

What Can I Do With My Degree?

# PSYCHOLOGY CAREER GUIDE



Franklin College of  
Arts and Sciences  
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA



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Career Center



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[Scan for more Career Guides](#)



# Common Career Paths for Psychology Majors

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Psychology majors graduate with a wealth of skills applicable to many different career paths. Some of the most common careers pursued by psychology majors include:

- **Clinical Psychology**
- **Forensic Psychology**
- **Human Resources**
- **Industrial-Organizational Psychology**
- **Mental Health Counseling**
- **Psychiatry**
- **School Counseling**
- **School Psychology**

Many psychology majors also find success outside of the field in industries such as

- **Business (including Marketing, Public Relations, and Communications)**
- **Data Analysis**
- **Education**
- **Government**
- **Health**
- **Hospitality**
- **Public Safety**
- **Service**

While many professions in psychology-related fields require graduate school, psychology majors are qualified for a variety of entry-level positions in industry. Check out the job search resources later in this guide for help!

**Scan for job placement data for  
Psychology majors in the class of 2024**



# CAREER QUICK FACTS: CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY



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Clinical psychologists provide continuing and comprehensive mental and behavioral healthcare on the individual, group, and family levels. They may also serve other functions like consulting with agencies and communities, providing training and education, and conducting research. Some day-to-day work of clinical psychologists may include:

- Psychological assessment using interviewing, behavioral analysis, and psychological testing
- Determining proper psychological interventions
- Conducting research to contribute to theory and practice
- Supervision and training of psychology students
- Consultation with health and behavioral health professionals

**Important Skills/Knowledge:** Understanding of psychopathology and mental health, cognitive and behavioral assessment, research, data analysis, therapy and counseling, knowledge of legal, ethical, and regulatory issues, human development, written and verbal communication

Source: American Psychological Association

## How do I become a Clinical Psychologist?

Clinical psychologists usually start by earning a bachelor's degree in psychology, though some earn other bachelor's degrees. To become a clinical psychologist, you will need to complete a doctoral degree (PhD or PsyD). Some doctoral degrees require you to first obtain a master's degree, while others may accept a bachelor's degree. Many programs will require extensive research or professional experience prior to acceptance. Doctoral programs usually take 5-7 years to complete and require a comprehensive exam as well as a dissertation. Clinical psychologists will also need to complete a one-year internship and obtain a state license.

Source: American Psychological Association

## Career Outlook\*

### Projected Job Growth 2022-2032: 11%

- Average job growth for all occupations is 3%

### Median Annual Salary: \$90,130

- Median salaries represent the exact middle point of salaries for this career (half are higher, half are lower).
- This is not an expectation for your *starting* salary. You will likely start at a lower salary and may see increases as you progress through your career.

\*According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (bls.gov) for all psychologists

## FAQs

### Do I need to be a licensed clinical psychologist in order to be a therapist?

No. You can become a therapist with a master's degree. Some potential degrees include an MA in clinical psychology, a Master's in Marriage and Family Therapy, or a Master of Social Work.

### What is the difference between a PhD and a PsyD?

You can become a clinical psychologist with either of these degrees. Depending on the focus of the program, a PsyD generally focuses more on hands-on clinical training, while a PhD focuses more on research.



The following minors and undergraduate certificates may be helpful in pursuit of this career field.

### Minors to Consider

*Cognitive Science – Communication Studies*  
*Criminal Justice Studies – Philosophy*  
*Sociology – Women's and Gender Studies*  
*Human Services – Personal Health and Well-Being*

### Certificates to Consider

*Disability Studies – LGBTQ Studies*  
*One Health – Strategic Health and Risk Communication*

### Courses to Consider

PSYC 3230 Psychopathology  
PSYC 4800 Research  
PSYC 4120, 4130, 4140, 4150, 4210  
SOCL 3710 Science of Happiness  
COMM 2600 Communicating and Relationships

**Want to talk to a Clinical Psychologist?  
Check out the UGA Mentor Program!**



# CAREER QUICK FACTS: FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY



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Forensic psychology is the psychological assessment of individuals who are involved in the legal system in some way. A common misconception about forensic psychologists is that they serve as criminal profilers like you might see on shows such as, *Criminal Minds*. In reality, forensic psychologists use their expertise to analyze and provide recommendations on the following:

- Threat assessments for schools
- Child custody cases
- Competency assessments for criminal defendants
- Counseling services for victims
- Treatment for adult and juvenile offenders
- Selection of law enforcement applicants

**Important Skills:** Clinical assessment, report writing, data analysis, legal expertise, verbal communication (especially in the context of testifying in court proceedings), case presentation, critical thinking

Source: American Psychological Association

## How do I become a Forensic Psychologist?

In order to achieve the title of forensic psychologist, you must have a doctoral (PhD or PsyD) degree from an APA (American Psychological Association)- or CPA (Canadian Psychological Association)-accredited program. You can earn a PhD in clinical psychology specializing in clinical-forensic or clinical-legal fields. You must complete two years of professional experience, including a one-year predoctoral internship. Additional requirements may include state licensing, oral and written exams, and board certification.

