SACAP’s online BAppSocSci degree is a comprehensive, three-year, undergraduate qualification that develops a robust theoretical and methodological understanding of the discipline of psychology embedded within the social sciences.

It has been specifically designed to build critical thinking and a depth of understanding of the individual within a social context and positions you well for admission into an Honours degree or postgraduate studies in psychology, the social sciences or related fields. What’s more, the BAppSocSci incorporates essential “work ready” counselling and communication skills and equips you to network, collaborate and interact in a digital age.

IS THIS ONLINE COURSE FOR ME?
If you say yes to any of the following points, then SACAP’s online BAppSocSci could just be the perfect fit for you.

Do you?
• Want a NQF accredited qualification that is nationally benchmarked and internationally comparable.
• Have an interest in psychology, mental health and people in a social context as well as the practice of mental health online.
• Want a comprehensive undergraduate degree qualification in psychology that is embedded in the social sciences.
• Want a qualification that will give you both comprehensive theoretical and methodological understandings plus integrated counselling and interpersonal communication skills that you can use when working with individuals, groups and communities.
• Want to gain practical fieldwork experience, under supervision, as part of your studies, to boost your expertise and confidence.
• Want a qualification that will provide multiple academic pathways for an Honours degree or postgraduate studies in psychology, the social sciences or related fields.
• Want the flexibility of time and pace that online learning offers so that you can balance your studies with family, work and other commitments.
• Want a supportive, interactive and engaging online learning experience.

WHAT WILL I LEARN?
Throughout the online BAppSocSci degree you’ll develop critical thinking skills and gain a depth of understanding into:

- Psychology, mental health and people in a social context, including personality and developmental paradigms for understanding individual and group behaviour.
- Psychological challenges and models for understanding behaviour and intervention.
- Diversity and cross-cultural dynamics in the South African context.
- Ethics in psychology.

You will also develop:

- Counselling and interpersonal communication skills, including referral and management strategies.
- Skills to design, implement, monitor and evaluate psycho-educational programmes with a focus on training individuals, families and communities to develop strong, collaborative and supportive partnerships within community contexts.
- Practical fieldwork experience and an understanding of counselling, mentoring and supervision.
- Skills to conduct research according to ethical guidelines, writing reports and managing records.
- Skills for networking, collaborating and interacting in a digital age with a diverse learning community.
- Autonomy, self-discipline and academic independence.
- Skills for a changing world and transforming technology.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH THIS QUALIFICATION?
You will be able to work as a SACAP Counsellor. This means that, working together with interdisciplinary support teams, you can:

- Provide short term counselling support and guidance (excluding psychotherapy), in the key areas of crisis and trauma, conflict management and family work and relationships with the aim of promoting mental health and wellness.
- Identify (but not diagnose and treat) possible mental health problems and refer clients to the appropriate professionals.
- Apply competency-based counselling approaches - finding strengths and resilience to facilitate mental health and wellness.
- Practice effective interpersonal communication skills in a range of environments with diverse individuals and groups for the purpose of empowerment and promotion of mental health.
- Participate in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of programmes with a focus on empowerment in community contexts.

1: SACAP have developed a recommended scope of practice for each of our qualifications according to SACAP’s Competency-Based Framework©

WHAT FURTHER STUDY PATHWAYS ARE OPEN TO ME?
Once you have successfully finished the BAppSocSci, you’ll be eligible for admission into an Honours degree or postgraduate studies in psychology, the social sciences or related fields both locally and internationally.