



# HOW DO I KNOW WHICH TO CHOOSE?

## Comparing Psychology and Social Work

Psychology (BA)	Social Work (BSW)
<p><b>Knowledge – Students will learn...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in psychology</li><li>• Basic research methods, including design, analysis, and interpretation</li><li>• The complexity of sociocultural diversity</li></ul>	<p><b>Knowledge – Students will learn...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To serve as agents of change among individuals, families, communities, and organizations</li><li>• The person-in-environment perspective</li><li>• Evidenced-based interventions to engage clients, assess strengths, apply collaborative interventions, and evaluate outcomes</li></ul>
<p><b>Skills – Students will be able to...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Understand others' behavior and mental processes</li><li>• Use critical and creative thinking to solve problems related to behavior and mental processes</li><li>• Understand and apply psychological principles to personal, social, and organizational issues</li><li>• Demonstrate competency in research design and basic statistics</li></ul>	<p><b>Skills – Students will be able to...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Assess complex interactions in preparation for prevention and/or intervention</li><li>• Develop and implement strategies at individual, family, and organizational levels</li><li>• Provide advocacy for marginalized populations</li><li>• Demonstrate competency in research design and basic statistics</li></ul>
<p><b>Application – Students will practice...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Optional internships provide practice opportunities</li></ul>	<p><b>Application – Students will practice...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 400 hour field placement is required (senior year)</li></ul>
<p><b>Employment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Prepares for possible career in behavioral health intervention services; group home/residential, bereavement, or medical counseling; psychiatric services; and management, labor relations, personnel, and training</li></ul>	<p><b>Employment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Prepares for generalist work in public/private agencies to empower individuals, families, and organizations</li><li>• Practice areas include child welfare, adult protective services, youth development, parent education, hospice, behavioral health, rehabilitation, and substance abuse</li></ul>
<p><b>Graduate School</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Necessary in order to practice as a mental health counselor, marriage and family therapist, or psychologist.</li></ul>	<p><b>Graduate School</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Master of Social Work (MSW) required for clinical work as a therapist and for advanced positions in mental health, school, health care, and social services. Students may apply for licensure upon graduation. BSW from accredited program provides advanced standing in graduate school.</li></ul>