Source: American Psychological Association

## Career Outlook

**Projected Job Growth 2022–2032:** 6%

- Average job growth for all occupations is 3%

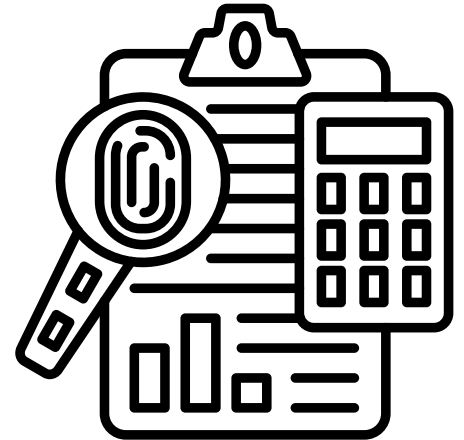
**Median Annual Salary:** \$85, 330

- Median salaries represent the exact middle point of salaries for this career (half are higher, half are lower).
- This is not an expectation for your *starting* salary. You will likely start at a lower salary and may see increases as you progress through your career.

\*According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (bls.gov) for all psychologists

## Related Career Paths

- Crime Analyst
- Forensic Analyst
- Law Enforcement Officer
- Victim Advocate
- Counselor
- Law Clerk
- Forensic Social Worker
- Paralegal
- Probation Officer
- Correctional Counselor
- Jury Consultant
- Research Assistant
- Forensic Case Manager
- Investigative Analyst



The following minors and undergraduate certificates may be helpful in pursuit of this career field.

### Minors to Consider

*Anthropology – Biology – Chemistry  
Cognitive Science – Criminal Justice  
Studies – Forensic Science – Philosophy –  
Sociology – Law, Ethics, and Philosophy –  
Military Science Public Policy and  
Management*

### Certificates to Consider

*Cybersecurity and Privacy – Leadership  
and Service – Legal Studies*

### Courses to Consider

*ANTH 2020 Forensic Anthropology  
PHIL 2010, 2020, 2030  
PSYC 3100 Forensic Psychology  
PSYC 3230 Psychopathology  
PSYC 5240 Judgment and Decision Making  
PSYC 4200 Social Psychology  
SOCL 3810 Criminology  
SOCL 3270, 3280, 3730, 4800, 4830*

*Want to talk to a Forensic Psychologist?  
Check out the UGA Mentor Program!*



# A Deeper Dive: What Do Forensic Psychologists Do?

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Typically, to practice forensic psychology, you'd get a Ph.D. or Psy.D. in Clinical Psychology. Depending on what you want to do, you can also get a doctorate in Forensic Psychology, Legal Psychology, Correctional Psychology, etc. However, a clinical degree gives you the most latitude to engage in various activities during your career. A Psy.D. is a more practice-based degree, so for the most part, they only do clinical activities (i.e., evaluation and/or treatment). Individuals with PhDs are also more able to teach and engage in research because they work directly with a research advisor in graduate school and have an extra year of schooling (6 vs. 5 years) to engage in research and teaching activities.

Clinical activities are the most common job of psychologists working in forensics.

Most often, forensic psychologists conduct evaluations for the court, including competency to stand trial (the most common), mental state at the time of the crime (i.e., insanity), violence risk assessments, sex offender evaluations, etc. Clinical forensic psychologists can also engage in treatment in forensic settings, most often in a correctional setting or a forensic psychiatric setting (e.g., Patton State Hospital). Treatment typically involves activities such as restoration to competency to stand trial, individual and group therapy for a variety of clinical presentations, substance abuse programs, sex offender treatment, etc.

The next most common job of a forensic psychologist is to conduct research.

Research can involve any topic related to crime or the legal system (e.g., how to reduce recidivism, the relationship between psychopathy and violence, correlates of juvenile offending). Oftentimes, individuals go into academia and become professors. Forensic psychologists can consult or even work for government agencies like police departments and federal law enforcement agencies. However, those jobs are scarce and difficult to come by, and you have to build yourself up as an expert on a specific topic first – which is why you would want a Ph.D.

