

# B.S. in Forensic Psychology

Forensic Psychology is the application of psychological principles and evidence-based practices to legal issues and processes, such as, for example, criminal investigations and adjudications. The Forensic Psychology program develops professionals trained in the science of human behavior and mental processes as they apply to a variety of contexts (e.g., legal, judicial, employment, mental wellness). Through this program, students learn to understand, evaluate, and predict human behavior and, upon graduation, are prepared to meet the entry requirements for graduate programs in Forensic Psychology or related disciplines and work with, for example, local and federal agencies as part of enforcement, investigative, or behavioral intervention teams.

## Students will:

- Apply technology proficiently in forensic settings.
- Make positive contributions on multi-disciplinary teams.
- Communicate effectively at a level appropriate to forensic audiences.
- Apply best practice guidelines, legal standards, and ethical conduct in various civil and criminal forensic settings.
- Apply fundamental research methods to evaluate issues pertinent to psychology and the impact of laws and policies.
- Apply theoretical foundations of psychology, with a focus on the convergence of psychology and the law.
- Analyze issues in forensic psychology and the intersection of psychology with the legal system.
- Compare contextual and developmental influences on individual and group behavior and diversity of perspectives when evaluating and intervening with forensic psychology populations.

## Degree Requirements

Students in Forensic Psychology take 120 credits. The Bachelor of Science in Forensic Psychology can be earned in eight semesters, assuming appropriate background and full-time enrollment. Students are encouraged, but not required, to choose a minor field of study.

## Program Requirements

### General Education

Embry-Riddle degree programs require students to complete a minimum of 36 hours of General Education coursework. For a full description of Embry-Riddle General Education guidelines, please see the General Education section of this catalog.

Students may choose other classes outside of their requirements, but doing so can result in the student having to complete more than the degree's 120 credit hours. This will result in additional **time and cost** to the student.

Communication Theory and Skills	9
Computer Science/Information Technology	3
Mathematics	6
Physical and Life Sciences (Natural Sciences)	6
Humanities and Social Sciences	12
3 hours of lower-level Humanities	
3 hours of lower-level Social Science	
3 hours of lower-level or upper-level Humanities or Social Science	
3 hours of upper-level Humanities or Social Science	
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>36</b>

## Program Curriculum (33 Credits)

The following course of study outlines the quickest and most cost-efficient route for students to earn their B.S. in Forensic Psychology. Students are encouraged to follow the course of study to ensure they complete all program required courses and their prerequisites within four years.

Courses in the core with a # will satisfy general education requirements.

BIO 120 & 120L	Foundations of Biology I and Foundations of Biology I Laboratory #	4
COM 122	English Composition #	3
	General Education - Communication Theory and Skills #	6
	General Education - Computer Science/Information Technology Elective #	3
	General Education - lower-level Humanities #	3
	General Education - lower-level or upper-level Humanities or Social Science #	3
	General Education - Mathematics Electives #	6
	General Education - Physical and Life Science (Natural Science) Elective #	2
	General Education - lower-level Social Science #	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>33</b>

## Common Core (17 Credits)

PSY 101	Introduction to Psychology #	3
PSY 103	Professional Development in Psychology	1
PSY 226	Statistics for Organizational Analysis and Research ^	3
PSY 322	Research Design ^	4
PSY 494	Tests and Measurements Theory	3
PSY 496	Capstone in Psychology	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>17</b>

## Basis of Psychology (12 Credits)

<b>Biological</b>		
PSY 311	Sensation, Perception, and Cognition	3
or PSY 335	Physiological Psychology	
<b>Social</b>		
PSY 345	Training and Development	3
or PSY 350	Social Psychology	
or PSY 401	Psychology of Leadership	
<b>Normative</b>		
PSY 354	Developmental Psychology	3
<b>Non-normative</b>		
PSY 365	Abnormal Psychology	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>12</b>

## Forensic Psychology Core (12 Credits)

### Choose a total of four (4) courses from the list below:

PSY 306	Psychology of Deception Detection	3
PSY 313	Personality and Profiling	3
PSY 336	Forensic Psychology	3
PSY 337	Criminality	3
	Upper-level PSY courses with a Forensic Psychology Focus (approved by Chair)	3

