For more than ten years Penn State World Campus has delivered online degree and certificate programs that have helped students continue their education and advance in their careers while balancing multiple commitments. Many of our exceptional students are career driven and committed to continued learning. They enroll in Penn State because of our reputation for academic excellence. As a World Campus student, you’ll receive the same high-quality education as any Penn State student at any one of our campuses. As you move through the degree program, you’ll gain confidence with each new learning experience.

“I know that with Penn State on my résumé I will be able to compete with anyone out there for a job, and I can say that I did it without having to give up spending time with my family.”

—Ken Johnson
Liberal Arts student

“The quality of the education was unbelievable; every resource was available to me. I could tell that the professors really wanted us to succeed. It wasn’t just a matter of them wanting to do a job; they are quality people who care about all of their students.”

—Linda Housand
Liberal Arts student

Program Benefits

- Enhance your career with skills that apply across professions and industries.
- Learn through convenient, online courses taught by experienced faculty from an accredited university.
- Gain employer recognition with a Penn State degree on your résumé.
- Use one of these degrees as a stepping stone for advanced training.

Did you know?

- Penn State credits and degrees earned through distance education are identical to those earned on campus.
- Penn State World Campus has enrolled students from all fifty states and all seven continents.
- World Campus courses give students the flexibility to complete course work at times and places convenient for them.
Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science in Psychology

Penn State's World Campus offers two undergraduate degrees in psychology—the bachelor of arts and the bachelor of science—so you can choose the path that best fits your individual and educational needs. Both degree programs were designed to help you achieve your personal and professional goals. Whether you're seeking to advance in your current position, moving in a new career direction, or beginning your career, the Penn State bachelor's degrees in psychology will provide you with practical skills that are easily applied in a variety of government, social service, business, and industry occupations.

Two Psychology Degrees to Match Your Needs and Goals

The bachelor of arts degree is designed for professionals who want to pursue psychology with a focus on social and human services. With the bachelor of arts degree, representing a more typical degree in the liberal arts, you'll get a broad education in the arts, humanities, and social sciences. Graduates often find various job opportunities in human services, industrial settings, and laboratories.

The bachelor of science degree follows a business track. You can choose from courses in such areas as economics, marketing, management, finance, and accounting. Possible career paths for students in the bachelor of science program include human resources, management, and marketing.

Either degree can also be used as a "stepping stone" toward a master's degree in psychology. Or you may want to continue with additional training in business, law, or other psychology-related fields.

The Curriculum

Psychology is a scientific field and a professional activity. The curriculum's overall focus is the scientific study of behavior and experience and the associated mental and physiological processes. The B.S. and B.A. programs in psychology are designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills relevant to each of these aspects of psychology. The curriculum emphasizes the application of psychological knowledge and skills in many areas of human functioning.

Each of the two degrees requires a minimum of 123 credits. The following courses are common to both degrees:

PSYCH 100 Introductory Psychology
PSYCH 105 Psychology as a Science and Profession
PSYCH 301W Basic Research Methods in Psychology
PSYCH 490 Senior Seminar in Psychology

Other course work includes selected psychology courses together with 24 credits in business for students choosing the bachelor of science program and 21 credits in the humanities, sciences, and other cultures for those in the bachelor of arts program.