Forensic psychology is **not** criminal profiling. First off, profiling is a pretty rare activity for law enforcement agencies. Therefore, it is a job description – not a type of job. Also, behavioral analysis is not the term used in psychology for profiling – it is actually a specialized type of behavioral treatment, often for individuals with Autism. There is a Behavioral Analysis Unit with the FBI, but it is quite different from what is depicted on *Criminal Minds* such that the many divisions of the unit do assist with criminal investigations, but they also conduct research. The Behavioral Sciences Unit is a unit within the FBI's academy.

The best resource for more information about forensic psychology is the American Psychology-Law Society: <https://ap-ls.org/about>. Their website has excellent resources, including further explanation of forensic psychology, graduate school programs, job opportunities for those interested in forensics, etc.

# CAREER QUICK FACTS: HUMAN RESOURCES



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Human Resources professionals work within organizations, businesses, non-profits, government agencies, etc. to manage and support an organization's workforce. They recruit, screen, and interview applicants; handle hiring and onboarding; manage employee relations, compensation and benefits; coordinate training and development; and often serve as a bridge between employees and management. Their work helps ensure that the organization attracts, retains, and supports talented workers, maintains a healthy workplace environment, and complies with labor laws and policies.

## Important Skills/Knowledge:

- Recruitment and interviewing skills
  - Knowledge of compensation & benefits administration, labor laws, employment policies, organizational structure
  - Resolving conflicts, facilitating onboarding and orientation
  - Record-keeping, coordinating HR processes, managing paperwork
  - Training & development / employee relations / performance management skills
- Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

## How do I work in Human Resources?

Most HR specialists start with a bachelor's degree in human resources, business, management, psychology, or a related field. Some may further specialize with HR-focused training, certifications (professional HR certificates), or master's degrees (especially for leadership/managerial HR roles), depending on employer expectations. HR often values strong interpersonal, organizational, and communication skills even at entry level.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

## Career Outlook\*

### Projected Job Growth 2024-2034: 6%

- Average job growth for all occupations is 3%

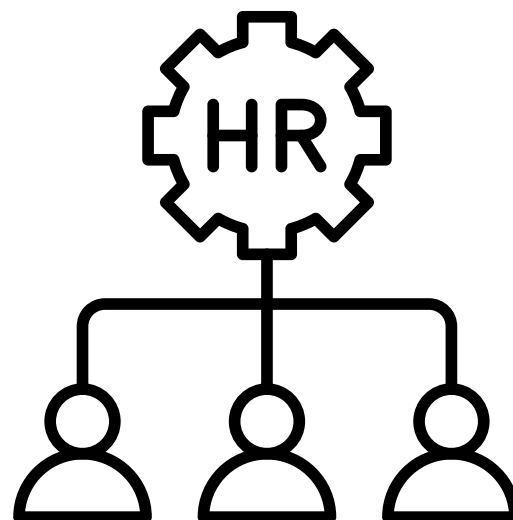
### Median Annual Salary: \$72,910

- Median salaries represent the exact middle point of salaries for this career (half are higher, half are lower).
- This data applies specifically to the field of human resources.
- Related fields such as training managers or customer service specialists where many human resource specialists find work may have different median salaries.

\*Job Outcome Data (<https://www.bls.gov>)

## Possible Job Titles

- HR Specialist
- Recruiter/Talent Acquisition Specialist
- Employee Relations Specialist
- Compensation & Benefits Coordinator
- HR Coordinator
- Organizational Development Specialist
- HR Consultant



The following minors and undergraduate certificates may be helpful in pursuit of this career field.

### Minors to Consider

*Communications Studies – Personal Health and Wellbeing – General Business – Law, Jurisprudence, and the State – Sociology Human Services*

### Certificates to Consider

*Nonprofit Management and Leadership – Entrepreneurship – Legal Studies – Personal and Organizational Leadership*

### Courses to Consider

*PSYC 4230 Psychology of the Workplace  
PSYC 4210 Psychological Testing  
PSYC 5100 Psychology of Prejudice  
MGMT and MNML Courses*

**Want to talk to a HR Specialist? Check out the UGA Mentor Program!**



# CAREER QUICK FACTS: INDUSTRIAL- ORGANIZATIONAL (I/O) PSYCHOLOGY



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Industrial-Organizational (I/O) psychology involves studying human behavior in the workplace and other organizations. I/O psychologists apply their knowledge of individual, group, and organizational behavior to solving problems in the workplace. These problems include:

