

What can I do with an undergraduate degree in Psychology?

The following are some industry areas and occupations suitable for graduates with a **3 year degree in psychology**. This list is by no means comprehensive. There might be other occupations or industries which you can enter, based on particular skills and/or experience you develop. The occupational titles and employers listed are only a sample and do not represent the full gamut of jobs available. Remember that new occupations are created every day.

If you are interested in particular areas, research it further by speaking to people working in that industry. The links and professional associations provided in this document are a good starting point. You can also search on the internet for other relevant bodies and professional associations. Getting work experience is a great way to 'test the waters' before you commit to something. The 'strategies' section in this document will give you some starting points to develop the skills and experience employers want.

AREAS	OCCUPATIONS	EMPLOYERS	STRATEGIES
<p>Human Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ counselling ▪ advocacy ▪ mental health services ▪ case management ▪ community relations ▪ administration ▪ policy and development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support worker ▪ Case worker ▪ Community worker ▪ Welfare officer ▪ Counsellor ▪ Youth worker ▪ Drug & Alcohol worker ▪ Rehabilitation consultant ▪ Project officer ▪ Research assistant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Federal government (e.g. Centrelink, Child Support Agency) ▪ State government (e.g. Department of Human Services) ▪ Local government ▪ Non-profit organisations ▪ Welfare agencies ▪ Hospitals ▪ Aged care facilities 	<p>Core skills needed Communication and interpersonal skills, counselling and assessment skills</p> <p>Developing experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gain experience by volunteering with organisations which provide crisis hotlines, telephone counselling and support services, e.g. LifeLine, WIRE, Richmond Fellowship of Victoria, etc. You can search for other community service providers on www.serviceseeker.com.au. ▪ Many entry-level helping positions require one year or more of related experience. Volunteer experience can typically fulfil this requirement. ▪ Counselling roles might require registration with a professional body such as Australian Counselling Association www.theaca.net.au, Psychotherapy & Counselling Federation of Australia www.pacfa.org.au or other associations. ▪ Acquire knowledge of government and community resources available for those in need. ▪ Develop strong communication skills and learn to work well with different types of people. ▪ Fluency in a community foreign language and cross-cultural skills are highly valued in the human services sector. ▪ For administration and policy work, try to gain experience in report writing, research and evaluation. <p>Further studies Counselling roles usually require counselling and intervention skills acquired from Graduate Diplomas or TAFE courses. The following websites have a list of training programs in counselling: www.psychotherapy.com.au, www.theaca.net.au, www.pacfa.org.au .</p>

AREAS	OCCUPATIONS	EMPLOYERS	STRATEGIES
<p>Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ primary & secondary teaching ▪ education research 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Primary teacher ▪ Secondary teacher ▪ Education consultant ▪ Research assistant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Government schools ▪ Independent schools ▪ Organisations with public education programs ▪ Education research agencies (e.g. ACER) and government departments 	<p>Core skills needed Communication, interpersonal skills, instruction and training skills</p> <p>Developing experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gain experience in teaching/instruction: tutoring university or secondary students, teaching English to migrants, teaching swimming classes, etc. ▪ Gain experience working with children and/or adolescents ▪ Find out more about becoming a teacher in Victoria: www.education.vic.gov.au/careers/teaching/default.htm ▪ If interested in educational research, contact educational institutions and enquire about work experience or entry-level administrative work. Check www.acer.edu.au. <p>Further studies If you want to teach, you will need to complete a postgraduate teaching qualification. Check VTAC guide for list of courses. Secondary teaching requires you to be eligible to teach two subjects. Speak with Faculty of Education for further information.</p>
<p>Human Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ employment and recruitment ▪ training ▪ employee relations ▪ compensation and benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Human resource officer ▪ Administration officer ▪ Recruitment consultant ▪ Training officer ▪ Placement officer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Large companies ▪ Government departments and agencies ▪ Employment and recruitment agencies ▪ Educational institutions, hospitals and other non-profit organisations 	<p>Core skills needed Communication and interpersonal skills, leadership and influencing skills</p> <p>Developing experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gain experience volunteering as residential advisor, orientation leader, or student ambassador in careers service ▪ Find student organisation committee work in policy making or settling disputes ▪ Acquire strong computer, office and administration skills by obtaining work experience or part-time work in a professional environment ▪ Register with a recruitment agency and seek temporary work in administration, reception or office support with a HR department or recruitment agency. ▪ Network and become involved with the professional association in this sector: Australian Human Resource Institute www.ahri.com.au, Australian Institute of Training and Development www.aitd.com.au ▪ Develop public speaking skills if interested in training. <p>Further studies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recommended studies in HR and Business (e.g. Graduate Diploma in Human Resources) or do a double degree (Psychology & Commerce). ▪ A Certificate IV in Workplace Training & Assessment is generally required for training roles.

