



# Psychological Sciences BA

By pursuing a Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree in Psychological Sciences, you will learn about mental processes, the brain, and behavior in humans and other animals. You will also learn to think critically, to understand and conduct scientific research, to communicate clearly, to take ethical and social responsibility, and to plan your career. An important difference between the BA and the Bachelor of Science (BS) degrees in Psychological Sciences is that the BA degree involves learning a foreign language, while the BS degree involves taking additional math and science classes beyond the general education math and science classes. You can use the upper-level psychology courses to explore the breadth of Psychological Sciences or to focus on a specific subdiscipline such as mental health/trauma, child/lifespan development, or biological psychology. You will be led and inspired by the faculty of the Department of Psychological Sciences, who are passionate about teaching and are actively involved in scientific research and community service.

## Career Outlook

The undergraduate BA degree in Psychological Sciences provides the liberal arts background necessary for entry-level positions in many fields such as mental health, business, communication, human services, and research. It also provides the foundation for graduate training in psychology, counseling, school counseling, and social work. To function specifically as a counselor or therapist, a graduate degree is required.

## Future Career Options

- Activities/Recreation Director
- Alumni Relations
- Career/Employment/Student Advisor
- Community/Social Services Staff
- Corrections/Probation/Parole Officer
- Customer Service Representative
- Department Manager
- Human Resources Advisor
- Patient Resources/Claims Agent
- Personnel Recruiter
- Psychiatric Aide/Attendant/Technician
- Public Relations Representative
- Victims' Advocate
- Youth Counselor

## Skills Developed By Degree Completion

- Apply psychological theories across subdisciplines to explain and predict behavior
- Employ critical thinking, use scientific inquiry, and tolerate ambiguity
- Identify appropriate research methods, including research design, data analysis, and data interpretation
- Communicate using a variety of formats in a clear, concise way
- Take ethical and social responsibility to build community
- Take ownership of professional growth and develop a career plan

Successful alumni have gone on to fulfill many of the opportunities above. Additional possibilities are taken from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Contact an advisor to discuss additional future career options.

# 2024-2025 4-YEAR ACADEMIC MAP

IT  
STARTS  
RIGHT  
NOW

This is a sample academic map for the courses to take each academic semester/session. This map is not a substitute for academic advisement. Contact your advisor when making final selections.



## UNIVERSITY STUDIES

University studies is required for all first-year students and those with less than 24 credit hours.



## MILESTONE COURSES

Milestone courses should be taken in the order shown to ensure you stay on a timely and accurate path toward graduation.



## SUMMER AND INTERSESSION COURSES

Don't forget that summers and winter breaks are a way to fast-track your route to degree completion – and lighten your load during fall and spring!

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888-GO-2-UMSL  
314-516-5451  
admissions.umsl.edu

Year

1

## Bachelor of Arts in Psychological Sciences

### FALL SEMESTER (14 credit hours)

ENGL 1100: First-Year Writing (3)  
MATH 1030: College Algebra (3)  
PSYCH 1000: Choosing a Career in Psychology (1)  
PSYCH 1003: General Psychology (3)  
GEN ED EXPLORE: Humanities and Fine Arts (3)  
INTDSC 1003: University Studies (1)

### SPRING SEMESTER (17 credit hours)

BIOL 1012: General Biology (3)  
FGN LANG 1001: Language and Culture I (5)  
PSYCH 2245: Abnormal Psychology (3)  
PSYCH 2268: Lifespan Development Psychology (3) or  
PSYCH 2270: Developmental Psychology: Infancy, Childhood, and Adolescence (3)  
GEN ED EXPLORE: Math and Natural/Life Sciences (3)

Year

2

### FALL SEMESTER (15 credit hours)

FGN LANG 1002: Language and Culture II (5)  
PSYCH 2201: Psychological Statistics (4)  
GEN ED CORE: US History and Government (3)  
Cultural Diversity Requirement (3)

### SPRING SEMESTER (15 credit hours)

FGN LANG 2101: Language and Culture III (3)  
PSYCH 2219: Research Methods (3)  
GEN ED CORE: Communication Proficiency (3)  
GEN ED EXPLORE: Humanities and Fine Arts (3)  
Elective Outside of Major (3)

Year

3

### FALL SEMESTER (15 credit hours)

ENGL 3100: Junior-Level Writing (3)  
PSYCH 2211: Introduction to Biological Psychology (3)  
PSYCH 3XXX/4XXX: Psychology Upper-Level Requirement (3)  
GEN ED EXPLORE: Humanities and Fine Arts (3)  
GEN ED EXPLORE: Math and Natural/Life Sciences (3)

### SPRING SEMESTER (15 credit hours)

PSYCH 3XXX/4XXX: Psychology Upper-Level Requirement (3)  
PSYCH 3XXX/4XXX: Psychology Upper-Level Requirement (3)  
GEN ED EXPLORE: Math and Natural/Life Sciences (3)  
Elective Outside of Major (3)  
Elective Outside of Major (3)

Year

4

### FALL SEMESTER (15 credit hours)

PSYCH 3XXX/4XXX: Psychology Upper-Level Requirement (3)  
Elective Outside of Major (3)  
Elective Outside of Major (3)  
Elective Outside of Major (3)  
Elective Outside of Major (3)

### SPRING SEMESTER (14 credit hours)

PSYCH 4999: Integrated Psychology (2)  
Elective Outside of Major (3)  
Elective Outside of Major (3)  
Elective Outside of Major (3)  
Elective Outside of Major (3)

Check once completed

