Psychology (Forensic Psychology), BA

Accelerated options for this program are not currently available to ASU Online students.

In this program, you will learn how psychology is applied to the law. This training in criminal law, criminal behavior, mental disorders and legal decision-making prepares you to become an expert witness in a court of law.

Program Description

Forensic psychology is the application of psychology to the law. The concentration in forensic psychology within the BA program in psychology combines general training in psychology with specialized coursework in criminal law, criminal behavior, the diagnosis and treatment of mental disorders, and legal decision-making.

When courts are faced with cases in which a psychology related question arises, they may turn to psychologists for help with the case. For example, psychologists might assist the court in understanding a criminal's mental state at the time of a crime or in determining whether a particular jury might have been biased against a defendant based on his or her race. This is the realm of forensic psychology.

This program teaches students about the various roles for psychologists in the legal system and helps them discover which roles they might like to pursue through careers in mental health, criminal justice or through graduate training.

The Bachelor of Arts degree differs from the BS degree in that it does not require two additional lab science courses.

This major is eligible for the Western Undergraduate Exchange program at the following location: West campus. Students from Western states who select this major and campus may be eligible for reduced nonresident tuition at a rate of 150% of Arizona resident tuition plus all applicable fees. Students should click the link for more information and eligibility requirements of the WUE program.
At a Glance

- **College/School:** New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences
- **Location:** West WUE or Online, ASU Local
- **Additional Program Fee:** No
- **Second Language Requirement:** No
- **First Required Math Course:** MAT 119 - Finite Mathematics or MAT 170 Precalculus
- **Math Intensity:** Moderate

Required Courses (Major Map)

2023 - 2024 Major Map (On-campus)
2023 - 2024 Major Map (Online)
Major Map (Archives)

Concurrent Program Options

Students pursuing concurrent degrees (also known as a "double major") earn two distinct degrees and receive two diplomas. Working with their academic advisors, students can create their own concurrent degree combination. Some combinations are not possible due to high levels of overlap in curriculum.

Accelerated Program Options

This program allows students to obtain both a bachelor's and master's degree in as little as five years. It is offered as an accelerated bachelor's plus master's degree with:

Global Management, MGM

Acceptance to the graduate program requires a separate application. Students typically receive approval to pursue the accelerated master's during the junior year of their bachelor's degree program. Interested students can learn about eligibility requirements and how to apply.

Admission Requirements

General University Admission Requirements:
All students are required to meet general university admission requirements.
First-year | Transfer | International | Readmission

Tuition Information
When it comes to paying for college, everyone’s situation is different. Students can learn about [ASU tuition and financial aid](#) options to find out which will work best for them.

**Change of Major Requirements**

A current ASU student has no additional requirements for changing majors.

Students should visit the [Change of Major form](#) for information about how to change a major to this program.

**Attend Online**

**ASU Online**

ASU offers this program in an online format with multiple enrollment sessions throughout the year. Applicants may [view the program’s ASU Online page](#) for program descriptions and to request more information.

**ASU Local**

It is now possible to earn an ASU degree with [ASU Local](#), an integrated college experience in which students take advantage of in-person success coaching and programming experiences on site while completing one of 130+ undergraduate online degree programs, all of which come with online faculty interaction and tutoring support.

**Transfer Options**

ASU is committed to helping students thrive by offering tools that allow personalization of the transfer path to ASU. Students may use [MyPath2ASU®](#) to outline a list of recommended courses to take prior to transfer.

ASU has [transfer partnerships](#) in Arizona and across the country to create a simplified transfer experience for students. These pathway programs include exclusive benefits, tools and resources, and they help students save time and money in their college journey.

**Global Opportunities**

**Global Experience**

Through study abroad, students in the psychology program acquire enhanced knowledge and experience that will enable them to stand out in many career fields. Study abroad students are exposed to unique differences in the human condition, are able to improve language and cross-cultural skills for effective communication, and are challenged to adapt under new social and cultural circumstances.

With more than 300 options available, [Global Education programs](#) allow students to tailor their educational experience to their unique interests and skill sets. Whether in a foreign country, in the U.S. or
online, students in the New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences can explore their varied fields and interests in different settings around the world.

**Career Opportunities**

Graduates of the Bachelor of Arts program in psychology with a concentration in forensic psychology are prepared for careers in the criminal justice and mental health fields. Many careers in psychology require graduate training, and the program's graduates are prepared for master's degree and doctoral programs in legal, clinical and forensic psychology.

Career example titles and salaries listed below are not necessarily entry level, and students should take into consideration how years of experience, geographical location, and required advanced degrees or certifications may affect pay scales.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Career</th>
<th>*Growth</th>
<th>*Median Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Behavioral Health Specialist</td>
<td>6.6%</td>
<td>$61,420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detective Sergeant</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>$86,280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>$135,740</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licensed Clinical Psychologist</td>
<td>11.4%</td>
<td>$90,130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health Counselor</td>
<td>18.4%</td>
<td>$49,710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Probation Officer</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>$59,860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychiatrist</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
<td>$226,880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
<td>$50,820</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Substance Abuse Social Worker</td>
<td>10.6%</td>
<td>$51,240</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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* Data obtained from the Occupational Information Network (O*NET) under sponsorship of the U.S. Department of Labor/Employment and Training Administration (USDOL/ETA).

🌞 Bright Outlook

**Contact Information**

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