



The **Bachelor of Arts** in

Psychology

Understand human behavior.

Psychology is the science of mind and behavior. This exciting field increases understanding of ourselves while developing critical thinking skills. You'll understand human relationships, appreciate human development, be a better communicator and develop a new perspective on mental illness while working with scientific methods.

The Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

The Bachelor of Arts in Psychology can provide the foundation for further training in psychology at the graduate level, the background necessary for training in other fields such as the health professions, social work or counseling, or the liberal arts background necessary for entry-level positions in many fields such as business, communication, human services and mental health positions. Students may choose an area of concentration in graduate school preparation, child care and development or industrial-organizational psychology, or devise an individual program.

The BA is ideal for students interested in understanding and solving problems in many different areas of behavior. BA students learn to write and speak about complex behavioral explanations that rely on scientific reasoning and evidence rather than anecdotes or common myths/misconceptions. Advanced coursework in the major can focus on a range of sub-disciplines, including child/lifespan development, mental health and business/workplace psychology.

Upon completion of the BA in Psychology, graduates will be able to demonstrate an integrative understanding of psychological concepts, theories, research and historical trends and predict behavior across the scientific sub-disciplines; summarize and explain use of the scientific approach to solve behavioral problems and articulate how behavioral explanations rely on critical thinking, scientific reasoning, weighing evidence and tolerating ambiguity; identify and evaluate appropriate research methods in psychology including research design, data analysis and interpretation; communicate clearly and concisely; demonstrate a respect for members of diverse groups with sensitivity to issues of power privilege and discrimination while adopting social and ethical values that build community; and display professionalism and ownership of professional growth and learning through an evolving career development plan tailored to an accurate self-assessment of abilities, achievements, motivations and work habits.

Transforming Lives

The Bachelor of Arts in Psychology at UMSL is earned through our College of Arts and Sciences, the academic core of the University of Missouri–St. Louis. Through academic programs offered on- and off- campus, traditional and nontraditional students gain knowledge, skills and intellectual leadership for a variety of career paths, advanced study and research in many academic disciplines.

Graduates are known for their professionalism on the job and their strong sense of civic responsibility. Students in our programs engage in creative and critical thinking, learn to analyze evidence, to appreciate patterns of complexity and to reflect on important issues that impact our daily lives. Students gain skill sets to prepare for a changing workplace that requires flexible, dynamic, and well-educated employees.

The Psychology Department offers students opportunities to do research in several human experimental laboratories furnished with various psychophysiological equipment. Research topics consist of human learning, cognitive and emotion processes, trauma studies, clinical and community psychology and social psychology, as well as neuroscience. Additionally, the department operates three facilities—Community Psychological Services, the Center for Trauma Recovery, and Children’s Advocacy Services of Greater St. Louis—which provide training opportunities for students in psychology while providing psychological assessment services for citizens of the region.

Serious education. Serious value.

The Bachelor of Arts in Psychology is designed to provide specialized knowledge, skills and training in a flexible format, with classes available in person, online and in a hybrid format. You’ll learn from highly qualified educators and researchers who hold terminal degrees from some of the world’s most prestigious academic institutions.

The University of Missouri–St. Louis provides the knowledge, resources, tools, skills and support students need to be successful in our programs. Our comprehensive student support services include workshops, tutoring and career services to help you develop skills and strategies to be successful in the classroom and beyond. UMSL welcomes transfer students and our transfer specialists will assist you with getting the most transfer credits possible. We’re also committed to increasing access to higher education, which is why UMSL is consistently ranked number one in affordability in the St. Louis region.

Learn more at umsl.edu/psychology

The University of Missouri–St. Louis is the largest public research university located in Missouri’s most populous and economically important region. UMSL provides high-quality, affordable education to one of the most diverse student bodies in the state. No university is better connected to the surrounding region than UMSL. Seventy-three percent of our graduates stay in St. Louis. The region needs a well-equipped workforce with mental health skills and UMSL is prepared to help you meet those needs. Choose the University of Missouri–St. Louis for psychology.

Career Opportunities

Activities/Recreation Director
Alumni Relations
Career/Employment/Student Advisor
Child Development Specialist
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

College of Arts & Sciences

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