

**Psychology**  
**Bachelor of Arts**  
**2025-2026**

**General Areas of Service:** Individuals with a bachelor's degree in psychology generally pursue graduate study in psychology or another related field. Entry-level positions for people with a bachelor's degree in psychology may be found in community mental health centers, vocational rehabilitation offices, correctional programs, or marketing and sales positions. Students who major in psychology look forward to employment in one of the helping professions where work focuses on counseling and psychological testing. In addition to the "helping professions," psychologists may also work in research and higher education. In most cases, a master's degree or higher is preferred.

**Nature of Work:** People with a bachelor's degree in psychology may find jobs in the field working as paraprofessional counselors, psychology technicians, employment counselors, personal analysts, and probation officers. Because of the well-developed research, writing, problem-solving, and high-level thinking skills gained in their undergraduate training, others find that their psychology background applies in a wide variety of careers, such as administrative support, business management, sales, education, and public affairs. In addition, a psychology degree can serve as an excellent foundation for professional careers in medicine, dentistry, law, and many other areas.

**Professional Training:** A wealth of master's and doctoral-level training programs are available in the field of psychology. These programs focus on a variety of sub-fields such as clinical, developmental, social, personality, health, industrial, organizational, and educational psychology. Psychologists with advanced degrees develop theories, conduct research, serve as consultants, teach, diagnose and treat people, and study and work to improve the ways human beings relate to each other and to machines.

**Job Outlook:** According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), "Overall employment of psychologists is projected to grow 7 percent from 2023 to 2033, which is faster than average for all occupations. About 13,000 openings for psychologists are projected each year, on average, over the decade." The BLS states that greater demand is expected for psychological services in schools, hospitals, mental health centers, and social service agencies as people recognize the importance of both mental and physical wellbeing. Specialists will also be needed to provide marriage and family counseling, work with war veterans and other trauma survivors, and assist children with autism or learning disabilities. The BLS predicts the "employment of school psychologists will continue to grow because of an increased awareness of the connection between mental health and learning." (See [www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov))

**Earnings:** In the May 2023 2024 salary survey, the BLS states the median annual salary for clinical, counseling, and school psychologists as \$94,310 with an advanced degree. (See [www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov))

**Note:** Before graduation, all students must take an exit exam.

**SCHOOL OF EDUCATION &  
PSYCHOLOGY**

Smith Hall  
(509) 527-2211

**Websites**

[Walla Walla University](#)  
[University Bulletin](#)

[School of Education & Psychology](#)

**Faculty**

Dean  
[Maria Bastien Valenca](#)

**Advisors**

[Melody Ezpeleta](#)  
[Linda Ivy](#)  
[Stephanie Onthank](#)

**Professional Organizations**

[American Psychological Association](#)

## Suggested Degree Path

TOTAL CREDITS REQUIRED: 192 cr. GENERAL STUDIES REQUIREMENTS: 74-82 cr. [See the Undergraduate Bulletin for Details](#)

The chart below details one suggested path a student may take to complete a bachelor's degree in psychology.

All B.A. degrees require a minor

Cognates are listed in *italics*.

### Freshman Year

Fall Courses	Hours
Intro to the Psychology Major ( <a href="#">PSYC 120</a> )	0
Intro to Psych: Social Foundations ( <a href="#">PSYC 140</a> )	4
Foreign Language	4
Intro to Analytical Writing ( <a href="#">ENGL 121</a> )	3
General Studies/Minor	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>

  

Winter Courses	Hours
Intro to Psych: Biological Foundations ( <a href="#">PSYC 141</a> )	4
Foreign Language	4
Intro to Research Writing ( <a href="#">ENGL 122</a> )	3
General Studies/Minor	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>

  

Spring Courses	Hours
Foreign Language	4
Philosophy Option ( <a href="#">PHIL 204</a> OR <a href="#">205</a> )	4
General Studies/Minor	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>

### Sophomore Year

Fall Courses	Hours
Biology Option ( <a href="#">BIOL 121</a> OR <a href="#">141</a> )	4
Research Writing in Education and Psychology ( <a href="#">PSYC 223</a> )	3
History & Systems of Psychology ( <a href="#">PSYC 209</a> )	4
General Studies/Minor	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>

  

Winter Courses	Hours
Biology Option ( <a href="#">BIOL 122</a> OR <a href="#">142</a> )	4
Developmental Psychology ( <a href="#">PSYC 215</a> )	4
Research Methods & Stats I ( <a href="#">PSYC 271</a> )	4
General Studies/Minor	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>

  

Spring Courses	Hours
Biology Option ( <a href="#">BIOL 123</a> OR <a href="#">143</a> )	4
Social Psychology ( <a href="#">PSYC 344</a> )	4
Research Methods & Stats II ( <a href="#">PSYC 272</a> )	4
General Studies/Minor	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>

### Junior Year

Fall Courses	Hours
General Studies/Minor/Electives	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>

  

Winter Courses	Hours
Theories of Personality ( <a href="#">PSYC 366</a> )	4
General Studies/Minor/Electives	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>

  

Spring Courses	Hours
Cognitive Psychology ( <a href="#">PSYC 390</a> )	4
Colloquium: Orientation to Career & Graduate School ( <a href="#">PSYC 495</a> )	0
General Studies/Minor/Electives	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>

### Senior Year

Fall Courses	Hours
General Studies/Minor/Electives	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>

  

Winter Courses	Hours
Biological Psychology ( <a href="#">PSYC 466</a> )	4
General Studies/Minor/Electives	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>

  

Spring Courses	Hours
Abnormal Psychology ( <a href="#">PSYC 492</a> )	4
General Studies/Minor/Electives	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>

+ Offered even years only

- Offered odd years only