

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY

Preparation for a successful applied psychology career requires a broad knowledge base for the major elements of psychological sciences. Thus the Bachelor of Arts degree in Applied Psychology (BAAP) program equips students with professional knowledge and practical skills in general psychology, recommended concentrations, and electives. The program promotes personal and spiritual growth by emphasizing Christian values, ethical principles, and effective interpersonal relationships in diverse settings. The BAAP program is unique in that it not only provides a broad liberal arts foundation for lifelong learning, but incorporates applied psychological training and development approaches that are experiential, applicable, and practical, utilizing theoretical constructs from researchers in the field. The BAAP program provides students the experience of exploring applied psychology from accomplished instructors, successful practitioners, and cooperating institutions.

The BAAP program prepares students for career opportunities in industries such as social services, government agencies, justice departments, nonprofits, and a variety of areas of ministry, along with the ability to advance to graduate education. The job possibilities include child welfare liaison, probation officer, adolescent residential care counselor, Christian camp counselor, corrections officer, etc. Completing a concentration gives students the opportunity to stand out among others in their field of interest, increasing their marketability for jobs and graduate education. A concentration may also provide opportunities to transfer credits and reduce coursework requirements for certain graduate school programs.

Students pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in Applied Psychology and planning to apply for the Master of Arts in Psychology have the option to substitute up to three graduate-level classes (9-units) to meet their BAAP major requirements. Allowable substitutions include PSYC 520 for PSYC 430 OR PSYC 350, PSYC 650 for PSYC 450 OR PSYC 445, and PSYC 550 for PSYC 475. Undergraduate students considering substitution courses should work with their success coach to determine whether this option fits with their future goals. In addition, students must have a minimum GPA of 3.0 and obtain approval from the assistant dean responsible for the graduate program. Please be aware that graduate-level substitution courses have a different tuition rate (<https://catalog.lapu.edu/grad/financial/#costofattendancetext>).

The material within psychology courses can be sensitive in nature. You may read, study, watch, and discuss potentially disturbing topics. Some of the materials may result in difficulties for you. Some courses in the program require self-examination and/or public discussion regarding sexual history; history of abuse and neglect; psychological treatment; and relationships with parents, peers, and spouses or significant others. Please consult your instructor or an appropriate treatment provider should you have concerns or experience any difficulties.

Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) for the B.A. Degree in Applied Psychology

Graduates of the Bachelor of Arts degree in Applied Psychology program will be able to:

- **PLO 2:** Demonstrate knowledge of ethical decision making within the applied psychology disciplines.
- **PLO 3:** Apply theoretical frameworks and/or practical tools within the context of applied psychology.
- **PLO 4:** Develop professional competencies in applied psychology.
- **PLO 5:** Analyze the critical role that multicultural awareness plays in understanding psychological processes and behavior.
- **PLO 6:** Demonstrate effective oral communication skills.
- **PLO 7:** Demonstrate effective written communication skills.

- **PLO 1:** Demonstrate the ability to integrate principles of applied psychology and Christian faith.

Core

The Los Angeles Pacific University Core comprises the General Education requirements and the LAPU Distinctives. Students are encouraged to complete the Core before beginning their major requirements. General Education requirements may be met by transfer work. The LAPU Distinctives are required for all undergraduate degrees at LAPU.

Requirement	Title	Credits
General Education Requirements		25
LAPU Distinctives		9
Total Credits		34

General Education

Requirement	Title	Credits
English Communication		
COMM 105	Public Communication	3
ENGL 105	Introduction to Academic Research and Writing	3
Arts		
ARTS 110	Introduction to Art	3
Humanities		
ENGL 115	Introduction to Literature	3
or PHIL 205	Introduction to Philosophy	
or PHIL 210	Introduction to Ethics	
Quantitative Reasoning		
STAT 280	Applied Statistics	3
Behavioral Sciences		
PSYC 105	Introduction to Psychology	3
Social Sciences		
HIST 202	World Civilizations	3
or HIST 204	U.S. History from 1865	
or HIST 420	United States History and the Constitution	
Physical and Biological Sciences		
BIOL 105	General Biology/Lab	4
or BIOL 230	Anatomy and Physiology I/Lab	
or CHEM 115	Chemistry for Health Sciences/Lab	
or NSCI 150	Introduction to Astronomy/Lab	
Total Credits		25

LAPU Distinctives

Requirement	Title	Credits
BIBL 100	Introduction to Biblical Literature: Exodus/Deuteronomy	3
BIBL 230	Introduction to Biblical Literature: Luke/Acts	3
ISTU 101	Success in the University ¹	3
Total Credits		9

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Must be taken at LAPU.

Program Requirements

To earn the Bachelor of Arts degree in Applied Psychology, students must complete the following degree components:

Requirement	Title	Credits
Core ¹		28
Program Requisites		12
Major Requirements		36
Electives		44
Total Credits		120

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34 credits total; 6 credits are counted below in Program Requisites.

In order to earn the Bachelor of Arts degree in Applied Psychology, students must complete the following required courses while achieving a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 in their major courses.

Requirement	Title	Credits
Core		
Core Requirement ¹		28
Program Requisites		
PSYC 105	Introduction to Psychology	3
PSYC 285	Abnormal Psychology	3
PSYC 295	Human Growth and Development	3
STAT 280	Applied Statistics	3
Major Requirements		
PSYC 085	Capstone Orientation	0
PSYC 300	Research Methods in Psychology	3
PSYC 315	Integration of Psychology and Christianity	3
PSYC 320	Personality Theory	3
PSYC 340	Interviewing and Counseling Techniques	3
PSYC 350	Social Psychology	3
PSYC 365	Learning Theory and Cognition	3
PSYC 405	Physiological Psychology	3
PSYC 410	Psychology of Emotions	3
PSYC 430	Cultural Psychology	3
PSYC 475	Professional and Ethical Issues in Psychology	3
PSYC 485	Undergraduate Applied Psychology Capstone I	3
PSYC 490	Undergraduate Applied Psychology Capstone II	3
Electives		
Electives Requirement ²		44
Total Credits		120

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6 credits of the 34-credit Core are fulfilled within the Program Requisites.

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Students may choose from any course in the catalog. If students wish to complete a concentration, they may complete a maximum of two concentrations.

Students may also earn up to 30 credits of electives via Prior Learning Assessment (PLA).

Concentrations

Recommended Concentrations

- Applied Pastoral Counseling (<https://catalog.lapu.edu/undergrad/programs/conc/applied-pastoral-counseling/>)
- Child and Adolescent Psychology (<https://catalog.lapu.edu/undergrad/programs/conc/child-adolescent-psychology/>)
- Clinical Psychology (<https://catalog.lapu.edu/undergrad/programs/conc/clinical-psychology/>)
- Criminal Behavior (<https://catalog.lapu.edu/undergrad/programs/conc/criminal-behavior/>)
- Cultural Psychology (<https://catalog.lapu.edu/undergrad/programs/conc/cultural-psychology/>)
- Educational Psychology (<https://catalog.lapu.edu/undergrad/programs/conc/educational-psychology/>)
- General Psychology (<https://catalog.lapu.edu/undergrad/programs/conc/general-psychology/>)
- Healthcare Management (<https://catalog.lapu.edu/undergrad/programs/conc/healthcare-management/>)
- Human Services (<https://catalog.lapu.edu/undergrad/programs/conc/human-services/>)
- Industrial/Organizational Psychology (<https://catalog.lapu.edu/undergrad/programs/conc/business-psychology/>)