



# PSYCHOLOGY ROUTES

## SUBJECT PATHWAYS

### CAREERS

Most careers directly related to psychology will expect you to have higher education and postgraduate qualifications. They include:

- Advice worker
- Art therapist
- Careers adviser
- Chaplain
- Clinical psychologist
- Counsellor
- Cognitive behavioural therapist
- Counselling psychologist
- Detective
- Education consultant
- Educational psychologist
- Forensic psychologist
- Further education teacher
- Health psychologist
- High intensity therapist
- Human resources officer
- Lecturer
- Life coach
- Market researcher
- Mediator
- Mental health worker
- Neuropsychologist
- Neuroscientist
- Occupational psychologist
- Play therapist
- Primary care graduate
- Psychotherapist
- Psychological wellbeing practitioner
- Special educational needs coordinator (SENCO)
- Sport and exercise psychologist

# SKILLS

Studying Psychology can also help you develop wider skills such as:

- Analysis / reasoning
- Communication
- Critical thinking
- Debating / discussion
- Evaluation
- Handling numbers / data
- IT
- Logic
- Organising
- Problem solving
- Research
- Teamwork
- Time management
- Understanding complex theories
- Understanding human behaviour

These skills are needed for a range of jobs with varied requirements and entry routes. Bear in mind that you may need other subjects too, particularly English, maths and, in some cases, sciences. Here are some examples:

- Accountant
- Accounting technician
- Actuarial analyst
- Administrative assistant
- Advertising account manager
- Advice worker
- Art therapist
- Barrister / solicitor
- Care assistant
- Care home manager
- Careers adviser
- Charity fundraiser
- Counsellor
- Customer services assistant
- Data analyst
- Digital marketing officer
- Drug / alcohol adviser
- Education welfare officer
- Family support worker
- Financial adviser
- Fitness instructor
- Forensic accountant
- Foster carer
- Health promotion officer
- Health visitor
- Healthcare assistant
- Hotel manager
- Human resources officer
- Journalist
- Learning mentor
- Legal executive
- Logistics manager
- Market researcher
- Marketing assistant
- Marketing manager
- Mental health nurse
- Nurse
- Nursery nurse
- Occupational therapist
- Office manager
- Palliative care assistant
- Physician associate
- Play therapist
- Play worker
- Police officer
- Probation officer
- Public relations officer
- Receptionist
- Research assistant
- Residential care worker
- Retail manager / assistant
- Sales representative
- Social media manager
- Social worker
- Speech and language therapist
- Teacher
- Telephone sales worker
- Training officer / manager
- UX (user experience) analyst
- Victim care officer
- Volunteer organizer
- Youth and community worker

## DID YOU KNOW?

The actress Natalie Portman studied for a psychology degree at Harvard University while working on the Star Wars movies. She told the media, 'I'd rather be smart than a movie star.'

# ROUTES

To become a professional psychologist you need to study for either a degree approved by the British Psychological Society (BPS) or a degree in another subject plus an approved conversion course. As a rule, it isn't necessary to have GCSE or A Level psychology but you must be able to handle statistics and scientific concepts and have good writing and analytical skills. Most psychology degrees expect at least GCSE Grade 4 / C (sometimes higher) in English and maths. Some courses also ask for an A Level in a science subject or maths. After your degree you undertake post graduate training and study before you can register and practise the profession.

Many psychology graduates enter other work sectors such as health, social care, education, sales, marketing, advertising or finance.

Routes into other careers listed here include apprenticeships (including newly developed higher and degree apprenticeships) full time further education and higher education.

## FIND OUT MORE

For more job ideas, visit [nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/youngpeople](https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/youngpeople) then follow links to 'Aged 13-19' and 'Do something you're good at'.

If you're thinking about higher education, visit: [www.prospects.ac.uk](http://www.prospects.ac.uk) to see what art and design graduates have done after their degree.

### Other websites

[sheffieldfutures.org.uk](http://sheffieldfutures.org.uk)

[ucasprogress.com](http://ucasprogress.com)

[ucas.com](http://ucas.com)

[icould.com](http://icould.com)

[bps.org.uk](http://bps.org.uk)

[hpc-uk.org](http://hpc-uk.org)

[healthcareers.nhs.uk](http://healthcareers.nhs.uk)