- Workplace efficiency
- Performance measurement
- Recruitment, selection, and placement
- Motivation and reward systems
- Quality of work life
- Organizational change
- Talent development

**Important Skills/Knowledge:** Organizational development, career development, decision theory, data gathering and analysis, job and task analysis, group theory and process, individual assessment, administration, case law as related to the workplace

Source: American Psychological Association

## How do I become an I/O Psychologist?

After graduation, those interested in I/O psychology can begin working in entry-level positions related to business, human resources, etc. and/or pursue a master's degree in I/O psychology. Many positions related to I/O psychology can be attained at the master's level, though some states require licensing. Those interested in higher-level positions or academia may wish to pursue a PhD or PsyD in I/O psychology. Potential I/O psychologists might also consider master's degrees in similar fields such as human resources, public administration, business, and marketing research.

Source: Harvard Extension School

## Career Outlook\*

**Projected Job Growth 2022-2032:** 6%

- Average job growth for all occupations is 3%

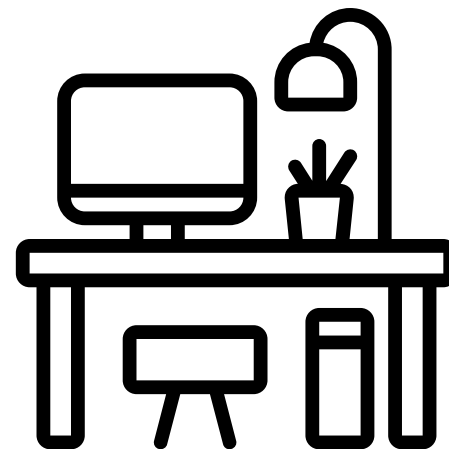
**Median Annual Salary:** \$139,280

- Median salaries represent the exact middle point of salaries for this career (half are higher, half are lower).
- This data applies specifically to the field of I/O psychology.
- Related fields such as human resources, marketing, and training, where many I/O psychologists find work, may have different median salaries.

\*Job outcome data ([money.usnews.com/careers/best-jobs/industrial-psychologist](https://money.usnews.com/careers/best-jobs/industrial-psychologist))

## Possible Job Titles

- Talent Management Consultant
- People Analyst
- HR Specialist
- Workforce Analyst
- Employee Experience Manager
- Team Development Trainer
- Leadership Development Program Manager
- Executive Coach
- Organizational Effectiveness Consultant
- I/O Psychology Professor



The following minors and undergraduate certificates may be helpful in pursuit of this career field.

### Minors to Consider

*Communication Studies – Personal Health and Well-Being – Sociology – Statistics  
Women's and Gender Studies  
General Business*

### Certificates to Consider

*Entrepreneurship – Informatics – Leadership and Service – Nonprofit Management and Service – Personal and Organizational Leadership*

### Courses to Consider

*PSYC 4230 Psychology of the Workplace  
PSYC 4210 Psychological Testing  
PSYC 5240 Judgment and Decision Making  
STAT courses*

**Want to talk to an I/O Psychologist?  
Check out the UGA Mentor Program!**



# CAREER QUICK FACTS: MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING



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Mental health counselors are licensed professionals who help individuals, groups, and families with mental health and substance use concerns on cognitive, behavioral, and emotional levels. Mental health counselors may promote healthy lifestyles and help to preserve or restore mental health by:

- Providing psychotherapy (talk therapy) to help clients understand their behaviors, emotions, and thoughts
- Identifying stressors
- Teaching healthy coping mechanisms and problem-solving techniques
- Specializing in certain types of therapy like cognitive behavioral therapy, marriage and family therapy, etc.

**Important Skills/Knowledge:** counseling techniques, mental health disorders and psychopathology, crisis management, verbal communication, active listening, empathy, critical analysis  
Source: Healthline.com



## How do I become a Mental Health Counselor?

There are many ways to become a mental health counselor. Mental health counselors are required to attain a graduate degree and state licensing, but there are multiple types of master's programs and licenses that can lead to a career in mental health counseling. Those interested in counseling should explore the types of degrees and licenses available in order to determine which is best for them. Requirements for licensure vary from state to state.

