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 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, which focuses on age, gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion and socioeconomic status.

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. Graduates are prepared for a variety of careers, such as behavioral health technicians, vocational rehabilitation assistants, human service workers and life-skills instructors. Graduates are not license-eligible as professional counselors but are well-prepared to enter graduate degree programs in counseling and related fields.

At a Glance

- **College/School:** College of Integrative Sciences and Arts
- **Location:** Polytechnic campus
- **Additional Program Fee:** Yes
Required Courses (Major Map)

2020 - 2021 Major Map
Major Map (Archives)

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://changingmajors.asu.edu/request for information about how to change a major to this program.

Transfer Options

ASU is committed to helping students thrive by offering tools that allow personalization of the transfer path to ASU. Students may use the Transfer Map search 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
With over 250 programs in more than 65 countries (ranging from one week to one year), study abroad is possible for all ASU students wishing to gain global skills and knowledge in preparation for a 21st-century career. Students earn ASU credit for completed courses, while staying on track for graduation, and may apply financial aid and scholarships toward program costs. https://mystudyabroad.asu.edu/

Career Opportunities

A degree in counseling and applied psychological science prepares students 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

Advanced degrees or certifications may be required for academic or clinical positions.

The degree also provides an excellent foundation for graduate study in disciplines such as counselor education, counseling psychology, clinical psychology, social work and family studies.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics shows the job outlook (2016 to 2026) for substance abuse, behavioral disorder and mental health counselors is 23%, which is "much faster than average."

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>23.2%</td>
<td>not available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counselor (General)</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
<td>$43,370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guidance Counselor</td>
<td>12.6%</td>
<td>$55,410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marriage and Family Therapist (MFT)</td>
<td>23.4%</td>
<td>$48,790</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health Counselor</td>
<td>23.1%</td>
<td>not available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology Professor</td>
<td>15.1%</td>
<td>$73,770</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rehabilitation Counselor</td>
<td>12.7%</td>
<td>$34,860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupation</td>
<td>Increase</td>
<td>Salary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Psychologist</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
<td>$75,090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Services Director</td>
<td>18.0%</td>
<td>$64,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>14.2%</td>
<td>$44,380</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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