

# BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN PSYCHOLOGY IN APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS

## Description and Outcomes

The Bachelor of Science in Psychology in Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) degree provides you with the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to prepare for graduate study or to work effectively with individuals in a variety of settings. This program provides an examination of the design, analysis, and application of learning theories and behavioral principles. It is designed to prepare you to pursue careers working with children and adults struggling with behaviors ranging from difficulty with everyday social interactions to various disorders including autism spectrum disorders, and other mental health challenges.

If you have already completed an associate's or bachelor's degree from an accredited institution, you may be eligible for degree requirements to be waived and replaced with advanced start credit. Refer to Advanced Start Credit in Bachelor's Degrees (<https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/policy-information/prior-learning/advanced-start-credit-bachelors-degrees/>) for details.

### Concentration

You can personalize your degree with a concentration in business foundations. The business foundations concentration will allow you to gain competencies in the fundamental concepts of business administration. You will develop an understanding of the four functions of management, the components of a marketing strategy, and the financial performance of an organization.

### Accelerated Master's Degree Options

If you are interested in earning a master's degree, consider an accelerated master's degree option. Refer to the Progression Requirements (<https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/undergraduate/social-behavioral-sciences/>) section for details.

### Program Length

The Bachelor of Science in Psychology in Applied Behavior Analysis program consists of a minimum of 180 quarter credit hours. Upon successful completion of the program, you will be awarded a bachelor of science degree.

## Program Outcomes

### Discipline-Specific Outcomes

1. **Disciplinary Knowledge and Skills:** Draw upon foundational principles in the field of psychology, including applied behavior analysis, including historical considerations, fundamental principles, and current trends in the field to design effective treatment.
2. **Research and Analysis:** Utilize basic methodology in psychology including research design, data analysis, and the interpretation and evaluation of findings to determine effective client services.
3. **Critical Thinking and Problem Solving:** Use analytical thinking, skeptical inquiry, and the scientific approach in solving problems related to behavior and mental health as they relate to the current diagnostic categories to design individualized treatment plans.

4. **Disciplinary Knowledge and Skills:** Apply conceptual knowledge of principles of applied behavior analysis to case examples and scenarios that reflect everyday problems within individuals, families, and organizations with regard to functional assessments, behavior intervention plans, and the evaluation of effectiveness of treatment.
5. **Professionalism and Ethics:** Demonstrate competent and ethical practice in the field of applied behavior analysis through the conduct of functional behavior assessments that inform function-based behavior intervention plans that address socially significant behaviors.
6. **Communication:** Explain treatment approaches in terms that clients, their families, and organizations can understand to gain informed consent.

### General Education Literacies and Professional Competencies

In addition to the discipline-specific outcomes, general education literacies and professional competencies are integrated throughout your academic program. You can review the general education literacies and professional competencies associated with your academic program in the General Education and Professional Competency Requirements (<https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/undergraduate/general-education-professional-competency-requirements/>) section of this Catalog.

### Program Availability

For program availability, please refer to the U.S. State and Other Approvals (<https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/policy-information/university-information/accreditation-approvals-memberships/>) section and Program Availability Information (<https://www.purdueglobal.edu/catalog-program-availability-info.pdf>).

## Policies

### Progression Requirements

You may not use credit for prior learning to fulfill the following courses; you must complete these courses at Purdue Global. In addition, to be eligible to satisfy certification requirements and ensure your knowledge is current, you may be required to retake the following courses if you are a returning student and completed them more than 5 years prior to your re-enrollment. You may request exceptions, based on relevant coursework and professional experience, from the Dean or a designee.

Code	Title	Credits
PS225	Ethics in Applied Behavior Analysis	5
PS340	Exceptional Needs Children	6
PS360	Applied Behavior Analysis I	6
PS365	Applied Behavior Analysis II	6
PS385	Targeted Topics in Applied Behavior Analysis	6
PS410	Screening and Assessment	6
PS430	Program Design and Evaluation	6

### Certification, State Board, and National Board Exams

Certain state certification and licensure boards have specific educational requirements for programs to lead to a license or certification that is a precondition for employment in a recognized occupation. Prospective and current students must review Purdue Global's State Licensure and Certifications (<https://www.purdueglobal.edu/about/accreditation/licensure-state-authorizations/>) site to view program and state-specific licensure information.

Unless otherwise specified, Purdue Global's programs are not designed to meet any specific state's licensure or certification requirements. Licensure-track programs may limit enrollment to students in certain states; please see Purdue Global's Program Availability Information (<https://www.purdueglobal.edu/catalog-program-availability-info.pdf>) to determine enrollment eligibility.

You are responsible for understanding the requirements of optional certification exams. Such requirements may change during the course of your program. You are not automatically certified in any way upon program completion. Although certain programs are designed to prepare you to take various optional certification exams, Purdue Global cannot guarantee you will be eligible to take these exams or become certified. Your eligibility may depend on your work experience, completion of education and/or degree requirements, not having a criminal record, and meeting other certification requirements.

