

Curriculum

Total credit hours: 36

Core Courses: 36 Credit Hours			
Course Code	Course Title	Credit Hours	Prerequisite(s)
ABA510	Concepts and Principles of Behavior Analysis- 1	3	-
ABA520	Concepts and Principles of Behavior Analysis- 11	3	-
ABA530	Applied Research Methods in Behavior Analysis: Experimental Design.	3	-
ABA540	Ethical and Professional Conduct	3	-
ABA550	Identification and Assessment	3	-
ABA560	Behavior Change Applications	3	ABA510 & ABA520
ABA565	Intervention and Implementation	3	ABA560
ABA570	Supervision and Management	3	-
ABA575	Internship	6	ABA565
ABA580	Thesis in Applied Behavior Analysis	6	Completion of all degree requirement courses

Pre-core Courses: 6/12 Credit Hours*			
Course Code	Course Title	Credit Hours	Prerequisite(s)
ABA410 (PC)	Brain and Behaviors	3	None
ABA420 (PC)	Psychological Transitions Across the Lifespan	3	None
ABA 430 (PC)	Inclusive Education & ABA	3	None
ABA450 (PC)	Autism Seminar	3	ABA 430 (PC)

**For students who lack prior qualifications in any areas related to ABA*

Note: These pre-core foundation courses are supplementary and do not count toward the 36 credit hours required for degree completion.



MASTER OF ARTS IN APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS

Program Overview

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) is a rapidly expanding field focused on understanding and improving socially significant behavior through evidence-based practices. Effective leadership in ABA is critical to promoting inclusive education, supporting individuals with behavioral challenges, and advancing the quality of life across various populations.

The Master of Arts in Applied Behavior Analysis is designed for professionals seeking to develop advanced competencies in behavioral assessment, intervention, and program design. The program equips students with in-depth knowledge of behavior analytic theories, ethical practices, and applied research methods that are essential in educational, clinical, and organizational settings.

Students in the program gain practical experience through supervised fieldwork, while developing a strong foundation in areas such as functional behavior assessment, data-driven decision-making, and behavior change procedures. Emphasis is placed on ethical and culturally responsive practice, preparing graduates to lead intervention teams and implement effective behavioral strategies across diverse contexts.

This program aligns with international standards for certification and prepares graduates to pursue credentialing as Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBA®) through the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB®). In addition, the program content is also compatible with the requirements of the Qualified Applied Behavior Analysis Credentialing Board (QABA®), offering graduates an alternative pathway for professional certification and broader global recognition.

Graduates are well-prepared to contribute meaningfully to the fields of education, special needs services, behavioral healthcare, and organizational behavior management

Who Should Apply

If you are an educator, therapist, counselor, or professional working with individuals with developmental or behavioral challenges—and you are passionate about making measurable, evidence-based change—Abu Dhabi University's Master of Arts in Applied Behavior Analysis program is for you. This program is ideal for those seeking to deepen their expertise in behavior change, pursue professional certification (BCBA® or QABA®), and lead effective intervention programs in schools, clinics, and community settings. Whether you aim to advance your current role or transition into the field of applied behavior analysis, this program offers the academic and practical foundation to make a meaningful impact.

Career Prospects

The Master of Arts in Applied Behavior Analysis prepares graduates for a wide range of professional roles in educational, clinical, and community settings. Career opportunities include:

- Behavior Analyst
- ABA Therapist/Consultant
- Special Education Coordinator
- Organizational Behavior Consultant
- Autism/Developmental Disorders Specialist
- Behavior Interventionist
- Early Intervention Specialist
- Clinical Supervisor or Program Director

Graduates may work in schools, hospitals, mental health centers, rehabilitation clinics, early intervention programs, or private practice. The degree also serves as a pathway to professional certification such as BCBA® (Board Certified Behavior Analyst) or QABA® (Qualified Applied Behavior Analysis Credentialing Board), enhancing global employability and professional recognition.

Why MA in Applied Behavior Analysis?

The MA in Applied Behavior Analysis has been designed to develop ethical, research-based, and practice-ready professionals in six critical areas:

- Behavioral Assessment and Intervention Design
- Ethical and Professional Practice
- Cultural and Social Responsiveness
- Research and Data-Based Decision Making
- Inclusive and Evidence-Based Education
- Interdisciplinary and Community Collaboration

Graduates leave the program prepared not only to implement effective interventions but also to lead and advocate for individuals with behavioral needs—improving lives across the UAE and beyond.