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Psychology is the scientific study of the mind and behavior, according to the American Psychological Association. Psychology is a multifaceted discipline and includes many sub-fields of study such areas as human development, sports, health, clinical, social behavior and cognitive processes. Psychology is a new science, with most advances happening over the past 150 years. However, its origins can be traced back to ancient Greece, 400 – 500 BC. The emphasis was a philosophical one, with great thinkers such as Socrates (470 BC – 399 BC) influencing Plato (428/427 BC – 348/347 BC), who in turn influenced Aristotle (384 BC – 322 BC). Philosophers used to discuss many topics now studied by modern psychology, such as memory, free will vs. determinism, nature vs. nurture, attraction, etc. Psychology is a vast and multifaceted field. Over time, as our understanding of the human mind and behavior has expanded, various specialized areas or branches of psychology have emerged, such as clinical psychology, social psychology, and developmental psychology. The Beginnings of Psychology as a Discipline In the early days of psychology, there were two dominant theoretical perspectives regarding how the brain worked, structuralism and functionalism. Structuralism was the name given to the approach pioneered by Wilhelm Wundt (1832-1920), which focused on breaking down mental processes intro the most basic components. The term originated from Edward Titchener, an American psychologist who had been trained by Wundt. Wundt was important because he separated psychology from philosophy by analyzing the workings of the mind in a more structured way, with the emphasis being on objective measurement and control. Structuralism relied on trained introspection, a research method whereby subjects related what was going on in their minds while performing a certain task. However, introspection proved to be an unreliable method because there was too much individual variation in the experiences and reports of research subjects. Despite the failure of introspection Wundt is an important figure in the history of psychology as he opened the first laboratory dedicated to psychology in 1879, and its opening is usually thought of as the beginning of modern experimental psychology. An American psychologist named William James (1842-1910) developed an approach which came to be known as functionalism, that disagreed with the focus of Structuralism. James argued that the mind is constantly changing and it is pointless to look for the structure of conscious experience. Rather, he proposed the focus should be on how and why an organism does something, i.e. the functions or purpose of the brain. James suggested that psychologists should look for the underlying cause of behavior and the mental processes involved. This emphasis on the causes and consequences of behavior has influenced contemporary psychology. The Perspectives of Psychology Structuralism and functionalism have since been replaced by several dominant and influential approaches to psychology, each underpinned by a shared set of assumptions of what people are like, what is important to study, and how to study it. Behavioral Perspective: Emerging around the 1910s and 1920s with John Broadus Watson's work, it gained prominence with B.F. Skinner in the 1930s and 1940s. This perspective emphasizes observable behaviors and the environment's role. Psychodynamic Perspective: Developed in the early 1900s with the work of Sigmund Freud (1856-1939), emphasizing the unconscious mind and early experiences. Freud's psychoanalysis was the original psychodynamic theory, but the psychodynamic approach as a whole includes all theories that were based on his ideas, e.g., Jung (1964), Adler (1927), and Erikson (1950). Humanistic Perspective: Emerged in the 1950s and 1960s as a reaction to behaviorism and psychoanalysis. Carl Rogers and Abraham Maslow are primary figures. Cognitive Perspective: Became prominent around the 1950s and 1960s as a response to behaviorism. Key figures include Jean Piaget and Aaron Beck. Biological Perspective: While physiological psychology dates back to early experimental psychology, the more integrative biological/neuroscientific perspective emphasizing genetics and brain structures became dominant in the latter part of the 20th century. Evolutionary Perspective: While Charles Darwin's evolutionary theory dates to the 19th century, its application to psychology as an "evolutionary psychology" perspective gained traction in the 1980s and 1990s. Sociocultural Perspective: Gained prominence in the latter half of the 20th century, emphasizing the influence of social interactions, cultural practices, and environmental contexts on individual behavior and cognitive processes. Ecological Systems Perspective: Introduced by Urie Bronfenbrenner in the 1970s, this perspective examines the multi-layered influences on an individual's development. The four main goals of psychology are to describe, explain, predict and change the behavior and mental processes of others Describing a behavior or cognition is the first goal of psychology. This can enable researchers to develop general laws of human behavior. For example, by describing the response of dogs to various stimuli, Ivan Pavlov helped develop laws of learning known as classical conditioning theory. Once researchers have described general laws behavior, the