

# Psychology (BA)

*This program is offered by the College of Arts & Sciences/  
Psychology Department.*

## Program Description

The bachelor of arts (BA) in psychology is designed to provide students with a foundation in the field of psychology. Students will gain an understanding of the complexity and diversity of human behavior and the psychological theories and concepts which help explain human behavior. Consequently, students who have successfully completed the degree may be able to apply psychological principles to become a more effective manager, supervisor, or educator. In addition, some students may be able to pursue a variety of career and graduate opportunities within psychology, counseling, and related fields (e.g. nursing).

Students graduating with a bachelor of arts (BA) in psychology will need to pursue a graduate degree before they are able to obtain professional licensure. Students are encouraged to check entrance requirements for any post-graduate program prior to finishing their BA at Webster in the event they need to take additional coursework.

## Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the program, students will be able to:

- Describe the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in psychology.
- Implement the use of critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry and, when possible, the scientific approach to examine problems related to psychology.
- Describe the research methods and statistical techniques used in psychology.
- Discuss the factors contributing to diversity, multiculturalism, and inequality within an international context.
- Discuss the occupational pursuits available in a variety of settings given their psychological knowledge, skills, and values.

## Degree Requirements

A minimum of 128 credit hours consisting of the following:

- 49 required credit hours in the psychology major (52 required for emphasis in mental health)
- 3 international language requirement credit hours
- Applicable University Global Citizenship Program hours
- PSYC electives (18 hours for BA, 9 hours for emphasis in mental health)

## Special Requirements

- Courses completed with a grade below a C- do not count toward fulfilling the specific course requirements of the major.
- Within required 49 (or 52) hours, 24 hours must be at the 3000 level and above, with at least 12 hours at the 4000 level.
- No more than 6 credit hours obtained in senior thesis, practica, independent learning experiences, reading courses, and assessment of prior learning may be applied toward the 49 (or 52) credit hours required for the major. However, students may use any number of thesis, practica, independent learning experiences, etc. toward their overall bachelor degree requirements of 128 credit hours.
- Transfer students can apply up to 15 credit hours of approved PSYC course work from other colleges/universities towards the PSYC major. Students may transfer in 3 credit hours of approved foreign language course work to meet the International Language requirement for psychology.

## International Language Requirements

- A minimum of 3 hours in a non-native language (expertise demonstrated by coursework or testing) are required in addition to the requirements for the major. Courses used towards the International Language requirement may also be used to fulfill general education requirements or a major/minor in a foreign language.
- Transfer students who have completed their 3 credits at an institution of higher education are considered to have fulfilled the requirement, as are students who have scored a "3" or higher on an Advanced Placement exam in a non-native language.
- Students whose native language is not English and who are studying English will be considered to have achieved their foreign language requirement if they successfully pass an ESL test of their English proficiency (e.g., TOEFL). Students who are from bilingual families but have no evidence of academic study of the second language on a transcript will need to take one course.

## Curriculum

The 49 credit hours required for the bachelor of arts in psychology include the following:

- PSYC 1100 Introduction to Psychology (3 hours)
- PSYC 1800 Careers in Psychology (1 hour)
- PSYC 2750 Introduction to Measurement and Statistics (3 hours)
- PSYC 2825 Introduction to Research Methods (3 hours)
- PSYC 3025 Psychology and Ethics (3 hours)
- PSYC 4925 Senior Capstone: History, Philosophy, and Systems of Psychology (3 hours)
- PSYC 4950 Senior Assessment (1 hour)
- PSYC Electives (18 hours)

## At least ONE course from each of the following content areas:

### Biological Perspectives

- PSYC 3850 Sensation and Perception (3 hours)
- PSYC 4300 Health Psychology (3 hours)
- PSYC 4550 Drug and Chemical Dependency (3 hours)
- PSYC 4650 Physiological Psychology (3 hours)