- **LCSW** – Licensed Clinical Social Worker. An LCSW holds a master's degree in social work and has completed two years of supervised clinical social work services (3,000 hours in GA)
- **LPC** – Licensed Professional Counselor. An LPC has a master's degree in counseling or a counseling-related field and has also completed the required amount of supervised counseling work. (usually 1,000 hours in 12 months)
- **LMFT** – Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist. An LMFT holds a master's degree in marriage and family therapy or a related degree and has completed their required supervised therapy work.
- **NCC** – National Certified Counselor. A therapist with an NCC designation has a master's degree in counseling and is board certified on a national level.
- **PhD** – A doctorate of philosophy in psychology, with an emphasis in research. A therapist with a PhD in psychology is called a psychologist. Not all psychologists are counselors.
- **PsyD** – A doctorate in psychology, with an emphasis in clinical work. Therapists with a PsyD are also psychologists, but focus more on working with clients as opposed to conducting research. Not all psychologists are counselors.
- **MD** – Medical Doctor. Psychiatrists are medical doctors who can practice psychotherapy and can prescribe medication. Not all psychiatrists are counselors.

Source: mentalhealthmatch.com

## Career Outlook

**Projected Job Growth 2022-2032:** 15-18% depending on specialty

- Average job growth for all occupations is 3%

**Median Annual Salary:** \$49,710- \$56,570 depending on specialty

- Median salaries represent the exact middle point of salaries for this career (half are higher, half are lower).
- This is not an expectation for your *starting* salary. You will likely start at a lower salary and may see increases as you progress through your career.

\*According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (bls.gov) and US News and World Report, not including clinical and counseling psychologists at the PhD/PsyD level

The following minors and undergraduate certificates may be helpful in pursuit of this career.

### Minors to Consider

*Communication Studies – Philosophy  
Sociology – Women's and Gender Studies – Human Development and Family Science – Human Services  
International Human Rights  
Personal Health and Well-Being  
Social Work*

### Certificates to Consider

*Disability Studies – LGBTQ Studies*

### Courses to Consider

*PSYC 3100, 3230, 3250, 3260  
PSYC 4100 Cognitive Psychology  
PSYC 4220 Developmental Psychology  
COMM 2600 Communicating and Relationships  
SOCL 3710 Science of Happiness  
WMST 1110, 2300, 3110, 3215, 3260, 3650*

**Want to talk to a Mental Health Counselor?  
Check out the UGA Mentor Program!**



# CAREER QUICK FACTS:

## PSYCHIATRY



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Psychiatry is a branch of medicine concerned with the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders. A psychiatrist is a medical doctor who specializes in mental health. Job duties of a psychiatrist:

- Diagnosing mental health disorders using a variety of medical and psychological testing
- Prescribing medication including antidepressants, mood stabilizers, antipsychotics, sedatives, and hypnotics
- Performing psychotherapy, also known as talk therapy
- Treating individuals for substance use disorders

**Important Skills:** medical knowledge, diagnosis, understanding of medications and their uses, interpersonal communication, therapy, and counseling, crisis management

Source: Psychiatry.org

### How do I become a Psychiatrist?

Psychiatrists are required to complete medical school and take a written examination to attain a state license to practice medicine. A four-year residency is required after medical school, and more training may be required for specializations such as child psychiatry. It typically takes 8-10 years of education after obtaining an undergraduate degree to become a psychiatrist. Psychiatrists usually spend the first year of their residency in a hospital working with a wide range of medical illnesses before specializing in mental health. After residency, psychiatrists can take written and oral examinations to become board certified. Some psychiatrists pursue combined training, such as in psychiatry and internal or family medicine.

Source: Psychiatry.org

### Career Outlook

**Projected Job Growth 2022-2032:** 4%

- Average job growth for all occupations is 3%

**Median Annual Salary:** \$65,140

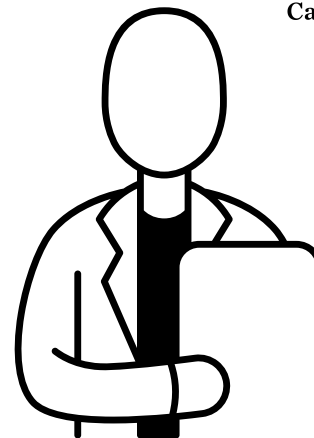
- Median salaries represent the exact middle point of salaries for this career (half are higher, half are lower).
- This is not an expectation for your *starting* salary. You will likely start at a lower salary and may see increases as you progress through your career.