next step is to explain how or why this trend occurs. Psychologists will propose theories which can explain a behavior. Psychology aims to be able to predict future behavior from the findings of empirical research. If a prediction is not confirmed, then the explanation it is based on might need to be revised. For example, classical conditioning predicts that if a person associates a negative outcome with a stimuli they may develop a phobia or aversion of the stimuli. Once psychology has described, explained and made predictions about behavior, changing or controlling a behavior can be attempted. For example, interventions based on classical conditioning, such as systematic desensitization, have been used to treat people with anxiety disorders including phobias. Kuhn (1962) argues that a field of study can only legitimately be regarded as a science if most of its followers subscribe to a common perspective or paradigm. Kuhn believes that psychology is still pre-paradigmatic, while others believe it's already experienced scientific revolutions (Wundt's structuralism being replaced by Watson's behaviorism, in turn, replaced by the information-processing approach). The crucial point here is: can psychology be considered a science if psychologists disagree about what to study and how to study it? Frequently Asked Questions Major branches of psychology include clinical, developmental, social, cognitive, neuroscience, and educational psychology. They study mental health, development, social interaction, cognition, brain function, and learning. Psychologists and psychiatrists both work in the mental health field, but their training and approach differ. Psychologists typically hold a doctoral degree in psychology and provide therapy, conduct research, and administer psychological tests. Psychiatrists are medical doctors who specialize in mental health and can prescribe medication to manage mental health conditions. They often work with more complex cases and those requiring medication management. Researchers in psychology gather and analyze data using a variety of methods such as surveys, observations, experiments, and case studies. They use statistical analysis to identify patterns and relationships in the data and draw conclusions. Some researchers also use brain imaging techniques to study the neural basis of behavior. Ethical considerations are taken into account when conducting research with human or animal participants. The results of research are often published in academic journals to advance knowledge in the field. Psychology can help you in your everyday life by improving your communication skills, relationships, and ability to manage stress. It can also be used to make better decisions in school, healthcare, and work, and improve your mental health and well-being. By learning about psychology, you can understand people and the world around you better and use that knowledge to improve your own life and the lives of others. Reverse psychology is a persuasion technique where an individual encourages another person to adopt a certain behavior or attitude by suggesting the opposite, often because they anticipate a resistant or contrary response. It's essentially a method of getting someone to do what you want by suggesting they do the opposite. Olivia Guy-Evans, MSc BSc (Hons) Psychology, MSc Psychology of Education Associate Editor for Simply Psychology Olivia Guy-Evans is a writer and associate editor for Simply Psychology. She has previously worked in healthcare and educational sectors. Saul McLeod, PhD Editor-in-Chief for Simply Psychology BSc (Hons) Psychology, MRes, PhD, University of Manchester Saul McLeod, PhD., is a qualified psychology teacher with over 18 years of experience in further and higher education. He has been published in peer-reviewed journals, including the Journal of Clinical Psychology. A comprehensive IELTS prep app Share — copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format for any purpose, even commercially. Adapt — remix, transform, and build upon the material for any purpose, even commercially. The licensor cannot revoke these freedoms as long as you follow the license terms. Attribution — You must give appropriate credit , provide a link to the license, and indicate if changes were made . You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use. 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Your dream domain is just a few clicks away.Choose the domain you want, add it to your cart, and pay with your preferred method....Follow our instructions to transfer ownership from the current registrar to you....Download the available logos and brand assets and start building your dream website.★ ★ ★ ★ ★I purchased another three aged domains from Odys in a seamless and painless transaction. John at Odys was super helpful! Odys is my only source for aged domains —you can trust their product.★ ★ ★ ★ ★Odys is absolutely the best premium domain marketplace in the whole internet space. You will not go wrong with them.★ ★ ★ ★ ★Great domains. Great to deal with. In this arena peace of mind can be difficult to come by, but I always have it with Odys and will continue to use them and recommend them to colleagues and clients.★ ★ ★ ★ ★Great company. Very professional setup, communication, and workflows. I will definitely do business with Odys Global moving forward.