## Investigations and the Law (13 Credits)

PSY 320	Aviation Psychology	3
SIS 200	Introduction to the U.S. Legal System	3
SIS 220	Investigative Methodology and Forensic Science	4

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SIS 308	Courts and Criminal Justice	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>13</b>

**Designated Electives (18 Credits)**

Choose a total of six (6) courses from the list below:

ACC 329	Forensic Accounting and Fraud Examination	3
BA 201	Principles of Management	3
BA 319	Managerial and Organizational Behavior *	3
CS 304	Introduction to Computer Forensics	3
SIS 340	Security Investigations and Interview	3
SIS 342	Interview Techniques & Tactics	3
SIS 352	White Collar Crime	3
SIS 411	Procedural Laws and Evidence	3
SS 327	International Relations	3
Upper-level PSY Courses		3

**Open Electives (15 Credits)**

Open Electives	15
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>120</b>

\* Offered in Fall Only

\*\* Offered in Spring Only

# General Education Courses

^ PSY 226 and PSY 322 are rigorous, foundational courses in the field of psychological sciences. Therefore, both must be taken at ERAU to ensure students receive the highest quality of instruction, as well as benefit from the university's unique academic resources.

All Army ROTC students are required to complete SS 321 - U.S. Military History 1900-Present (3 credits) in order to commission.

**Forensic Psychology - General**

**Freshman Year**

Fall	Credits	
COM 122	English Composition	3
	Mathematics Elective	3
	Open Elective	3
PSY 101	Introduction to Psychology	3
	Social Science Elective	3
UNIV 101	College Success	(1)
<b>Credits Subtotal</b>		<b>15.0</b>

**Spring**

BIO 120 & 120L	Foundations of Biology I	4
	Humanities Lower-Level Elective	3
	Mathematics Elective	3
PSY 103	Professional Development in Psychology	1
PSY 354	Developmental Psychology	3
PSY 320	Aviation Psychology	3
<b>Credits Subtotal</b>		<b>17.0</b>

**Sophomore Year**

Fall	Credits	
	Communications Elective	3
	Computer Science/Information Technology	3
	Physical and Life Sciences (Natural Science)	2
PSY 311	Sensation, Perception, and Cognition	3
or PSY 335	Physiological Psychology	
PSY 365	Abnormal Psychology	3
<b>Credits Subtotal</b>		<b>14.0</b>

**Spring**

	Communication Elective	3
	Open Elective	3
PSY 226	Statistics for Organizational Analysis and Research	3
SIS 200	Introduction to the U.S. Legal System	3
SIS 220	Investigative Methodology and Forensic Science	4
<b>Credits Subtotal</b>		<b>16.0</b>

**Junior Year**

Fall	Credits	
	Open Elective	3
	Open Elective	3
PSY 322	Research Design	4
PSY 336	Forensic Psychology	3
SIS 308	Courts and Criminal Justice	3
<b>Credits Subtotal</b>		<b>16.0</b>

**Spring**

	Designated Elective	3
	Humanities or Social Science Upper-Level Elective	3
	Open Elective	3
PSY 345	Training and Development	3
or PSY 350	Social Psychology	
or PSY 401	Psychology of Leadership	
PSY 337	Criminality	3
<b>Credits Subtotal</b>		<b>15.0</b>

**Senior Year**

Fall	Credits	
	Designated Elective	3
	Designated Elective	3
PSY 306	Psychology of Deception Detection	3
PSY 494	Tests and Measurements Theory	3
PSY 496	Capstone in Psychology *	3
<b>Credits Subtotal</b>		<b>15.0</b>

**Spring**

	Designated Elective	3
	Designated Elective	3
	Designated Elective	3
PSY 313	Personality and Profiling	3
<b>Credits Subtotal</b>		<b>12.0</b>
<b>Credits Total:</b>		<b>120.0</b>

\* Based on student interests, PSY 496 Capstone in Psychology may be taken in the Fall or Spring semester.