\*According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (bls.gov) and US News and World Report

### What's the difference between psychiatry and psychology?

The most obvious difference between a psychiatrist and a psychologist is that a psychiatrist earns a medical degree (MD or DO), and a psychologist earns a doctoral degree (PhD or PsyD). A psychiatrist can perform some of the same tasks as a psychologist such as provide talk therapy, and they can prescribe medication. A psychologist can treat mental health disorders with talk therapy, but they may also specialize in research or psychological testing and evaluation.

Source: psychiatry.org



The following minors and undergraduate certificates may be helpful in pursuit of this career field.

#### Minors to Consider

*Biology – Cellular Biology  
Biochemistry – Chemistry – Cognitive  
Science – Communication Studies  
Genetics – Global Health – Microbiology  
Personal Health and Well-Being – Public  
Health*

#### Certificates to Consider

*Disability Studies – Global Health  
Immunology – Infectious Diseases – One  
Health – Strategic Health and Risk  
Communication*

#### Courses to Consider

*COMM 1500 Interpersonal  
Communication  
PSYC 3260, 3810  
Any PSYC Group A course  
PSYC 3230 Psychopathology  
PSYC 5850 Psychopharmacology  
LAMS 2000E, 3000E, 3010E, 3020E  
See PPAO Advisor for preparatory  
classes*

**Want to talk to a Psychiatrist?  
Check out the UGA Mentor Program!**



# CAREER QUICK FACTS: SCHOOL COUNSELOR

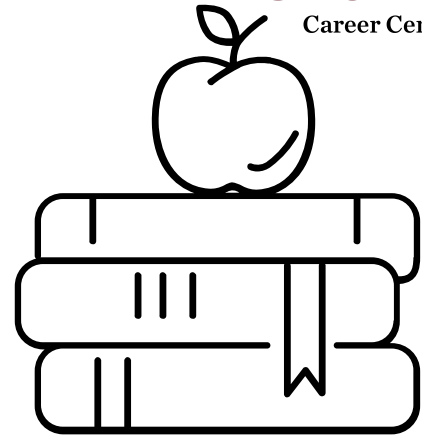


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School counselors design and deliver school counseling programs that improve student outcomes. They lead, advocate and collaborate to support students by connecting their school counseling program to the school's academic mission and school improvement plan. School counselors help students apply academic achievement strategies, manage emotions and apply interpersonal skills, and plan for postsecondary options.

**Important Skills:** assessment and evaluation, communication, planning, goal setting, working with teachers, parents, administrators, and students, data analysis, consultation, understanding of when and how to make referrals, time management, stress management, crisis intervention

Source: ASCA.org



The following minors and undergraduate certificates may be helpful in pursuit of this career field.

### Minors to Consider

*Anthropology – Communications Studies*  
*Sociology – Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages*  
*Birth through Kindergarten Education*  
*Educational Psychology –*  
*Human Development and Family Science*  
*Human Services – Personal Health and Well-Being – Social Work*

### Certificates to Consider

*Disability Studies – Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages – Learning, Design, & Technology*

### Courses to Consider

*PSYC 4100 Cognitive Psychology*  
*PSYC 4200 Social Psychology*  
*PSYC 4220 Developmental Psychology*  
*EDIT 2000 Teaching and Learning with Technology*  
*EDIT 4100S Mentoring K12 Kids through Technology*  
*EPSY 3010 Child and Adolescent Development for Education*  
*EPSY 4240 Abnormal Child Psychology*  
*HDFS courses*

**Want to talk to a Psychiatrist?**  
**Check out the UGA Mentor Program!**



## How do I become a School Counselor?

School counselors must hold, at minimum, a master's degree in school counseling. They must meet state certification and licensure standards as well as fulfill continuing education requirements. As a part of the master's coursework, school counselors are generally required to complete practicum experiences and an internship in a K-12 school. Licensure requirements vary from state to state, so make sure to look these up in your state of choice as you research post-grad options.

Source: ASCA.org

## Career Outlook

### Projected Job Growth 2022–2032: 6.7%

- Average job growth for all occupations is 3%

### Median Annual Salary: \$138,890

- Median salaries represent the exact middle point of salaries for this career (half are higher, half are lower).
- This is not an expectation for your *starting* salary. You will likely start at a lower salary and may see increases as you progress through your career.

## What's the difference between school counseling and school social work?

School counselors focus mainly on helping individual students succeed academically and intervening in situations in which a student appears to be struggling with personal and/or social challenges within the school setting. School social workers, in contrast, are trained to look beyond the confines of the classroom and the school in order to identify larger issues such as family dysfunction, poverty, poor nutrition, homelessness, and/or neglect and abuse that can impact a student's performance in school.