★ ★ ★ ★ ★I have bought 2 sites from Odys Global and they have both been of high quality with great backlinks. I have used one as the basis for creating a new site with a great DR and the other is a redirect with again high DR backlinks. Other sites I have looked through have low quality backlinks, mostly spam. I highly recommend this company for reliable sites.★ ★ ★ ★ ★I've bought over 30 domains from Odys Global in the last two years and I was always very satisfied. Besides great quality, niche-specific auction domains, Alex also helped me a lot with SEO and marketing strategies. Auction domains are not cheap, but quality comes with a price. If you have the budget and a working strategy, these domains will make you serious money.★ ★ ★ ★ ★Earlier this year, I purchased an aged domain from Odys as part of a promo they're running at the time. It was my first experience with buying an aged domain so I wanted to keep my spend low. I ended up getting a mid level DR domain for a good price. The domain had solid links from niche relevant high authority websites. I used the site as a 301 redirect to a blog I had recently started. Within a few weeks I enjoyed new traffic levels on my existing site. Happy to say that the Odys staff are friendly and helpful and they run a great business that is respected within the industry. How can financial brands set themselves apart through visual storytelling? Our experts explain how.Learn MoreThe Motorsport Images Collections captures events from 1895 to today's most recent coverage.Discover The CollectionCurated, compelling, and worth your time. Explore our latest gallery of Editors' Picks.Browse Editors' FavoritesHow can financial brands set themselves apart through visual storytelling? 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Your dream domain is just a few clicks away.Choose the domain you want, add it to your cart, and pay with your preferred method....Follow our instructions to transfer ownership from the current registrar to you....Download the available logos and brand assets and start building your dream website.★ ★ ★ ★ ★I purchased another three aged domains from Odys in a seamless and painless transaction. John at Odys was super helpful! Odys is my only source for aged domains —you can trust their product.★ ★ ★ ★ ★Odys is absolutely the best premium domain marketplace in the whole internet space. You will not go wrong with them.★ ★ ★ ★ ★Great domains. Great to deal with. In this arena peace of mind can be difficult to come by, but I always have it with Odys and will continue to use them and recommend them to colleagues and clients.★ ★ ★ ★ ★Great company. Very professional setup, communication, and workflows. I will definitely do business with Odys Global moving forward.★ ★ ★ ★ ★I have bought 2 sites from Odys Global and they have both been of high quality with great backlinks. I have used one as the basis for creating a new site with a great DR and the other is a redirect with again high DR backlinks. Other sites I have looked through have low quality backlinks, mostly spam. I highly recommend this company for reliable sites.★ ★ ★ ★ ★I've bought over 30 domains from Odys Global in the last two years and I was always very satisfied. Besides great quality, niche-specific auction domains, Alex also helped me a lot with SEO and marketing strategies. Auction domains are not cheap, but quality comes with a price. If you have the budget and a working strategy, these domains will make you serious money.★ ★ ★ ★ ★Earlier this year, I purchased an aged domain from Odys as part of a promo they're running at the time. It was my first experience with buying an aged domain so I wanted to keep my spend low. I ended up getting a mid level DR domain for a good price. The domain had solid links from niche relevant high authority websites. I used the site as a 301 redirect to a blog I had recently started. Within a few weeks I enjoyed new traffic levels on my existing site. Happy to say that the Odys staff are friendly and helpful and they run a great business that is respected within the industry. [illegible]. Psychology plays around the intricacies of the mind, how it functions, and how people behave. It tries to understand what triggers our emotions, what processes take place in the background that differentiates one person from another. Further, it aims to understand culture, religion, crimes, and has close links to anthropology, mental illness, and even family psychology. A growing number of high school graduates are venturing into new and upcoming fields of Criminal Psychology, Organisational Psychology, Neuropsychology, Child Psychology, etc. What is even more interesting is that universities around the world have constantly been updating their courses and have introduced more courses to keep up with the pace of student needs. Here is all the information that you will need if you wish to pursue a BSc in Psychology. Course NameBSc PsychologyFull-Form Bachelor of Science in Psychology Course LevelUndergraduateEligibility10 + 2 from a recognized boardDuration3 YearsAverage FeesINR 3.5 lakhs to 15 lakhs (will be more if opting for studying abroad)Job ProfileEducational Psychologist Psychology AssistantPsychologistChildcare Mental CounsellorPsychiatrist Youtube: Kingscollegelondon A Bachelor of Science or a BSc Psychology degree is a three or four-year undergraduate degree that enhances your cognitive thinking as well as decision-making ability by imparting extensive knowledge in areas like: EmotionsHere, human emotions and