### Clinical and Counseling Perspectives

- PSYC 3125 Abnormal Psychology (3 hours)
- PSYC 3775 Personality Theory (3 hours)
- PSYC 3900 Introduction to Counseling (3 hours)
- PSYC 4225 Introduction to Clinical Psychology (3 hours)

### Lifespan Development Perspectives

- PSYC 2200 Child Psychology (3 hours)
- PSYC 2250 Adolescent Psychology (3 hours)
- PSYC 2300 Lifespan Development (3 hours)
- PSYC 2950 Psychology of Adulthood and Aging (3 hours)

### Learning and Cognitive Perspectives

- PSYC 3325 Applied Learning Theory (3 hours)
- PSYC 3350 Cognitive Psychology (3 hours)
- PSYC 3525 Memory (3 hours)
- PSYC 3725 Psychology of Judgment and Decision Making (3 hours)

### Social and Cross-Cultural Perspectives

- PSYC 3475 International Psychology (3 hours)

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- PSYC 3575 Industrial/Organizational Psychology (3 hours)
- PSYC 3600 Social Psychology (3 hours)
- PSYC 3625 Motivation and Emotion (3 hours)

## Emphasis in Mental Health (52 credit hours)

The bachelor of arts (BA) in psychology with an emphasis in mental health is designed to provide an understanding of how cognitive, behavioral, personality, and social factors are involved in mental health and illness. Students who have successfully completed the degree will be prepared to pursue a variety of graduate and career opportunities within mental health-oriented fields (e.g. counseling, nursing, psychology, social work).

Students graduating with a bachelor of arts (BA) in psychology with an emphasis in mental health will need to pursue a graduate degree before they are able to obtain professional licensure. Students are encouraged to check entrance requirements for any post-graduate programs prior to finishing their BA at Webster in the event they need to take additional coursework.

## Emphasis-Specific Learning Outcomes

In addition to the general learning outcomes for the bachelor of arts in psychology, students will be able to:

- Discuss the psychological and behavioral processes in mental health and illness.

## Required Courses for the Emphasis in Mental Health

The 52 credit hours required for the bachelor of arts in psychology with an emphasis in mental health include the following:

- PSYC 1100 Introduction to Psychology (3 hours)
- PSYC 1800 Careers in Psychology (1 hour)
- PSYC 2300 Lifespan Development (3 hours)  
or PSYC 2200 Child Psychology (3 hours)  
or PSYC 2250 Adolescent Psychology (3 hours)  
or PSYC 2950 Psychology of Adulthood and Aging (3 hours)
- PSYC 2750 Introduction to Measurement and Statistics (3 hours)
- PSYC 2825 Introduction to Research Methods (3 hours)
- PSYC 3125 Abnormal Psychology (3 hours)
- PSYC 3325 Applied Learning Theory (3 hours)  
or PSYC 3350 Cognitive Psychology (3 hours)
- PSYC 3025 Psychology and Ethics (2 hours)
- PSYC 3600 Social Psychology (3 hours)
- PSYC 3775 Personality Theory (3 hours)
- PSYC 2525 Introduction to Social Work (3 hours)  
or PSYC 3900 Introduction to Counseling (3 hours)  
or PSYC 4225 Introduction to Clinical Psychology (3 hours)
- PSYC 4650 Physiological Psychology (3 hours)
- PSYC 4925 Senior Capstone: History, Philosophy, and Systems of Psychology (3 hours)
- PSYC 4950 Senior Assessment (1 hour)
- PSYC electives (9 hours)

## A least TWO courses from the following:

- PSYC 3150 Positive Psychology (3 hours)
- PSYC 3175 Community Psychology (3 hours)
- PSYC 4300 Health Psychology (3 hours)
- PSYC 4400 Human Sexuality (3 hours)
- PSYC 4550 Drug and Chemical Dependency (3 hours)
- PSYC 4700 Psychological Tests and Measurements (3 hours)