Source: mastersocialwork.com

# CAREER QUICK FACTS: SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY



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School psychologists work within schools and educational settings to support children's learning, emotional, social, and developmental well being. They diagnose and help address learning difficulties, behavioral challenges, or developmental delays that may interfere with a child's academic success. They counsel students, collaborate with teachers, parents, and other school staff, design interventions, and often help plan school-wide supports.

## Important Skills/Knowledge:

- Knowledge of child development, learning theory, and educational psychology
- Assessment and diagnostic skills
- Counseling and communication skills
- Intervention planning and implementation
- Collaboration / consulting skills
- Understanding of special education, behavioral supports, and educational law/policy

Source: American Psychological Association

## How do I become a School Psychologist?

Most school psychologists hold at least a specialist-level degree (e.g., Ed.S., M.A./M.S. in School Psychology) or a related advanced degree in psychology or education. Training includes coursework in psychological and educational assessment, counseling, child development, intervention strategies, and often practicum / internship experiences in school settings. Licensing or certification (depending on state/region) may be required to work in schools. Many programs prepare graduates for such credentialing.

Source: William James College

## Career Outlook\*

### Projected Job Growth 2024-2034: 6%

- Average job growth for all occupations is 3%

### Median Annual Salary: \$90,940

- Median salaries represent the exact middle point of salaries for this career (half are higher, half are lower).
- This data applies specifically to the field of school psychology.
- Related fields such as educational support services or health-practitioner offices where many school psychologists find work may have different median salaries.

\*Job Outcome Data (<https://www.bls.gov>)

## Possible Job Titles

- School Psychologist
- School Counselor (not always the same, but sometimes)
- Educational or Behavioral Specialist
- Child & Adolescent Counselor
- Educational Program Coordinator
- Psychological/Diagnostic Assessment Specialist
- Intervention Specialist



The following minors and undergraduate certificates may be helpful in pursuit of this career field.

### Minors to Consider

*Communications Studies – Sociology*  
*Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages*

*Birth through Kindergarten Education*  
*Educational Psychology –*

*Human Development and Family Science*  
*Social Work*

### Certificates to Consider

*Disability Studies – Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages – Learning, Design, & Technology*

### Courses to Consider

*PSYC 4100 Cognitive Psychology*

*PSYC 4200 Social Psychology*

*PSYC 4220 Developmental Psychology*  
*EDIT 2000 Teaching and Learning with Technology*

*EDIT 4100S Mentoring K12 Kids through Technology*

*EPSY 3010 Child and Adolescent Development for Education*

*EPSY 4240 Abnormal Child Psychology*  
*HDFS courses*

**Want to talk to a School Psychologist?  
Check out the UGA Mentor Program!**



# So...how do I become a licensed, professional counselor, therapist, or psychologist? Graduate School!

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A Master of Social Work is a graduate degree that prepares individuals for specialized and advanced practice in social work, leading to state licensure and career opportunities in areas such as child welfare, mental health, and community development. The degree typically involves coursework, field placements (internships), and often specialized concentrations or dual-degree options, and requires accreditation by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) to meet professional standards.

A master's degree in counseling provides advanced training in counseling theories and techniques, preparing graduates for licensure-track careers in mental health, school counseling, or other settings, and typically takes two to three years to complete. Programs include academic coursework, such as multicultural counseling and ethics, alongside mandatory practicums and internships, which provide hands-on experience. Specializations can include clinical mental health, school, or addiction counseling, and graduates can pursue roles as licensed counselors or in social services.

A doctorate in psychology involves earning a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) or Doctor of Psychology (PsyD), a 5-7 year program focused on research and clinical practice respectively, preparing graduates for roles in academia, research, or licensure as psychologists. These degrees require extensive coursework, a dissertation, a clinical internship, and passing licensing exams to practice as a psychologist.

Class of 2024  
Graduate School Data



Graduate School  
Preparation Resources



## Paths to become a licensed counselor, therapist, or psychologist

What will be my title?	What are my graduate degree program options?	How long will it take?	Where can I learn more?
Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW)	Master of Social Work (with a clinical emphasis), also PhD in Social Work	2-3 years	Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) <a href="https://www.cswe.org/">https://www.cswe.org/</a>
Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC)	Master of Education, Master of Science, Master of Arts, Master of Counseling, also PhD in Counselor Education and Counseling	2-3 years for master's Another 3-4 for doctoral degree	Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) <a href="https://www.cacrep.org/">https://www.cacrep.org/</a>
Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT)	Master of Science in Couple and Family Therapy, Master of Family Therapy, Master of Science, Master of Arts, Master of Counseling, also PhD in Marriage and Family Therapy	2-3 years	Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE) <a href="https://www.coamfte.org/">https://www.coamfte.org/</a>
Licensed Psychologist	Doctor of Psychology (PsyD), or Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Psychology (with clinical emphasis)	5-7 years	American Psychological Association (APA) <a href="https://www.apa.org/">https://www.apa.org/</a>
Licensed School Psychologist	Master of Education, Master of Science, Master of Arts, also PhD in School Psychology	2-3 years	National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) <a href="https://www.nasponline.org">https://www.nasponline.org</a>

