

Psychology Program Outcomes

Mission

The primary mission of the Department of Psychological Science is to provide students with a comprehensive background and understanding of psychology and its related applications. The faculty are focused on integrating empirical science, theory, and practice toward a more complete understanding of human behavior. Through faculty commitment to teaching, research, professional development, and assessment, we provide our students with the opportunity for intellectual discovery, critical thinking, and social and ethical responsibility. The foundation of the program is built upon the learning goals developed by the American Psychological Association. Students become proficient in their knowledge of psychology, critical thinking and scientific inquiry, professional ethics and social responsibility, communication, and professional development. The secondary mission of the department is to develop the necessary skills for students to be successful in their career aspirations or graduate school. We are committed to the understanding and appreciation of cultural differences and diversity, in all forms, with an emphasis on promoting inclusiveness and respect for others. This dedication results in a well-rounded, mature individual capable of positively impacting others.

The Department of Psychology provides students with a competitive advantage applicable to a wide range of employment and professional opportunities, including graduate school and careers in government, business, and research. Our students have been successful in graduate programs in psychology, such as physiological, cognitive, clinical, developmental, industrial-organizational, counseling, and sport psychology, and allied health areas (e.g., social work, nursing, occupational therapy, etc.). The increasing emphasis on the social, cognitive, and neuroscience research domains illustrate that psychology has always been much broader than counseling. A degree in psychology provides a specific knowledge base desired by employers, such as those in human resources, sales, advertising, criminal justice system, child advocacy, and even the medical field.

Overall Educational Outcomes

Students completing the program with an emphasis in humanities and language for the Bachelor of Arts degree or in science and mathematics for the Bachelor of Science degree will foster attainment of the outcomes listed on page 2. While many of the courses foster student

achievement and mastery of the desired educational outcomes specific to the psychology degree, the courses identified below in parentheses specifically address the listed outcome(s).

Educational Outcomes Specific to the B.A. Degree

Students who graduate with a B.A. in psychology, in addition to the outcomes below, will also:

1. have in-depth knowledge about one culture and its heritage.
2. have the ability to understand a second language and culture.

Educational Outcomes Specific to the B.S. Degree

Students who graduate with a B.S. in psychology, in addition to the outcomes below, will also:

1. have more well-developed laboratory research skills.
2. have increased proficiency in science and math.

| Educational Outcomes of BA and BS Psychology Degrees <i>Identified courses address listed outcomes explicitly.</i> |
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| Goal 1. Knowledge Base in Psychology |
| Goal 2. Scientific Inquiry and Critical Thinking |
| Goal 3. Ethical and Social Responsibility in a Diverse World |
| Goal 4. Communication |
| Goal 5. Professional Development |