The Association for Behavior Analysis International has verified the following courses toward the coursework requirements for eligibility to take the Board Certified Assistant Behavior Analyst® (BCaBA®) examination (via Pathway 2). Applicants will need to meet additional Behavior Analyst Certification Board® (BACB®) eligibility requirements, including evidence of residency in an authorized country, before they can be deemed eligible to take the examination.

- PS225 Ethics in Applied Behavior Analysis
- PS340 Exceptional Needs Children
- PS360 Applied Behavior Analysis I
- PS365 Applied Behavior Analysis II
- PS385 Targeted Topics in Applied Behavior Analysis
- PS410 Screening and Assessment
- PS430 Program Design and Evaluation

Please refer to the BACB's website for full eligibility requirements ([www.bacb.com](http://www.bacb.com) (<https://www.bacb.com/>)).

It is important to note that students seeking BCaBA certification can only begin accruing supervision hours once they begin taking an ABA concentration course in the verified course sequence. Any supervision hours documented prior to taking the first qualifying course will not be recognized by the BACB.

The Bachelor of Science in Psychology in Applied Behavior Analysis meets educational requirements for the BCaBA examination in the commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the territory of Guam, and all states. Prospective and current students must review Purdue Global's State Licensure and Certifications (<https://www.purdueglobal.edu/about/accreditation/licensure-state-authorizations/>) site to view program and state-specific licensure information.

It is important to understand that the out-of-state requirements vary by state and can change with little to no warning. Students seeking licensure or certification in another state should inquire directly to the jurisdiction where employment is desired. The BCBA licensure requirements may be viewed at the following link: <https://www.bacb.com/u-s-licensure-of-behavior-analysts/>.


Beginning January 1, 2023, applications for BCaBA or BCBA certification from candidates who live outside of the United States and other designated countries will no longer be accepted, per the BACB's Global Certification policies. Specific information regarding this policy can

be found on the BACB's website at <https://www.bacb.com/global-certification/>.






The BACB can be contacted at:

Behavior Analyst Certification Board  
8051 Shaffer Parkway  
Littleton, CO 80127  
Tel: 720-438-4321

## Degree Plan

The  icon appears in the title of traditional courses that are also available as a set of module courses. Module course availability may be limited to certain academic calendars. See Course Types (<https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/policy-information/university-information/approach-to-learning/>) for information about module courses.

## Program Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Core Requirements</b>		
CM107	 College Composition I	5
CM220	 College Composition II	5
CS212	 Communicating Professionalism	5
MM207	 Statistics	5
PS124	 Introduction to Psychology	5
100/200 Level	Arts and Humanities Requirement <sup>1</sup>	5
100/200 Level	Science Requirement <sup>1</sup>	5
100/200 Level	Social Science Requirement <sup>1</sup>	5
100/200 Level	General Education Elective	5
Total Core Requirements		45
<b>Major Requirements</b>		
CM206	Interpersonal Communications <sup>2</sup>	5
HN144	Human Behavior and the Environment <sup>2</sup>	5
PS115	Psychology Program and Profession <sup>2</sup>	5
PS210	History of Psychology <sup>2</sup>	5
PS215	Neuroscience <sup>2</sup>	5
PS220	Child and Adolescent Psychology <sup>2</sup>	5
PS225	Ethics in Applied Behavior Analysis	5
CE340	Introduction to Autism Spectrum Disorder in Young Children	6
PS300	Research Methods I	6
PS330	Personality Development	6
PS340	Exceptional Needs Children	6
PS360	Applied Behavior Analysis I	6
PS365	Applied Behavior Analysis II	6
PS380	Clinical Psychology	6
PS385	Targeted Topics in Applied Behavior Analysis	6
PS410	Screening and Assessment	6
PS430	Program Design and Evaluation	6
PS440	Abnormal Psychology	6
PS498	Bachelor's Capstone in Applied Behavior Analysis	6
Total Major Requirements		107

### Open Elective Requirements

Open Electives <sup>3</sup>	28
Total Open Elective Requirements	28
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>	<b>180</b>

<sup>1</sup> For options to fulfill this requirement, see the corresponding literacy in General Education and Professional Competency Requirements (<https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/undergraduate/general-education-professional-competency-requirements/>).

<sup>2</sup> These degree requirements can be waived for students who are eligible for advanced start credit with a prior degree. See Advanced Start Credit in Bachelor's Degrees (<https://catalog.purdueglobal.edu/policy-information/prior-learning/advanced-start-credit-bachelors-degrees/>) for details.




<sup>3</sup> Eligible students who choose to complete the accelerated master's degree option will take four graduate-level courses in addition to selected undergraduate electives.

## Concentration Requirements

Concentration courses are completed within the open electives requirement of the degree plan.

Students in this program are not required to select a concentration.

### Business Foundations

Code	Title	Credits
AC112	Accounting Fundamentals for Management	5
MT140	 Introduction to Management	5
MT203	 Human Resource Management	5
MT219	 Marketing	5
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>		<b>20</b>