# Should I Pursue a Double Dawgs Program?

Pick a Double Dawgs program if you are interested in making a career out of the master's program you will be pursuing.

What does a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ actually DO?

<b>Biostatistician</b>	<b>Human Development and Family Science</b>
Applies statistical theory and methods to biological and health-related data to answer critical questions in medicine, public health, and biology.	Specializes in areas like early childhood development, youth and family development, or gerontology. A master's degree can also serve as a stepping stone to a Ph.D. or other doctoral-level programs.
<b>Educational Psychologist</b>	<b>Manager of a nonprofit</b>
Applies psychological principles to improve teaching, learning, and development. These programs provide specialized knowledge in areas like human development, cognition, motivation, and research methods, preparing graduates for careers in schools, research, and other professional settings	Duties include strategic planning, fundraising and grant writing, financial management, and operational oversight, and also leading and developing staff and volunteers, managing programs, and overseeing communications and marketing.
<b>Epidemiologist</b>	<b>Public administrator</b>
Studies the patterns, causes, and distribution of diseases and health conditions in populations. Their primary goal is to understand and prevent these health issues.	Common career paths include becoming a city manager, program director, budget director, or policy analyst, with opportunities to work at federal, state, and local government levels.
<b>Financial planner</b>	<b>Public health official</b>
Creates and implements personalized financial strategies for individuals, covering areas like budgeting, saving, investing, retirement planning, and estate planning to help them achieve their financial goals.	Works to protect and improve the health of populations and communities. They are responsible for implementing measures to prevent disease, promote health, and ensure access to quality healthcare services.
<b>Health policy manager</b>	<b>Statistician</b>
Develops, implements, and oversees health policies and operations to improve healthcare quality and access. Involves planning strategy, managing projects, analyzing data, and collaborating with stakeholders to address issues like healthcare financing, system efficiency, and patient access to care.	Collects, organizes, analyzes, and interprets numerical data to help solve practical problems in various fields by identifying trends, patterns, and relationships within data sets.

Are you interested in a career that follows any of these routes? If so, Double Dawgs could be right for you! Let your advisor know. If not, Double Dawgs may not be the right choice. Don't worry, there are plenty of other graduate programs that might fit!

# Career Development Resources

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[UGA Career Guide](#)



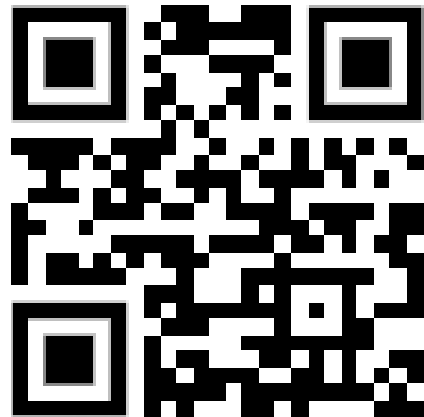
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[Resume Resources](#)



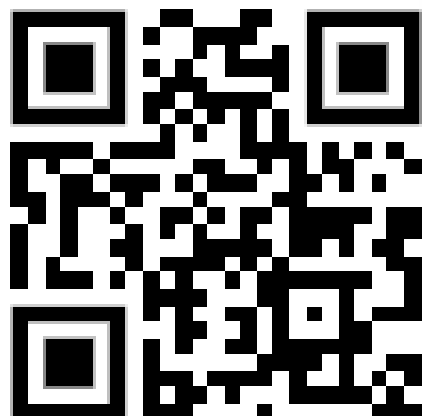
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**5**

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# Meet Your Career Consultant

*Erin Windham-Hill*

FRANKLIN COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES  
SOCIAL SCIENCES  
CAREER CONSULTANT



Career Center  
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

erinwh@uga.edu



## Appointments

To make an appointment,  
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Choosing a Career  
Resume Critiques  
Cover Letter Development &  
Review  
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Strategies  
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Options  
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