

Social and Behavioral Sciences, BA

ASSBSBA

Are you passionate about social advocacy? Become immersed in the psychological and social principles that influence behavior in social structures, and gain an in-depth understanding of human behavior to pursue a path as a lifelong advocate.


Program description

The BA degree program in social and behavioral sciences provides students with an understanding of assumptions underlying the social and behavioral sciences, enabling them to develop the research skills necessary for the analysis of complex social issues. This program can be tailored to the career goals of the individual student, and it offers individual and group experiences working with faculty on concrete intellectual and policy issues.

The core courses provide students with the requisite background that enables them to better understand psychological and social principles related to the behavior of individuals across multiple social contexts and institutions.

This major is eligible for the Western Undergraduate Exchange program at the following location: West Valley 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 Valley](#) **WUE** or [Online](#), [ASU Local](#)
- **Second language requirement:** No
- **First required math course:** MAT 142 - College Mathematics Any math course that meets the MATH designation.
- **Math intensity:** General 

Required courses (Major Map)

[2024 - 2025 Major Map \(on-campus\)](#)

[2024 - 2025 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:

[Communication Studies, MA](#)

[Global Management, MGM](#)

[Interdisciplinary Studies, MA](#)

[Social Justice and Human Rights, MA](#)

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 higher education, 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

Exploring social and behavioral sciences on a global scale can be beneficial to students in providing understanding of assumptions made about individuals and society. Students who study abroad can develop research skills from firsthand experiences inside and outside the classroom, and use these skills to analyze complex social issues that affect them and those around them, domestically and internationally.

More information on available programs can be found on the [Global Education website](#).

Career opportunities

This interdisciplinary degree is an excellent option, meshing with the individual's interests and fulfilling many employers' expectations of a bachelor's degree by exposing the student to a variety of outlooks and challenges. Such a degree is competitive in most situations in which the disciplinary social and behavioral degrees are accepted, and it is advantageous when seeking entry to broad professional programs such as regional planning or urban studies.

Graduates of this program have a solid background in social sciences and methodologies that prepares them for graduate work in community development, counseling, criminal justice, professional schools (e.g., law, public administration, social work), public policy, social science disciplines, and urban studies or planning.

Careers include:

- advocate (e.g., immigration, children's, victim's)
- community developer
- human relations officer
- lawyer
- lobbyist
- mediator
- nonprofit manager
- social services case worker
- statistical analyst
- urban planner

Example job titles and salaries listed below are not necessarily entry level, and students should take into consideration how years of experience and geographical location may affect pay scales. Some jobs also may require advanced degrees, certifications or state-specific licensure.

Career	*Growth	*Median salary
<u>Addictions Counselor</u> ☀	18.4%	\$49,710
<u>Advocate</u> ☀	8.6%	\$38,520
<u>Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES)</u> ☀	7.2%	\$59,990
<u>Community Specialist</u> ☀	6.5%	\$47,290
<u>Human Resources Manager</u> ☀	5.2%	\$130,000
<u>Lawyer</u> ☀	7.5%	\$135,740
<u>Mediator</u> ☀	5.0%	\$64,030
<u>Probation Officer</u>	2.5%	\$59,860
<u>Public Relations Specialist</u> ☀	6.1%	\$67,440
<u>Social Services Director</u> ☀	9.1%	\$74,240

* Data obtained from the Occupational Information Network (O*NET) under sponsorship of the U.S. Department of Labor/Employment and Training Administration (USDOL/ETA).

Contact information

[School of Social and Behavioral Sciences](#) | FAB N101
sbsadvising@asu.edu | 602-543-3000