

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, and corrections officer. 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.

