

Psychology

Psychology

Associate of Arts Degree (Transfer)
or Associate of Science Degree (AS)
Sioux City, Cherokee, and Denison Campuses

The psychology program is a transfer program that could be continued at a four-year institution as part of a bachelor's degree. It's important to consult with your advisor as you take courses to ensure they meet the requirements at the four-year institution to which you intend to transfer.

Program Overview and Opportunities:

Psychologists may work in academic settings teaching, conducting research, or in governmental and industrial organizations. Many clinical psychologists are employed in clinics or in hospitals or are engaged in private practice, focusing on the diagnosis and treatment of psychological disorders. Psychiatrists are physicians (M.D.'s) with specialized training.

Most vocational opportunities in psychology require advanced professional training. Some opportunities for teaching psychology at the junior college or high school level or for work in a business, school, or hospital are available to those with a Master's degree.

With a bachelor's degree in psychology, you would be prepared for jobs that use *people skills* (such as ability to communicate with and relate to people from diverse backgrounds as is required for case workers, counselor's aides, and in sales, marketing, personnel, and management positions); *analytical skills* (for example, figuring out why a certain problem occurs and how to minimize or eliminate it); *writing skills* (for example, writing a logically developed report; and *research skills* (using statistics and graphs to analyze problems. Counseling, social work, business, probation officer, corrections officer, health and recreation, and education are all possible fields.

General education core course requirements are listed on page 19. Consult advisor when selecting electives.

Area of concentration is a minimum of nine credits from the list below. These nine credits are in addition to the general education core.

Select from the following courses:

Course #	Title	Credits
PSY 121	Developmental Psychology	3
PSY 111	Introduction to Psychology	3
PSY 171	Health Psychology (online only)	3
PSY 211	Psychology of Adjustment (online only)	3
PSY 222	Child Psychology	3
PSY 224	Adolescent Psychology	3
PSY 241	Abnormal Psychology	3
PSY 248	Counseling Theory	3
PSY 251	Social Psychology	3
PSY 261	Human Sexuality (online only)	3
PSY 295	Addictive and Mental Disorders	3
PSY 932	Internship (Addictions Counseling Track only)	1
PSY 949	Special Topics (by special permission)	1

Program Advisors

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Psychology/Sociology

Addictions Counseling

Chemical Dependency and Co-Occurring Disorder Counseling

Associate of Arts Degree (Transfer)
Sioux City Campus

The Addictions Counseling program is a transfer program that could be continued at a four-year institution as part of a bachelor's degree. It's important to consult with your advisor as you take courses to ensure they meet the requirements at the four-year institution to which you intend to transfer.

Academic requirements: All coursework in this program must be a grade of "C" (70 percent) or better. No more than 50 percent of all coursework may be through distance learning (online, correspondence).

Program Overview and Opportunities:

Upon successful completion of this two-year program, the student is awarded an Associate of Arts degree (AA). This program follows the prescribed education track to become a Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor (CADC) in the state of Iowa. In addition to the educational component, the student must complete 1,000 clock hours of supervised experience in substance abuse counseling and pass the certification exam administered through the Iowa Board of Substance Abuse Certification (<http://www.iowabc.org/>). In order for the experience to count toward certification, the hours must be completed no more than three years after taking the certification exam.

Addiction counselors may work in licensed facilities that provide drug and alcohol rehabilitation and mental health services. With additional education and experience, individuals may pursue such careers as licensed clinical social worker, mental health counselor, chemical dependency counselor, clinical therapist, certified addiction drug therapist, and/or social worker (MSW).

As many as 65 percent of people with alcohol and other drug dependencies suffer from co-occurring mental health disorders (Hazeldon pub. 2008). The term "co-occurring" disorder has replaced the term "dual diagnosis" when defining individuals with at least one substance dependency disorder in the presence of at least one major mental disorder, including major depression, bipolar disorder, or a psychotic disorder such as schizophrenia.

The substance abuse counseling field is a career area that is expected to grow in employment opportunities by 34 percent in the next few years. Students entering the substance abuse treatment field can expect to earn salaries anywhere from \$20,000 to \$40,000 based on experience and placement.

Addictions Counseling Curriculum

Course #	Title	Credits
FALL		
SDV 108	The College Experience	1
ENG 105	Composition I	3
BIO 163	Essentials of Anatomy & Physiology	4
CSC 110	Introduction to Computers	3
SOC 110	Introduction to Sociology	3
PHI 105	Introduction to Ethics	3
SPRING		
ENG 106	Composition II	3
MAT 121	College Algebra	4
PSY 111	Introduction to Psychology	3
SOC 247	Chemical Dependency and Society	3
SPC 112	Speech	3
FALL		
PSY 241	Abnormal Psychology	3
SOC 200	Minority Group Relations	3
SOC 115	Social Problems OR	
SOC 250	Sociology of Deviance	3
PSY 248	Counseling Theory	3
LIT 101	Introduction to Literature	3
SPRING		
PSY 121	Developmental Psychology	3
SOC 180	Social Work Interactional Skills	3
SOC 120	Marriage and Family	3
PSY 295	Addictive and Mental Disorders	3
PSY 932	Psychology Internship OR	
SOC 932	Sociology Internship	1
MUS 100	Music Appreciation OR	
ART 101	Art Appreciation	3
PROGRAM TOTAL		64

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