



## Bachelor of Arts in Behavioral Science

Does human behavior fascinate you? Would you like to know how biology contributes to behavior, or how to resolve interpersonal issues? With a BA in Behavioral Science, you'll gain a deeper understanding of complex issues in sociology, psychology, counseling, and management, ranging from cross-cultural and ethical issues to conflict resolution. The knowledge and insight you'll gain are valued by many industries, including human and social services, health care, education, and business.

### **General Education Requirements – 60 credits**

BEH 221 Introduction to Behavioral Science  
(Required for all BA students.)

### **Common Body of Knowledge Requirements – 18 credits**

### **Liberal Arts Core Requirements – 15 credits**

### **Major Requirements - 33 credits**

**Credits Required for Degree: 126**

## Major Course Descriptions

### **BEH 312 Personality Theories**

This course explores major theories and approaches to understanding human personality. Thought-provoking societal, cross-cultural, and gender issues and practical applications are integrated into the course content to enhance critical thinking.

### **BEH 317 Biological Basis of Behavior**

With the advent of advancing technology and creative research, the biological basis of behavior has become a rapidly expanding area of psychology. The course focuses on (a) the basic structures and functions of the nervous and endocrine systems, (b) how these systems contribute to normal functioning (e.g., in cognition, emotions, movement) and dysfunction (e.g., common neurological disorders). The role of genetics and cutting-edge methods for studying biological systems are also explored.

### **BEH 318 Addictions**

The continuing problem of chemical dependency and other addictions poses issues in both the personal and professional lives of addicted people and those who live and/or work with them. This course is both a specific study of the basis, causes, and theories of

chemical dependency, including alcohol and other drugs, and a broad view of other addictions, including, but not limited to, gambling and shopping. In addition, this course covers methods of identifying addiction, interventions, treatment methods, recovery, and co-dependency.

### **RES 321 Behavioral Research Design, Tests and Measurement\***

This course is designed to acquaint students with methods and design in behavioral research. Students learn systematic methodology for behavioral research to enable them to make better decisions when designing research projects and to become more discerning consumers of research results. Research tools, statistical concepts, and problem analysis are discussed.

\*Prerequisite: RES 311

### **BEH 407 Motivation and Achievement**

This course explores evolutionary, socio-biological, environmental, and cognitive influences on human motivation and achievement. Students examine the attributes, attitudes, and abilities (e.g., learned optimism, assertiveness, creativity, and internal "locus of control") that increase personal effectiveness and facilitate achievement.

### **BEH 411 Lifespan Development**

Introducing the principles and problems of human development, this course explores life stages from the prenatal period through old age. Emotional, social, psychosocial, cognitive, moral, personality, psychological, and physical development at each stage of life is addressed in this course.

### **BEH 414 Humanistic Psychology\***

This course introduces the basic, more applicable ideas and principles of Humanistic Psychology, together with Positive Psychology, one of the current outgrowths from this field. This study encompasses an examination of contributors and contributions to the field. Attention will be directed to how these concepts are already manifested and/or can be applied in everyday life.

\*Prerequisite: BEH 312

### **COM 423 Group Dynamics: Teambuilding, Negotiation, and Conflict Management**

This course examines effective vs. ineffective functioning of groups and teams and how leaders emerge. Conceptually and through simulated (role-



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playing) activities, brainstorming, group problem solving and decision-making, negotiating, and "no-lose" conflict resolution are explored.

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### **BEH 430 Theories of Counseling\***

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This course examines various theoretical approaches to counseling and psychotherapy. Ethical issues, integrative perspectives, and counseling models are illustrated by the use of case studies.

\*Prerequisite: BEH 312 or BEH 411

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### **BEH 440 Abnormal Psychology\***

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This course examines major categories of emotional, psychological, and mental disorders, using both the textbook and the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-IV). Psychological influences, lifespan development, cultural factors, and societal change are explored relative to the manifestation and treatment of psychopathology. The course provides information useful for work in employee assistance programs, human resource departments, and in risk assessment.

\*Prerequisite: BEH 221 or BEH 312

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### **CAP 485 Integrated Capstone\***

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The Integrated Capstone Course helps students to synthesize the knowledge and skills that were learned in General Education and Common Body of Knowledge classes with the functional, theoretical, and technical skills and knowledge acquired in the Core and Major courses. The goal of the course is to create a dynamic inter-disciplinary learning experience, where organizational issues are viewed from various perspectives. Students will also assess and demonstrate their mastery of University and program learning outcomes.

\*Prerequisite: Student must have completed at least 114 credits.