

BA Psychology

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the duration of the BA Psychology programme at HITS?

Answer: BA Psychology is a 3-year undergraduate degree programme.

2. What is the eligibility criteria for applying for this programme?

Answer: Candidates who have passed Class 12th/PUC/HSC from any stream are eligible to apply for this programme.

3. Is there any Entrance Exam for this programme?

Answer: Admission is done on the basis of marks secured in Class 12th/HSC/PUC and no separate Entrance Examination will be conducted for the same.

4. Who is a Psychologist?

Answer: Psychologists are social scientists and/or professional healthcare experts in the areas of human behavior and psychological health & well-being.

5. What is the difference between Psychology and a Psychiatry?

Answer: Psychology is both an independent scientific discipline and a profession; however, psychiatry is a specialization within the field of medicine.

6. What is involved in being trained as a Psychologist?

Answer: On average, Psychologists complete approximately five to seven years of graduate education and professional training, beyond a bachelor's degree. The minimal acceptable standard of training for a Psychologist today is a doctoral degree in Psychology or a closely allied field. Psychologists are "Doctors" but they are not physicians, and they do not prescribe medication.

7. Are Psychologists licensed by the government?

Answer: Yes, Clinical Psychologists are licensed from the Rehabilitation Council of India.

8. Is Psychology a science or an arts subject?

Answer: It belongs to both science and arts stream. Psychology is a science due to the systematic analysis and various scientific experimental conditions involved; and it is an art due to the strong link between (human or animal) behaviour and social elements such as culture, society and community.

9. Are Psychologists doctors?

Answer: No. Although Psychologists have doctoral degrees in the area of Psychology, they are not medical doctors.

10. Is science important in Psychology?

Answer: Yes, Psychology follows the scientific empirical method.

11. What job can a degree in Psychology get you?

Answer:The opportunities are broad in range as it has various specializations. Few of them are Clinical Psychologist, Educational Psychologist, Behavioral Scientist, Business Analyst, Career Advisor, Counsellor, Therapist etc.

12. How do I choose a career in Psychology?

Answer:To start a career in Psychology, you'll need to get at least a Master's degree (for School Psychology) or a Doctorate to practice in other specialties. To get licensed to practice Psychology, you'll need to earn the required degree, pass a state and/or national exam, and fulfill other licensing requirements.

13. Is it hard to get a job after getting a degree in Psychology?

Answer:No, it isn't, provided you have the specialization along with the required license.

14. Which Psychology career pays you the most?

Answer:Industrial/Organizational Psychologists usually get paid the most.

15. How do I know if Psychology is right for me?

Answer:If you are passionate about unveiling the secrets of the human mind & behavior, as well as, if you enjoy helping and working with people, then it is definitely suited for you.

16. Are Psychologists in demand in India?

Answer:There is a huge growth in demand for Psychologists as the need of the hour is changing to focus on human well-being & mental health.

17. Can Psychologists prescribe medications?

Answer:In the vast majority of cases, Psychologists cannot prescribe medications to their patients. However, there has been a recent push in several states to grant Psychologists prescribing privileges, and there are actually a few places where Psychologists do have prescribing privileges.

18. Does Psychology also deal with paranormal activities?

Answer:Yes, Anomalistic Psychology deals with paranormal activities with the assumption that the paranormal activity happens only in the mind of the patient and is not real.

19. Is human behaviour predictable?

Answer:A Behavioural Scientist would suggest that human behavior is quite predictable in many instances.

20. Do Psychologists read mind?

Answer:No! They understand, interpret and predict human behaviour.

21. Is brainwashing possible for a Psychologist?

Answer:No, the goal of a Psychologist is to work with people to make them understand about their own behaviour and its consequences.

22. Does the field of Psychology only deal with mental patients?

Answer:Absolutely not! The field is vast and expanding with its branches spreading into several fields. Few to name: Psychologists work in Hospitals/Organizations/Schools/Universities/Clinics and many more areas.

23. Does studying Psychology have a negative effect on our behaviour?

Answer:No, on the contrary, studying Psychology not only helps us understand ourselves in a better way, but also helps to understand & empathize with other humans around us.

24. Is Psychology just all about reading minds and asylums?

Answer:No, that is the most general assumption about Psychology; because that is what has been depicted in movies. But it is much more than that. It decodes human behavior and tries understanding human mind and mentality to bring out the maximum potential out of every individual.

25. Can we earn a decent living as a beginner in the field of Psychology?

Answer:Compared to many other fields, with the growing demand for Psychologist and people with a background in Psychology, many Organizations/Schools/Universities/Hospitals/Clinics are banking on these professionals and hiring them on an immediate basis.

26. Is it necessary to pursue a Masters' degree after an undergraduate degree in Psychology?

Answer:Yes, definitely for a career with high pay and position. It is always recommended to pursue a Masters' degree as there is more employment preference and a higher pay scale for postgraduates compared to undergraduates.

27. Are there research opportunities in the field of Psychology?

Answer:Yes, every sub-field in Psychology has its own research and development area. As we are evolving, there is always a need to keep finding about the mysteries of human mind and behavior.

28. What are the various areas of research that one can pursue for their higher studies in Psychology?

Answer:As Psychology deals with humans and their behavior, there is no definite end to the various possibilities or areas that need to be explored in the field of research. Right from clinical pathologies, sports, critical thinking, scientific experimentation, attention, cognitive functioning and many more areas are available to choose from.

29. What are the career opportunities available for someone who has just completed undergraduate in Psychology?

Answer:As there is an existing demand for Psychologists, there is definitely a huge scope for employment for anybody with a background in Psychology. Though having a Masters opens up more doors to higher opportunities, and has a higher pay.

30. Is it necessary to study all the sub-fields in Psychology to pursue a postgraduate programme in Psychology?

Answer:No, the students are taught the basics in few major sub-fields of Psychology during the undergraduate course. In postgraduation and specialization, a student would have basic knowledge of all fields and develop interest in specific areas, which can be pursued for further studies.

31. How can one pursue studies in Clinical Psychology to become a certified Clinical Psychologist?

Answer:After completing an undergraduate course and postgraduate course in Psychology/Applied Psychology, the student must apply for M.Phil. in Clinical Psychology. After two years of M.Phil., they are eligible for certification and can start practice. Further, they can pursue a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology.

32. Is it necessary to have training and get certified for becoming a Counsellor?

Answer:Yes, on the career perspective, it is always preferable to invest time in training and getting certified during the course period of learning as this will help in opening more doors of opportunities for job placements in higher paying jobs.

33. Can we switch between sub-fields of Psychology, if we find one field more appealing than the other or pursue both fields in the same time?

Answer:Yes, having a degree in Psychology makes us eligible to pursue higher education or select career of our choice in any sub-field of Psychology. For example, some may find Educational Psychology interesting and pursue their education in it. They may find Cognitive Psychology interesting later and can pursue research work in it. The options and scope are endless.

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