Major Planning Guide: Psychology

What can I do with a degree in psychology?

Psychology is a popular and flexible undergraduate major. While careers that specifically require a bachelor's in psychology may be limited, students who choose to study psychology have a variety of options. Some will go on to work in business, particularly marketing, human resources, or sales. Others decide to use their psychology degree in the fields of social services, education, or health care. Those who want to work as a licensed social worker or counselor typically require a master's degree.

Related Majors/Programs

SEATTLE CENTRAL COLLEGE

of the Seattle Colleges

Social Welfare Sociology Social & Human Services Early Childhood & Family Studies Applied Behavioral

Science

Where can I earn a bachelor's degree in psychology in Washington?

Many universities offer psychology as an undergraduate major. You can use the College Navigator search engine found at http://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator to find psychology programs in Washington state or around the country.

How do I prepare to major in psychology?

Here are a few steps that we recommend you take to make sure that psychology is the right choice for you. There are many different types of careers in psychology, and it is important to do some research ahead of time to find the one that best fits your goals. An advisor can help you choose the transfer degree, and what courses you should take while you are here at Seattle Central.

Step One: Research

- Those who are undecided about a major/career can make an appointment with our Career Exploration Center in BE 1102E to take a career assessment test. This assessment can reveal your interests, values, and skills which then match you up with potential careers and programs that prepare you for specific career paths.
- Many universities offer both a bachelor of arts and a bachelor of science in psychology. The bachelor of science degrees usually requires higher level math and has a greater focus on research. Students planning to study psychology at the graduate level or do research as a career may want to consider the bachelor of science degree; students planning to use their psychology degree in a social service or counseling setting may find the bachelor of arts best serves their needs.
- Our Transfer Center in BE 1102F can help find universities you are interested in attending and guide you through the application process.

Step Two: Pick a Degree

Students planning to major in psychology often earn the Associates of Art (AA-DTA) degree. Advisors can help students understand what psychology and math requirements are necessary for transfer. You may pick up a degree planning worksheet for the AA-DTA (*purple sheet*) in BE 1102 lobby.

Step Three: Make a Long Range Academic Plan

Students planning to major in psychology at a university usually take courses in psychology and math, as well as general education requirements, to prepare to transfer. Depending on your psychology concentration some universities may require coursework in biology, chemistry, physics, and computer science.

| English | Psychology | Math | Other Courses |
|-----------|------------|-----------|------------------|
| ENGL& 101 | PYSC& 100 | MATH& 146 | Biology |
| ENGL& 102 | PSYC 209 | AND/OR | Chemistry |
| | PSYC 222 | Calculus | |
| | | | Computer Science |

Please note: this is not a complete list of prerequisites. You should consult with an advisor at Seattle Central to make sure you take the appropriate courses to be prepared to enter the major.

*Check prerequisites, admission requirements, and GPA requirements at your intended transfer university early so you can be well-prepared to transfer.

What are my next steps?

- Once you have had the chance to explore the career opportunities in psychology you might want to schedule an appointment to meet with an advisor to plan out your course of study. You can make an appointment by stopping by the Advising office in BE 1102D or calling us at 206-934-4068. (*If you are an international student, please stop by International Education Programs in BE 1113*).
- Attend Transfer Fairs and Career & Networking Fairs hosted by our office throughout the year.
- Explore the professional organizations in your area of interest for more information about education and career options.

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Reasonable Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Seattle Central College is committed to providing qualified students with a disability an equal opportunity to access the benefits, rights, and privileges of services, programs and activities in an accessible setting appropriate to the student's needs. No student shall, on the basis of her or her disability, be excluded from participation, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subject to discrimination under any Seattle Central College program or activity.

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