sentiments are explored in detail. It aims to explain how and why certain emotions get triggered in particular situations. IntelligenceConcepts of logic, analysis, creativity, reasoning, and judgment are explored under the subheading of intelligence. It also involves analysis of some unusual and irrational decisions humans take. PersonalityEvery person has a different and contrasting personality and it is one of the most fundamental ways in which human beings differ. Introverts, extroverts, opinions, and choices are a few of the topics that are explored.Cognitive DevelopmentA child gradually learns and develops certain cognitive mental processes, thinking capacity, environment perception, and languages as he grows. The way this process of cognition development takes place has been an important aspect of psychology.MemoryThe study of memory is the most intriguing subject in BSc Psychology. It studies various parts of the brain that deal with the functions of memory. Diseases related to memory loss like Alzheimer's and Parkinson's are also crucial topics. Also Read: Difference Between Psychologist and Psychiatrist There are several major benefits that you can reap when you pursue BSc in Psychology from abroad, some of them are: Psychology, as a degree, is offered by scores of universities across the world. While in some, it is awarded as a BA, in others, BSc Psychology is awarded. Tabulated below are some of the eminent academic institutions: India is filled with universities offering BSc Psychology which often creates confusion among students. We have listed down the Top Colleges for BSc Psychology in India : Amity University, Noida Assam Down Town University, Guwahati Kishinchand Chellaram College of Arts, Commerce, and Science, Mumbai St.Xaviers College Kolkata Kirori Mal College, New Delhi Queen Mary's College, Chennai Christ University, Bangalore Lady Shri Ram College for Women, New Delhi Presidency College, Chennai Jesus and Mary College, New Delhi Lady Shri Ram College for Women IGNOU MDU, Rohtak Ramanujan College Kamala Nehru College Jamia Millia Islamia [JMI] Amity University, Gurgaon Daulat Ram College Gargi College, University of Delhi St. Xavier's College (Autonomous) Sophia College SNDT Women's University Tata Institute of Social Sciences The University of Mumbai (Garware Institute of Career Education and Development) Institute of Clinical Research India Mumbai Amity University SRM Institute of Science and Technology Ethiraj College for Women Justice Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Women's College University of Madras (UNOM) Women's Christian College Stella Maris College (Autonomous) Madras School of Social Work Also Read: PhD in Psychology Christ University Bangalore University CMR University (School of Social Sciences and Humanities) IFIM College Indian Academy West Bengal State University The Neotia University Sister Nivedita University Calcutta University NSHM Knowledge Campus Adamas University In order to pursue BSc Psychology from universities abroad, you need to clear 10+2 in Science stream with Psychology as an elective course. Apart from this, you will also have to secure a good percentile or band in English proficiency tests like IELTS and TOEFL. Furthermore, if you are planning to study in Canada or the USA, you need to obtain a good score in the SAT exam or ACT. Statement of Purpose, Letter of Recommendations, mark sheets, etc forms further components of the admission requirements. The BSc Psychology program's entrance exam is administered in both offline and online formats. For admission, multiple university entrance or national-level tests are necessary. The Psychology entrance test contains questions that are general and more focused on 10+2 biology. The following are some common BSc Psychology exams: BHU UET SAAT MET GSAT CUET Most colleges and institutions have comparable prerequisites for a BSc in Psychology. A BSc Psychology degree can be pursued by candidates with a variety of educational backgrounds. Students must hold a bachelor's degree in the relevant subject or complete the following prerequisites to be eligible for the BSc Psychology program offered by a number of institutions and associated colleges: Applicants should have cleared 10+ 2 from the recognized board Applicants must secure a minimum of 50% inboards Applicant's age should be at least 17 years If planning to study BSc Chemistry Hons, then most of the universities also need applicants to qualify for English language proficiency tests like IELTS, TOEFL, PTE, etc. Well-written Letters of Recommendation (LOR) and a Statement of Purpose (SOP). Also Read: Difference Between BA Psychology and BSc in Psychology The application process is a bit different for BSc Psychology in India and Abroad. In India admission is done either through merit or entrance test followed by group discussion and personal interview. The application form for BSc Psychology abroad is through the university's official website or through the admission portal. Here is the stepwise application process for BSc Psychology: Visit the official website or the university or admission portal. Register yourself using your mobile number/ email address. You will receive login details on your registered email ID/ mobile number. Log in and fill in the personal and academic details. Upload the mandatory documents (Scanned photograph and signature, Academic transcripts, letter of recommendation) Appear for