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<p>Public Relations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ research ▪ writing and editing ▪ event planning ▪ media placement ▪ public speaking ▪ fundraising 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Public Relations Officer ▪ Publicity Officer ▪ Communications Officer ▪ Public Affairs Officer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Public relations and advertising firms ▪ Large companies with public relations or communications departments ▪ Professional associations ▪ Government departments (Federal, state, local) ▪ Universities ▪ Non-profit organisations 	<p>Core skills needed Written and oral communication skills, knowledge and interest in public affairs, interpersonal skills</p> <p>Developing experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Obtain experience with campus publications, community television or radio stations. ▪ Serve as an admissions volunteer or work in alumni relations or other PR-related functions. ▪ Volunteer as a fundraiser or political canvasser. ▪ Undertake work experience. ▪ Network and become involved with the professional association in this sector: Public Relations Institute of Australia www.pria.com.au. <p>Further studies Recommended areas of studies are Communications and Public Relations (Graduate Certificates and Diplomas).</p>
<p>Advertising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Creative ▪ Media ▪ Account services ▪ Research 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Advertising specialist ▪ Creative consultant ▪ Account sales representative 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Advertising agencies ▪ Large companies with in-house advertising agencies or departments 	<p>Skills needed Written and oral communication skills, creative and artistic skills, conceptual skills, excellent ability with technologies</p> <p>Developing experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Obtain relevant experience with campus newspapers, community television and radio stations ▪ Work with student-run businesses or associations ▪ Find an internship, even if unpaid, with a market research or advertising firm. ▪ Develop a portfolio for creative positions and learn graphic design skills ▪ Network and become involved with the professional association in this sector: Public Relations Institute of Australia www.afa.org.au <p>Further studies Recommended areas of studies are Advertising, Creative Arts, Communications and Business (for account services and sales positions)</p>

AREAS	OCCUPATIONS	EMPLOYERS	STRATEGIES
Marketing & Market Research <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Primary research (e.g. focus groups) ▪ Secondary research (e.g. analysis of statistical data) ▪ Marketing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Market Researcher ▪ Marketing Officer ▪ Research Officer ▪ Interviewer ▪ Social researcher ▪ Analyst/consultant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Market research firms ▪ Policy development areas of government departments and agencies ▪ Strategy/planning and marketing departments of large organisations 	<p>Skills needed Numerical and statistical skills, analytical and interpretive skills (able to see patterns), communication and interpersonal skills</p> <p>Developing experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop a good background in statistics and research in your psychology degree. ▪ Gain experience by working over summer or on a part-time basis in any industry where you can get exposure to analytical and research projects. ▪ Register with recruitment agencies and seek temporary work in marketing. ▪ Work as a canvasser or telephone interviewer for a market research firm, non-profit organisation, political campaign or for government (e.g. Census, Australian Bureau of Statistics). ▪ Network and become involved with the professional associations in this sector: Australian Institute of Marketing www.ami.org.au and Australian Market and Social Research Company www.mrsa.com.au. <p>Further studies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recommended areas of studies are: marketing and statistics (Graduate Certificates and Diplomas).
Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Management ▪ Sales 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Management trainee ▪ Consultant ▪ Business analyst ▪ Project coordinator ▪ Supervisor 	<p>Variety of industry areas and employers including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Department stores ▪ Retailers, wholesalers ▪ Service providers ▪ Banks, financial services firms 	<p>Skills & qualities needed Communication and interpersonal skills, business acumen, customer service, influencing skills, ability to work under pressure</p> <p>Developing experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gain experience through sales jobs or internships in business roles ▪ Consider spending time working in a call centre. This is good preparation for future roles in the organisation. ▪ Undertake studies in business, through a TAFE course, a double degree or further studies ▪ Seek leadership roles in student associations and community committees. <p>Further studies: Recommended areas of studies are: business, management, sales and related areas (Graduate Certificates and Diplomas).</p>

Don't forget to check the Careers and Employment website for career and employment related information www.latrobe.edu.au/careers

*This document has been adapted from "What can I do with this major" from the University of Tennessee Career Services. <http://career.utk.edu/students/majors.asp>