



# Master of Education: Student Affairs in Higher Education Requirements

If you're ready to make a positive impact in college students' lives, a master's degree in Student Affairs in Higher Education is the perfect way to gain the advanced skills needed to work in administrative positions on college and university campuses.

Through a blend of academic and practical learning, our students gain deep knowledge and understanding of higher education and can become change agents at their institutions. Higher education frequently changes, and the M.Ed. in Student Affairs in Higher Education is designed to equip graduates with the tools they need to ensure the next generation of learners have a safe, equitable, and accessible campus.

This 36-credit program can be completed full-time in two years or completed part-time at the pace of the student.

## Student Learning Outcomes

1. **Personal and Ethical Foundations:** Students will demonstrate, consistent with ACPA, NASPA, and CAS objectives, awareness and understanding of one's values and beliefs as related to professional codes of ethics and principles of personal wellness.
2. **Values, Philosophy, and History:** Students will demonstrate, consistent with ACPA, NASPA, and CAS objectives, a basic understanding of the values, philosophy and history of the student affairs profession as relevant to professional practice in the field.
3. **Assessment, Evaluation, and Research:** Students will demonstrate, consistent with ACPA, NASPA, and CAS objectives, an understanding and ability to design, conduct, critique, and utilize various AER methodologies and the results from them to inform professional practice.
4. **Law, Policy, and Governance:** Students will demonstrate, consistent with ACPA, NASPA, and CAS objectives, an understanding of policy development processes used in various contexts; the application of legal constructs, compliance/policy issues; and governance structures and their impact upon professional practice.
5. **Organizational and Human Resources:** Students will demonstrate, consistent with ACPA, NASPA, and CAS objectives, an understanding of the scale, scope, and interactivity of the human and organizational resources involved in the professional practice of student affairs within the context of higher education.
6. **Leadership:** Students will demonstrate, consistent with ACPA, NASPA, and CAS objectives, a basic understanding of concepts, principles, and dynamics of leadership, leadership processes, and leadership development, both generally and in the context of higher education. This includes understanding processes of student leadership and development.
7. **Social Justice and Inclusion:** Students will demonstrate, consistent with ACPA, NASPA, and CAS objectives, awareness, and understanding of issues of oppression, privilege, and power and their manifestations, along with the impact they have upon our personal and professional interactions with those with whom we work, especially college students. Additional focus is placed upon understanding social justice and advocacy-oriented practices and skills.
8. **Student Learning and Development:** Students will demonstrate, consistent with ACPA, NASPA, and CAS objectives, a critical understanding of learning and development theories and their use in constructing learning outcomes. This includes the ability to apply theory to improve and inform student affairs and teaching practice.
9. **Technology:** Students will demonstrate, consistent with ASPA, NASPA, and CAS objectives, understanding of the use of digital tools, resources, and technologies for the advancement of

student learning, development, and success as well as digital literacy necessary for improved professional practice.

10. Advising and Supporting: Students will demonstrate, consistent with ACPA, NASPA, and CAS objectives, development of capacities for individual interventions that entail listening, direction, feedback, critique, referral, and guidance; understanding of group dynamics; management of conflict and crisis situations; and collaboration with others on and off-campus.

*Note: The American College Personnel Association (ASPA), the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA), and the Council for the Advancement of Standards in Higher Education (CAS) have endorsed the above ten areas as competencies and learning outcomes for graduate preparation programs in student affairs in higher education. Each area has a list of foundational level knowledge, dispositions, and skills that should be addressed in graduate training programs and that students should be prepared to meet by graduation. The curriculum for the Kutztown University Student Affairs in Higher Education Graduate Program includes a course(s) that addresses each competency area.*

*Note that all students must achieve 36 graduate credits. The final GPA requirement for Master of Education Student Affairs in Higher Ed. is 3.0. In addition to credit requirement for the program and consultation with their advisors, students must have completed the following:*

1. Initial Advisement Seminar (IAS)
2. Signed New Student Agreement
3. Maintain Satisfactory Academic Status
4. No Unresolved SAPER

### **Area I. Foundation Studies – 6 credits**

STAF 516 Introduction to Student Affairs (3 credits) - *This course has prerequisites*

STAF 517 Ethics and Organizational Behavior in Student Affairs & Higher Education (3 credits)

### **Area II. Professional Studies – 24 credits**

STAF 530 Advising and Supporting Students in Higher Education (3 credits)

STAF 570 Contemporary College Students (3 credits)

STAF 571 Theory and Application of Student Development Principles (3 credits)

STAF 572 Seminar in Leadership in Student Affairs - *This course has prerequisites* (3 credits)

STAF 573 Social and Legal Issues in Student Affairs and Higher Education - *This course has prerequisites* (3 credits)

STAF 588 Assessment and Evaluation in Student Affairs and Higher Education (3 credits)

STAF 589 Practical Applications of Research Methods in Higher Education - *This course has prerequisites* (3 credits)

STAF 590 Contemporary Issues in Higher Education Finance (3 credits)

### **Area III. Supervised Practice – 6 credits**

*These courses have prerequisites.*

*Courses STAF 516, 517, 530, 570, 571 must be completed prior to Internship I & II.*

STAF 592 Internship in Student Affairs and Higher Education I (3 credits)

STAF 593 Internship in Student Affairs and Higher Education II (3 credits)

**Program Plan Code:** MED\_HESA

**Effective Semester:** Spring 2023