Counseling and Applied Psychological Science, BS

Learn foundational theories, research methods and basic counseling skills to help people from diverse backgrounds cope with life's challenges. This degree program prepares you for graduate study in behavioral health fields such as counseling psychology.

Program Description

Counseling and applied psychological science is a specialty in promoting psychological well-being. Counselors and applied psychologists provide the tools and resources necessary for individuals, families and organizations to cope with everyday problems.

The BS program in counseling and applied psychological science provides foundational training in counseling theories, addictions, trauma, lifespan development, group counseling and professional ethics. A unique aspect of the program is its attention to cultural diversity, focusing on age, gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion and socioeconomic status. As part of the program, students also participate in a hands-on internship in which they shadow a licensed therapist and apply counseling theory.

At a Glance

- **College/School:** [College of Integrative Sciences and Arts](#)
- **Location:** Polytechnic or Online, ASU Local

- **Additional Program Fee:** Yes
- **Second Language Requirement:** No
- **First Required Math Course**: MAT 119 - Finite Mathematics or MAT 170 Precalculus
- **Math Intensity**: Moderate

**Required Courses (Major Map)**

- [2022 - 2023 Major Map (On-campus)](#)
- [2022 - 2023 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.

**Admission Requirements**

**General University Admission Requirements:**
All students are required to meet general university admission requirements.

- [First-year](#)
- [Transfer](#)
- [International](#)
- [Readmission](#)

**Change of Major Requirements**

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

Students should refer to [https://changemajor.appoeg.edu](https://changemajor.appoeg.edu) 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 description and request more information [here](#).

**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. Those interested may learn more about ASU Local [here](#).
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. Students may learn more about these programs by visiting the admission site: https://admission.asu.edu/transfer/MyPath2ASU.

Global Opportunities

Global Experience

In order to make a positive impact in the lives of others, students must understand the diverse set of experiences, backgrounds and cultures that shape the people with whom they wish to work. When studying abroad, students gain firsthand experience of a wide range of cultures and communities. Study abroad provides students with a unique global perspective with which they can impact the world. More information is available on the Global Education website. https://goglobal.asu.edu/

Career Opportunities

Graduates with a degree in counseling and applied psychological sciences are prepared for careers in various settings:

- community centers
- government (sales and marketing, human resources management)
- mental health professions (youth counselor, substance abuse counselor, behavioral health technician)
- social services (high school psychology teacher, occupational analyst)
- schools and colleges (school psychologists, educators, professors)
- substance abuse treatment clinics

Graduates may qualify for employment in behavioral health care delivery settings such as community agencies, hospitals and rehabilitation centers to support counselors and other mental health professionals, and they are prepared for a variety of careers, such as vocational rehabilitation assistants, human service workers and life-skills instructors. The Bureau of Labor Statistics shows the outlook for job growth (2019 to 2029) for substance abuse, behavioral disorder and mental health counselors is 25%, which is much faster than average.
Graduates of this program are not license-eligible as professional counselors but are well prepared with an excellent foundation for entering graduate degree programs in disciplines such as counselor education, counseling psychology, clinical psychology, social work and family studies, counseling and related fields.

Career examples include but are not limited to those shown in the following list. Advanced degrees or certifications may be required for academic or clinical positions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Career</th>
<th>*Growth</th>
<th>*Median Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Addictions Counselor</td>
<td>not available</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counselor (General)</td>
<td>13.0%</td>
<td>$45,760</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guidance Counselor</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
<td>$58,120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marriage and Family Therapist (MFT)</td>
<td>22.3%</td>
<td>$51,340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health Counselor</td>
<td>not available</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology Professor</td>
<td>8.8%</td>
<td>$78,180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rehabilitation Counselor</td>
<td>10.3%</td>
<td>$37,530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Psychologist</td>
<td>not available</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Services Director</td>
<td>17.0%</td>
<td>$69,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>11.7%</td>
<td>$48,430</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* 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  🌿 Green Occupation

Contact Information

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