the entrance examination. Some of the entrance examinations for BSc Psychology are NEST, CUCET, KCET, DUET, etc. After the result of the entrance examination is announced, students are called for a counseling round. Based on students' preferences, entrance examination scores, and academic backgrounds, colleges are allotted to the students. BSc Psychology consists of six semesters of study. The program structure, on the other hand, differs from one university to another. The typical UGC suggested curriculum structure is shown below. Semester 1 Statistical Methods for Psychological Research Introduction to Psychology Stress & Well-being Attention and Perception Motivation Emotions Intelligence and Creativity Nervous System Semester II Biopsychology Nature and Methods of Physiological Psychology Memory Psychology of Individual Differences Learning Cognition Endocrine System Semester III Development of Psychological Thought Psychological Research Social Psychology Experimental and Non-experimental Research Hypothesis Non-parametric and Parametric Statistics Observation, Interview Methods Problem and Variables Application of Measure of Central Tendencies and Variability Quantitative Analysis and Qualitative Analysis Semester VI Organizational Behaviour Social change and community participation Counselling Psychology Psychological Approaches to the Environment Social Perception Social Ecology and Community Psychology Personality analysis Semester V Understanding and Dealing with Psychological Disorders Development Psychology Stages of LifeSpan Development Prejudice and Discrimination Inter-group Conflict Cultural Psychology Theoretical and Methodological Issues in Self and Personality Assessment of Psychopathological Behaviour Parameters of Assessment, Psychological Scaling; Methods of Scaling The detailed semester-wise syllabus of BSc Psychology can be found Here! The BSc Psychology syllabus is designed to not only develop a core understanding of the domain-specific topics but also to enhance your interpersonal and communication skills. Apart from the core and elective subjects, you will also have to complete a project/dissertation work at the end of your course. Enlisted are some of the subjects taught in the BSc Psychology course: Basics of Developmental Psychology Research Methods Introduction to Neuroscience Computational Models Organizational Behaviour Human Development Understanding Human Behaviour Cognitive Sciences Clinical Psychology Educational Psychology Industrial Psychology Criminal Psychology Media Psychology Since this field is very broad, you can find employment opportunities across NGOs, rehabilitation centres, child welfare departments, academic institutions, policy-making organizations, the sports sector, etc. However, it is advised to pursue a master's course like MSc Psychology in order to gain advanced knowledge in a specialized field to broaden your horizon. Enlisted are some profiles you can work in after BSc Psychology Credits: Jitin Chawla for Career Development The average pay scale depends on the organization you are working for and on your job profile. Sometimes a content writer earns more than an educational counsellor. The pay scale depends on various factors. Psychologists are likely to earn $102,530 (INR 76,47,825.48) in foreign counties like the USA where there is a healthy demand for the job profile. Here are some of the popular job profiles with their salary structure after BSc Psychology: Job ProfileAverage Estimated Salaries per annum PsychologistINR 3 – 6.5 LPALecturerINR 3 – 5 LPAMarketing ExecutiveINR 5 – 6 LPASocial WorkerINR 2 – 4 LPAHuman Resources ManagerINR 5.5 LPAPsychology InstructorINR 4 – 5 LPAPersonal TrainerINR 4 – 6 LPA BSc Psychology is an interesting and enthralling course. There are plenty of books available in the local market and online. Every student of BSc Psychology should read these books at least once. Here is a list of books : Structure of Scientific Revolutions: 50th Anniversary Edition by Thomas KuhnBuy HereNurtureShock: New Thinking About Children by Po Bronson and Ashley MerrymanBuy HereGrit: The Power of Passion and Perseverance by Angela DuckworthBuy HereMindset: The New Psychology of Success by Carol S. DweckBuy Here Is BSc psychology a good course? Yes, BSc psychology has emerged as a popular course in the last few years. Students can work in different areas after completion of the course which means more job opportunities around the globe. What can I do after BSc psychology? Students can go for further studies such as MSc or MA in psychology or work as a counsellor, Clinical psychologist, Nurse, etc. Are there any maths-related topics in BSc psychology? No, there is no maths in BSc psychology Which degree is best in BSc? BSc psychology is one of the best courses. Is BSc a good option after the 12th? Yes, students from different streams are opting for BSc in India and abroad Can I do BEd after BSc psychology? Yes, students are eligible for pursuing BEd after BSc psychology Although we have given you all the details about BSc Psychology, you might still want to know more about the universities and higher studies prospects. For this, you can get in touch with the counsellors and mentors at Leverage Edu on 1800572000 who will assist you in finding a university that will help in magnifying your potential. [illegible] | Published : Nov 11, 2023, 7:57 PM IST0 Min read Follow Us news letter[illegible]: [illegible]