

Psychology (BA)

This program is offered by the College of Science and Health/ Psychology Department. It is available online, at the St. Louis main campus and at select international campuses. Please see the Locations Offering Undergraduate Programs section of this catalog for a list of campuses where this program is offered.

STEM program

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:

- Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, historical trends, and empirical or evidence-based findings in psychology. Apply these psychological science principles to critically evaluate behavior, mental processes, and problems of everyday life.
- Apply scientific reasoning to investigate psychological phenomena, in the design and evaluation of research, and the use of statistical methods to interpret quantitative findings. Identify, incorporate, and evaluate sociocultural factors in psychological research.
- Apply ethical standards and socially responsible values across psychological science endeavors including research, practice, and academics. Through the application of psychological principles, demonstrate interpersonal and intercultural responsiveness, to improve quality of life from the local to global levels.
- Demonstrate effective interpersonal and communication skills in processing and expressing information through constructive interactions with others, written and presentation skills for diverse purposes, evidence of psychological literacy, and use of appropriate technological tools to enhance communication. Demonstrate knowledge of equity, diversity, and inclusion to improve communication effectiveness.
- Demonstrate personal and professional growth through self-regulation, effective project management, sound judgment in professional interactions, and collaborative and technological skills in the workplace, leading to a clear plan for life after graduation.

Degree Requirements

For information on the general requirements for a degree, see Baccalaureate Degree Requirements under the Academic Policies and Information section of this catalog.

- 42 required credit hours
- Applicable University Global Citizenship Program hours

- Electives

Special Requirements

- Courses completed with a grade below a C- do not count toward fulfilling the specific course requirements of the major.
- Within the 6 credit hours of psychology electives, at least 3 credit hours at the 4000-level.
- No more than 6 credit hours obtained in independent learning experiences, reading courses, and assessment of prior learning may be applied toward the 40 credit hours required for the major. However, students may use any number of independent learning experiences, etc. toward their overall bachelor degree requirements.
- Transfer students can apply up to 18 credit hours of approved PSYC course work from other colleges/universities toward the psychology major.

Curriculum

The 42 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 (3 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 3675 Professional Seminar in Psychology (3 hours)
- Psychology electives (*at least 3 hours at the 4000-level*) (6 hours)

At least ONE course from EACH of the following five 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 Biopsychology (3 hours)

Clinical and Counseling Perspectives

- PSYC 3125 Psychological Disorders (3 hours)
- PSYC 3775 Personality Theory (3 hours)
- PSYC 3900 Introduction to Counseling (3 hours)
- PSYC 4225 Introduction to the Helping Professions (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)
- PSYC 3575 Industrial/Organizational Psychology (3 hours)
- PSYC 3600 Social Psychology (3 hours)

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- PSYC 3625 Motivation and Emotion (3 hours)

At least ONE Capstone course

- PSYC 4425 Community Practicum (3 hours)
- PSYC 4825 Psychological Science Thesis (3 hours)
- PSYC 4925 Senior Capstone: History, Philosophy, and Systems of Psychology (3 hours)