

Graduate Certificate in Program Evaluation

Purpose of Program

This Certificate in Program Evaluation (CPE) is designed to meet the needs of graduate and doctoral students interested in developing a foundational skillset in program evaluation and research methods (including quantitative, qualitative, and mixed-method approaches). Core courses cover contemporary evaluation theories and methods, and provide hands-on experience gathering and analyzing primary and secondary data to conduct formative and summative evaluations, which make Program Evaluation I and II unique from most other research and statistics courses at UTSA. Both the courses and the practicum are based on the latest Program Evaluation Standards and Guiding Principles of the American Evaluation Association (AEA), the primary professional organization focused on program evaluation standards and training.

Program Options

The Certificate in Program Evaluation allows non-degree-seeking students (e.g., professionals in the San Antonio community) as well as graduate students at UTSA to obtain recognition of training in the practice of program evaluation by completing a 15-semester-credit-hour course sequence. Certification program applicants can apply to receive credit for prior coursework (equivalent to one or both Foundation Courses), which can reduce the total hours needed for the Certificate by up to 6 credit hours. With CPE program faculty approval, some students may incorporate fieldwork requirements of Practicum in Program Evaluation (EDP 6333) into another university practicum or internship taken concurrently with Program Evaluation II, thereby reducing the courses required for the certification to only Program Evaluation I and II.

Course Requirements

- Six credit hours of total 15: Two graduate courses in Research Design and Methods (either quantitative or qualitative), Statistics, Measurement, or Evaluation
- Nine credit hours of total 15: Three required Core Courses
 - EDP 6303** Program Evaluation I
 - EDP 6313** Program Evaluation II
 - EDP 6333** Practicum in Program Evaluation

Note: Each course in the certificate course sequence will be offered once per academic year. For questions about possible course sequence modifications or the application process, contact the Student Development Specialist.

Career Opportunities

The CPE is designed to help graduates take advantage of the growing number of program evaluation jobs nationwide, as well as to provide niche training that many employers recognize employees need in evidence-based programing and methods to measure program impact. Job opportunities for evaluators (as well as the demand for employees with evaluation literacy) are increasing rapidly in the fields of education, healthcare, social services, and technology.



Admission Requirements

Current degree-seeking students apply for CPE admission through the Department of Educational Psychology. Non-degree-seeking (i.e., certificate-only) students apply for CPE admission through the Graduate School admissions process. Both should contact the departmental Student Development Specialist with questions. All applicants must meet/fulfill the following departmental requirements:

- Earned a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution in Education, Psychology, Public Administration, Economics, Sociology, or related field
- Have had a grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) in the last 30 hours and have been in good standing during their baccalaureate and graduate coursework
- Provide a current résumé/vita, personal statement, and references with application

How to Apply

Apply through the UTSA Graduate School

📧 graduateschool.utsa.edu

Send all USPS mail (transcripts, etc.) to:

The University of Texas at San Antonio
Attn: The Graduate School
One UTSA Circle
San Antonio, TX 78249

Send electronic transcripts to:

✉ graduateadmissions@utsa.edu

Contact Information

College of Education and Human Development

📧 education@utsa.edu
📞 210.458.4370

Department of Educational Psychology

📧 education.utsa.edu/educational_psychology
📞 210.458.2721

Graduate School

📧 graduateschool.utsa.edu
✉ graduateadmissions@utsa.edu
📞 210.458.4331

Financial Aid

📧 utsa.edu/financialaid
📞 210.458.8000 (general line)
📞 210.458.7169 (appointments)

Financial Aid and Scholarships

To apply, complete the Free Application for Federal Student Assistance (FAFSA)

📧 fafsa.ed.gov

Graduate assistantship positions available within the college (average of 19 hours per week)

Additional graduate student scholarship information:

📧 graduateschool.utsa.edu/funding
📧 utsa.edu/scholarships
📧 education.utsa.edu/current_students/scholarships

