

Bachelor of Arts Psychology



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The psychology major is designed to develop knowledge and skills that prepare students for a variety of careers in the mental health and human services fields. Optional concentrations are available for students wishing to advance in their current careers or change career direction. In addition, the applied focus of this program offers ideal preparation for students interested in pursuing a career in clinical or counseling psychology through graduate-level study.

As a psychology major, you will

- Study important ideas and trends in the field of counseling psychology
- Learn how to apply psychological principles to behavioral problems
- Learn how human diversity and social responsibility issues intersect with psychological research and practice
- Individualize your degree to reflect your interests and enrich your personal development

This program offers a flexible and practical approach to college study. Small online classes are guided by faculty who are practitioners in the field. You will join a community of adult students who bring rich experience to their studies in a program that values the experience that adults bring to college study.

B.A. Psychology Graduates

Graduates of this program will be prepared for careers in a variety of human service settings, including hospitals, mental health centers, addictions programs, health and wellness centers, aging and long-term care facilities, corrections, and youth services settings. In addition, graduates of this program may work in marketing, sales, human resources, childcare, education, or managerial positions.

Continue to an Advanced Degree

Union provides a seamless transition into graduate study for qualified students through its Master of Arts program with a major in Clinical Mental Health Counseling (C.M.H.C.). The C.M.H.C. program prepares students for certification or licensure as professional counselors or clinical mental health counselors. Additional opportunities exist to transition into the Health & Wellness, and Leadership, Public Policy & Social Issues majors as well.

Optional Concentrations

- **Forensic Psychology** focuses on the interface between psychology and the law as well as the knowledge and skills integral to careers in the criminal justice system, law enforcement, and correctional psychology.
- **Addictions Studies** focuses on knowledge and skills specific to applied work in the addictions field. Topics explored include theories of addiction, assessment, and therapeutic methods.
- **Holistic Psychology** focuses on the interrelationships between health, psychology, and spirituality as well as skills needed to be successful in careers such as holistic health, counseling, and spiritual direction.

Benefits

- Learn from professional psychologists who understand the challenges facing working adults.
- Work closely with a personal advisor and supportive staff who understand your academic and scheduling needs.
- Transfer in up to 90 previously earned college credits to accelerate your degree completion.
- Study totally online from wherever you live and work.
- Customize your degree with three optional areas of concentration to reflect your interests and enrich your personal development.
- Accelerate your completion by earning college credits through CLEP, DSST, Challenge Exams, prior learning assessment, certified learning, and credits recommended by ACE through military training.
- Option to accelerate into Masters of Arts program

Courses

The B.A. in Psychology requires 48 credits in the major. Students complete 24 required credits in foundational courses and 24 credits in electives, in addition to a capstone portfolio. Learning goals and outcomes conform to American Psychological Association (APA) *Guidelines for the Undergraduate Psychology Major*.

Core Courses include:

- The Helping Relationship
- Research Methods in Psychology
- Personality Theories: Frameworks of Understanding in Psychology
- Abnormal Psychology: Explorations through Film
- Community Psychology: Cultural and Global Perspectives

Elective Courses include:

- Alcohol & Drug Abuse Counseling
- Multicultural Issues in Child Development
- Criminal Behavior
- Art Therapy: Theories and Methods
- Mindfulness Based Therapies

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Our Mission

Union Institute & University educates highly motivated adults who seek academic programs to engage, enlighten, and empower them to pursue professional goals and a lifetime of learning, service, and social responsibility.



My professors were super supportive and encouraging, and years later, I still keep in touch with a number of classmates, professors, and administrators. My experience at Union Institute & University certainly prepared me for my next step in the academic world.

Cincinnati Academic Center

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Florida Academic Center

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Union Institute & University is a private, regionally accredited, non-profit university that has, since 1964, taken a different approach to higher education. Union is a nationally recognized university offering programs of study leading to degrees at the bachelor's, master's and doctoral level.

Union Institute & University began with a vision of being a "university without walls"—an institution where working adults could have the opportunity to pursue a degree regardless of where they lived and worked. Many of the most commonly used terms in higher education—nontraditional students, interdisciplinary study, distance learning, mentoring, and social relevance—refer to concepts pioneered by Union more than 50 years ago.

Union Institute & University is a private, non-profit university, accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, www.ncahlc.org.

Union Institute & University does not discriminate in its admissions, employment or policy procedures on the basis of age, race, color, sex, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, political party affiliation, or physical impairment. UI&U's policies and practices conform with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1975, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1975, the Equal Pay Act of 1963, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended. The 504 Coordinator for the Americans with Disabilities Act may be contacted at adacoordinator@myunion.edu, 800-861-6400 x1144 or 440 E McMillan Street, Cincinnati, OH 45206.