Psychology (Forensic Psychology), BS

Forensic psychology is a fascinating career that combines psychology with the justice system. Forensic psychologists work with courts or legal teams, applying psychological theory and practice as required. Their understanding and explanations of psychological health can help advance court cases, inform juries, determine the reasons behind criminal activity, playing an integral role in the system.

Program Description

Forensic psychology is the application of psychology to the law. The concentration in forensic psychology within the BS 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 and ask 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 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 Science degree differs from the Bachelor of Arts degree in that it requires two additional lab courses and advanced statistical training. The Bachelor of Science program provides a greater depth of knowledge in the biological and neuroscientific aspects of psychology that are becoming increasingly important both for research and clinical forensic practice. In addition, the advanced statistical training further prepares students for careers and graduate training involving psychological research, clinical research and legal policy research.

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 campus or online
- **Additional Program Fee:** No
- **Second Language Requirement:** No
- **First Required Math Course:** MAT 170 - Precalculus
- **Math Intensity:** Moderate

Required Courses (Major Map)

- [2020 - 2021 Major Map (On-campus)]
- [2020 - 2021 Major Map (Online)]
- [Major Map (Archives)]

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 and master's degree with:

- Global Management, MGM

Acceptance to the graduate program requires a separate application. During their junior year, eligible students will be advised by their academic departments to apply.

Admission Requirements

**General University Admission Requirements:**

All students are required to meet general university admission requirements.

- Freshman
- Transfer
- International
- Readmission

Change of Major Requirements

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

Students should refer to [https://changemajor.apps.asu.edu](https://changemajor.apps.asu.edu) for information about how to change a major to this program.
Attend 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.

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 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/pathway-programs.

Global Opportunities

Global Experience

Studying abroad allows students in the psychology program to stand out in many career fields. Students are exposed to unique differences in the human condition worldwide, are able to improve language and cross-cultural skills for effective communication, and are challenged to adapt under new social and cultural circumstances. Opportunities exist worldwide, including in Singapore, Australia and Ireland.

https://mystudyabroad.asu.edu/

Career Opportunities

The Bachelor of Science degree program in psychology with a concentration in forensic psychology prepares students for careers in the criminal justice and mental health fields. Many careers in psychology require graduate training, and this program also is designed to prepare students for master's degree and doctoral programs in legal, clinical and forensic psychology.

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>Behavioral Health Specialist</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
<td>$61,980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupation</td>
<td>Growth Rate</td>
<td>Average Salary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Psychologist</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
<td>$75,090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counselor</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
<td>$75,090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counselor (General)</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
<td>$43,370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
<td>$119,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health Counselor</td>
<td>23.1%</td>
<td>not available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neuropsychologist</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
<td>$97,740</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychiatrist</td>
<td>11.2%</td>
<td>#</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>14.2%</td>
<td>$44,380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Substance Abuse Social Worker</td>
<td>19.3%</td>
<td>$43,250</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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