



Bachelor of Arts

Psychology

120 credits

Program Description

The Bachelor of Arts in Psychology is set within a broad-based liberal arts framework that has a strong interdisciplinary and humanistic foundation. The curriculum is a solid preparation for professional application in clinical, educational and human services, while also serving as a strong foundation for more specialized application and focus at the graduate level.

The psychology major prepares students for life-long learning, critical thinking and effective action in the field, and helps them develop a wide range of career options and skills that emerge from a broad and comprehensive grounding in psychology as the science of human behavior. An important feature of the program is personal reflection and application of new psychological knowledge and insights to new contexts. Given the scope, intensity and rapidity of social, cultural and technological changes in our world, the need to increase our understanding of the widest possible range of human experience and behavior has never been greater or more critical.

Required courses look at the history and methodology of psychology and introduce students to broader issues related to human growth and development, learning theory, personality, motivational and group theories, and a variety of approaches to psychopathology and psychotherapy. A special emphasis of the program is critical examination of the important roles of culture, history and belief in shaping differing approaches to the study of human behavior.

Final Project — Students complete a Capstone project which is a culminating piece of research in psychology related to their own personal and professional interests. Students demonstrate their mastery of psychology content and methodology and apply their academic experience to a learning project that interests and challenges them.

Program Outcomes

Specific learning outcomes within the Psychology program include:

- Fundamental understanding of the historical development and methodologies of modern psychology.
- Understanding and basic knowledge of major psychological theories, concepts and processes.
- Understanding of learning theory and cognition, personality, motivation and group theories.
- Understanding of a variety of perspectives regarding mental health, psychopathology, maladaptive behaviors and psychotherapy.
- Understanding of the roles of cultural, social and historical forces in shaping behavior.

Careers and Further Study

Cambridge College Psychology graduates are well prepared to enter a variety of career pathways working with people. These include clinical, educational, human service and management settings, and research. Graduates work in a wide variety of institutional and private programs and agencies.

Our graduates are additionally well positioned to enter graduate studies in psychology, counseling, social work and related fields.

Concentration Options

Students choose among a wide variety of psychology electives, and may choose a concentration that clusters their electives (below) according to their interests and professional needs.

Psychological Studies is the most flexible option for students to explore their own areas of interest by taking any psychology elective, most human services courses, and some courses in management and/or multidisciplinary studies. For appropriate choices, close coordination with the Psychology program chair and the student advising office is advised.

Addiction Studies is for counselors, case managers, residence managers, and advocates. This concentration considers the impact of substance abuse on individuals, families and communities. It explores theories regarding addiction, various treatment approaches, and the societal consequences. The curriculum has been designed to meet the criteria for the Certified Alcohol and Drug Addiction Counselor (CADAC) certification.

Holistic Studies is an integrated approach to psychology that addresses the relationship between mind, body and spirit. It draws from multidisciplinary, theoretical and cross-cultural sources including contemporary mind-body approaches to healing. Holistic studies includes expressive art therapies and views the transformative nature of the arts as an important aspect of holistic psychology. Holistic perspectives are applied to human growth and development, psychological disorders and clinical practice, wellness, and the nature of human potential.

Organizational Psychology combines psychology and management. It focuses on organizational and institutional behavior; the psychology of work and working systems, leadership and management styles; and the shifting relationships between individuals and groups. Topics include communication styles and skills, enhancing work environments, mediation and conflict resolution, and valuing human diversity in the workplace.

Family Studies — Courses in family studies provide the knowledge and skills needed by practitioners to work effectively with the many demands families today are facing. Our emphasis on building on strengths, respecting and valuing what is important to families while providing care in a culturally humble way, serves to empower families as students learn how to assist them in the changes they are seeking. Students who focus in this area often go on to further studies in human growth and development, human services, social work, marriage and family therapy, and family policy. Students may focus on working with families or family members, on family development, advocacy, case management, or policy.

Other Concentration Options— see undergraduate concentrations section of the catalog.

- Juvenile Justice Studies
- Medical Interpreter (degree credit only)



Psychology

General Education 60 credits

Learning to Learn

LRN175	Principles & Processes of Adult Learning	3
WRT101	College Writing I	3
CTH225	Foundations of Critical Thinking	3
MAT101	College Math I	3
CMP130	Introduction to Computer Applications	3
WRT102	College Writing II	3
CMP230	Information Literacy	3
MAT102	College Math II	3

WRT101-102 and MAT101-102 may be waived if you have taken equivalent courses **and** assessment indicates proficiency. Credits will be replaced with open electives. WRT090 and MAT100 required if assessment indicates need.

Knowledge to Gather Knowledge

Arts & Humanities	9
Natural & Physical Sciences	9
Social Sciences	9

Open Electives 9

Psychology Major Required Courses..... 36 credits

PSY120	Formative Ideas in Psychology	3
PSY130	Groups & Social Psychology	3
PSY210	Developmental Psychology	3
PSY310	Psychology of Learning	3
PSY315	Research in Psychology	3
PSY325	Theories of Personality	3
PSY402	Themes in Adult Development	3
PSY412	Perspectives on Psychopathology	3
PSY490	Psychology Capstone	3
Psychology Electives	9	

Admissions requirements: High school completion or GED and other general requirements (see Admissions).

Degree completion: General education requirements may be satisfied by an associate's degree or 60 credits of prior courses that meet all general criteria for transfer; up to 90 credits may be accepted.

Concentration Options..... choose 24 credits

Psychological Studies

Any psychology elective, most human services courses, and some courses in management and/or multidisciplinary studies. For appropriate choices, close coordination with the psychology chair and the student advising office is advised.....24

Addiction Studies (partial list)

BHS401	Introduction to Addictions	3
BHS411	Family Systems & Addictions	3
BHS421	Mental Health & Substance Abuse	3
BHS360	Ethical Issues in Substance Abuse	3

Holistic Studies (partial list)

PSY316	Cross-Cultural Perspectives in Psychology	3
PSY345	Spiritual Dimensions: Psychological & Educational Issues	3
PSY376	Psychological & Therapeutic Dimensions of the Arts	3
PSY428	Holistic Psychology: An Integrated Approach	3

Organizational Psychology (partial list)

PSY110	Systems Thinking in Psychology	3
PSY421	Psychology & Work Today	3
BSM310	Organizational Theory & Behavior	3
BSM315	Diversity Issues in the Workplace	3
BSM465	Negotiation & Conflict Management	3

Family Studies (partial list)

BHS400	Family Life Cycle	3
BHS430	Families With Special Needs	3
BHS365	Ethical Issues in Working With Families	3
BHS366	Family Interventions	3

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