

# Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

The Department of Psychology at the University of Alaska Anchorage offers undergraduate and graduate degree and certificate programs aimed at preparing students 1) for advanced study in the social and health sciences and 2) to become members of the behavioral health workforce. The department also maintains the Psychological Services Center, a clinic that provides low cost mental health services to campus and community members. The department strives to offer degree and certificate programs that meet the needs of the state of Alaska.

## Licensure and/or Certification

This program is designed to meet the educational requirements for professional licensure or certification in the State of Alaska. However, the program might not meet the educational requirements for professional licensure or certification in other states. Please see UAA's Licensure and Certification website (<https://www.uaa.alaska.edu/academics/office-of-academic-affairs/licensure.cshhtml/>) for more information.

## Admission Requirements

- Complete the Admission Requirements for Baccalaureate Degrees (<http://catalog.uaa.alaska.edu/academicpoliciesprocesses/admissions/undergraduate/>).
- Students wishing to declare psychology as a major must have earned a minimum GPA of 2.50.

## Graduation Requirements

- Complete the General University Requirements for Baccalaureate Degrees (<http://catalog.uaa.alaska.edu/undergraduateprograms/baccalaureaterequirements/>).
- Complete the General Education Requirements for Baccalaureate Degrees. (<http://catalog.uaa.alaska.edu/undergraduateprograms/baccalaureaterequirements/gers/>)
- All psychology majors are also required to take the exit examination, a standardized test of knowledge of psychology approved by the Department of Psychology. There is no minimum score required for graduation. This exam is taken in the UAA Testing Center, and a fee will be charged to students.
- Complete the following major requirements with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.00 (C):

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Core Courses</b>		
PSY A111	Introduction to Psychology	3
PSY A150	Lifespan Development	3
PSY A200	Introduction to Behavior Analysis	3
PSY A260	Statistics for Psychology	3
PSY A260L	Statistics for Psychology Lab	1

PSY A261 & A261L	Research Methods in Psychology and Research Methods in Psychology Laboratory	4
PSY A345	Psychopathology	3
PSY A370	Behavioral Neuroscience	3
PSY A375	Social Psychology	3
PSY A468 & A468L	Learning and Behavior and Learning and Behavior Laboratory	4

### Psychology Capstone Requirement <sup>1</sup> 3

Each capstone option is designed to synthesize and apply material from the psychology major. Choice of a capstone should be based, at least in part, on the student's future career plans. Students planning to work in human service jobs following graduation should consider taking PSY A495A. Students planning on graduate work in psychology should consider taking PSY A412, PSY A428, or PSY A499. Students may elect to take all of these courses as upper-division electives.

PSY A412	History of Psychology	
PSY A428	Evolutionary Psychology	
PSY A495A	Psychology Practicum	
PSY A499	Senior Thesis	

### Psychology Electives 9

Complete an additional 9 credits of upper-division psychology courses.

### Writing 3

WRTG A213 Writing and the Sciences

### Mathematics and Statistics 3

MATH A121 Applied College Algebra  
or STAT A200 Elementary Statistics

### Biology 3-6

BIOL A102 Introductory Biology  
or BIOL A108 Principles and Methods in Biology

### Additional Electives 6-8

Complete any two-semester sequence in humanities or any language

### Total 57-62

<sup>1</sup> All of the psychology capstone courses have rigorous prerequisites. Minimum grades of C in these prerequisites are required for admission into the capstone courses. See course descriptions of each capstone course for more details.

**A minimum of 120 credits is required for this degree, of which 39 credits must be upper-division.**

## Concentration in Behavior Analysis

This concentration provides foundational knowledge and professional skills to apply the science of behavior analysis across a range of settings and client populations, including staff in the workplace, children and

adults with intellectual and cognitive disabilities, and individuals with autism spectrum disorder.

Completing the coursework below, in addition to required supervised practicum experience with a Board Certified Behavior Analyst, helps prepare students to apply for the Behavior Analysis Certification Board examination for becoming a Board Certified Assistant Behavior Analyst.

Code	Title	Credits
PSY A200	Introduction to Behavior Analysis	3
PSY A400	Strategies of Behavior Change	3
PSY A495A	Psychology Practicum	3
Complete a minimum of 6 credits from the following:		6
PSY A447	Behavioral Treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorder	
PSY A455	Interventions for Challenging Behavior	
PSY A467	Organizational Behavior Management	
PSY A478	Applications of Behavior Analysis	
<b>Total</b>		<b>15</b>

## Honors in Psychology

The Bachelor of Arts in Psychology recognizes distinguished achievement by conferring programmatic honors in psychology. In order to receive honors in psychology, a student must meet the following requirements:

- Satisfy all requirements for a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology;
- Maintain a minimum overall and psychology specific GPA of 3.50;
- Complete a total of three capstone courses:
  - One Psychology Capstone taken to meet the degree requirements
  - PSY A499. The thesis project must be approved by the Undergraduate Studies Committee and carried out by following applicable departmental guidelines
  - One additional Capstone course or a second term of PSY A499.
- Students intending to graduate with departmental honors must notify the Departmental Honors Committee in writing on or before the date they file their Application for Graduation with the Office of the Registrar.

## Honors Student Learning Outcomes

Students graduating with departmental honors in psychology will possess:

- An advanced understanding and application of descriptive and inferential statistics and use of statistical software in data analysis.
- A broad knowledge of psychology's historical foundation.
- The ability to conduct a critical review and analysis of existing psychological literature.

- The ability to design and execute empirical research that tests clearly stated hypotheses or addresses clearly articulated research questions.
- A clear understanding of research ethics and the responsible conduct of research in the field of psychology.
- The ability to communicate effectively in writing, in poster format, and in oral presentations, including mastery of APA style.
- The ability to draw conclusions from research findings, including recognition of the limitations, applications, and implications of the data, and a discussion of alternative explanations of the results.

## Program Student Learning Outcomes

Students graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology will be able to:

- Possess a broad knowledge of contemporary psychology.
- Have experience conducting psychological research.
- Be able to demonstrate skills in research design and data analysis.
- Be prepared for advanced study in psychology and related disciplines.