it weren't for the caring faculty, staff, and students within the HESA community. They always made me feel supported and cared for as a whole person not just as a student."*

— Alexis Lankford '21,  
Diversity and Inclusion Specialist,  
Bowling Green State University

## Admission requirements

Candidates for graduate study in CSP must have earned a bachelor's degree and show potential for successful completion of a graduate degree. Applicants are required to submit scanned copies of official or unofficial transcripts from all institutions attended. Upon admission, final official or notarized copies of transcripts from all institutions where degrees were earned and diplomas from international institutions must be submitted. Admission to the program and appointment to an internship are based on academic credentials, background experiences, personal statement, and references. The GRE is only required for applicants with a cumulative undergraduate GPA below 3.0.

International applicants are also required to submit scores from the International English Language Testing System (IELTS), the Pearson Test of English Academic (PTEA), or the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). Successful completion of ELS 112 will also be accepted for this requirement.

For more information go to [bgsu.edu/cspadmit](http://bgsu.edu/cspadmit)

## Cost of tuition

Please refer to [www.bgsu.edu/offices/bursar](http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/bursar) for current information on tuition and fees.

## Financial assistance

Internships provide an academic year salary (stipend) plus tuition assistance, covering 30/42 credits needed for the degree, provided the student remains in good academic standing

and makes adequate progress toward the degree. Interns in the Office of Residence Life at BGSU receive a full tuition scholarship. Additional scholarships may be available to those with demonstrated financial need and/or outstanding qualifications.

During the first year, scholarships include the non-resident fee for out-of-state residents. The scholarship for the second year does not cover the non-resident fee. Domestic students may be eligible to become an Ohio resident for the second year or may pay the non-resident fee. International students may receive a scholarship for the non-resident fee for two years.

Students are eligible for a variety of scholarships through the Department of Higher Education and Student Affairs. See our website for a full listing of available scholarships and qualifications.

## How to apply

Visit the BGSU Graduate College website at [www.bgsu.edu/graduate/admissions](http://www.bgsu.edu/graduate/admissions).

**Application deadline fall term: December 1**

## Curriculum

A total of 42 credit hours of coursework at the graduate level are required.

### Core CSP Academic Courses (18 credits)

Students must maintain a minimum 3.0 grade point average in the CSP core courses plus an A or B in at least five of the six CSP core courses.

- CSP 6010: Foundations and Functions of College Student Personnel
- CSP 6020: Theory and Assessment of College Student Development
- CSP 6030: Theory and Assessment of Educational Environments
- CSP 6035: Multicultural Competence in Student Affairs
- CSP 6040: Educational Outcomes of American Colleges and Universities
- CSP 6050: Capstone Seminar in College Student Personnel

### REQUIRED Graduate College Courses (6 credits)

Both of the following courses serve as basic tools of inquiry for the master's program. Students are advised to complete both courses as early as possible in the program, especially those considering a thesis. Individuals with a prior undergraduate preparation in statistics may consider testing out of EDFI 6410 and/or EDFI 6020. See the "Credit by Examination" in the Graduate Catalog and contact the School of Educational Foundations, Leadership and Policy for more information.

- EDFI 6410: Statistics in Education
- EDFI 6420: Research in Education

### REQUIRED CSP Experiential Learning Courses (6 credits)

CSP 6890: Supervised Field Experience in College Student Personnel

### ELECTIVES (12 total credit hours)

Six of the 12 credits hours of elective must be in letter graded courses. The remaining 6 may be graded satisfactory/unsatisfactory (e.g., practicum). Sample electives include:

- CSP 6400: Organizational Leadership, Management and Administration in Student Affairs
- CSP 6800: Social Justice Education and Training
- CSP 6800: Assessment in Higher Education and Student Affairs
- CSP 6800: College and University Teaching
- HIED 7210: Law and Higher Education
- HIED 7340: College and University Teaching
- COUN 6640: Crises Counseling
- COUN 6740: Career and Life Planning Approaches
- COUN 6750: Theories and Techniques of Counseling