

What can I do with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology?

A guide compiled by CUE Career Services and the Faculty of Arts

General Skill Sets

A Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology gives students the foundation needed for a better understanding of the complex factors that influence people's thinking, feeling and behavior both individually and in groups. It also helps students develop skills that can be transferred to a wide variety of settings.

Transferable knowledge and skills that can be gained through Concordia's various psychology degree programs include:

- Ability to understand the complex influences on individual and group behavior
- Ability to identify mental health issues affecting individual behavior
- Effective interpersonal communication; strong written and oral presentation skills
- Administration and analysis of psychological test instruments such as IQ and personality tests
- Ability to conduct research in psychology and be a critical consumer of research

Psychology is a vast discipline and can be applied in a broad range of settings.

Career possibilities with a Bachelor's degree

Human Services

- Addictions counsellor
- Youth outreach worker
- Preschool intervention worker
- Children's services worker
- Support group facilitator (e.g. teens with schizophrenia)
- Psychometrist (administer and score IQ tests)

Health Services

- Mental health worker
- Researcher
- Addictions worker
- Research assistant
- Psychiatric aide
- Emergency room mental health worker

Educational Settings

- Career advisor
- Teacher (also requires a BEd degree)
- Admissions or registration advisor

Corrections

- Parole officer
- Probation officer
- Family court worker
- Halfway house worker
- Behavioral specialist for children with special needs

Business

- Manager
- Human resources (e.g., employee recruitment)
- Developer of consumer surveys

Communications

- Journalist
- Public relations spokesperson
- Web writer
- Author

Following are examples of what our graduates are doing with their BA in Psychology:

- Youth worker for teens who are homeless
- Pre-school intervention worker with program located in public school
- Mental health worker—program for those with schizophrenia or bipolar disorder
- Front line prison worker
- Youth worker for teens who are mothers
- Family support worker—e.g. military families, families with children at inner city school
- Suicide awareness workshop presenter
- Addictions researcher

Career possibilities that require a graduate degree (Master's or Doctoral degree)

Registered Psychologist's Practice

- Play therapist
- Counsellor in private practice
- Hospital psychologist
- Eating disorder specialist
- Researcher
- Animal-assisted therapy specialist
- Forensic psychologist
- Psychological assessment (IQ and personality tests) and reports

University

- University instructor
- Professor
- Practicum coordinator
- Career counselor

Allied Disciplines

- Clinical Social Worker
- Occupational Therapist
- Speech and Language Pathologist
- Health Promotions Specialist

Many of our graduates have obtained further training, such as a BEd, Masters' degree or PhD. Following are some examples of careers those graduates are now pursuing:

- Psychologist (e.g. counsellor specializing in play therapy, animal-assisted therapy, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, family counselling)
- Teacher
- Clinical Social Worker (counselling)
- Occupational Therapist

Undergraduate Psychology Degree Programs Offered at Concordia:

3-Yr BA in Psychology

4-Yr BA in Psychology (Applied Emphasis)

4-Yr BA in Psychology (General Studies)

For more information or assistance with career and educational planning, please contact CUE Career Services at +1 780 378 8461 or email us at careerservices@concordia.ab.ca.

