

PSYCHOLOGY

What is Psychology? (from <http://www.uncwil.edu/stuaff/career/Majors/psychology.html>)

“Psychology is the scientific study of human behavior and mental processes, and how they are affected and/or affect an individual’s or group’s physical state, mental state and external environment. Its goal is to describe, understand, predict and modify behavior.

Psychology is the study of the mind and behavior. The discipline embraces all aspects of the human experience — from the functions of the brain to the actions of nations, from child development to care for the aged. In every conceivable setting, from scientific research centers to mental health care services, ‘the understanding of behavior’ is the enterprise of psychologists.”

What is a Psychologist? (from <http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos056.htm>)

“*Clinical psychologists* work most often in counseling centers, independent or group practices, hospitals or clinics. They help mentally and emotionally distressed clients adjust to life, and they may help medical and surgical patients deal with illnesses or injuries. They may provide individual, family or group psychotherapy, and they may design and implement behavior-modification programs. Areas of specialization within clinical psychology include health psychology, neuropsychology and geropsychology.

Counseling psychologists use various techniques, including interviewing and testing, to advise people on how to deal with problems of everyday living, including career or work problems and problems faced in different stages of life.

School psychologists work with students in early childhood and in elementary and secondary schools. They collaborate with teachers, parents and school personnel to create safe, healthy and supportive learning environments for all students.

Industrial-organizational psychologists apply psychological principles and research methods to the work place in the interest of improving productivity and the quality of work life.

Developmental psychologists study the physiological, cognitive and social development that takes place throughout life. Some specialize in behavior during infancy, childhood and adolescence, or changes that occur during maturity or old age.

Social psychologists examine people’s interactions with others and with the social environment. They work in organizational consultation, marketing research, systems design or other applied psychology fields. Prominent areas of study include group behavior, leadership, attitudes and perception.

Experimental or research psychologists work in university and private research centers and in business, nonprofit and governmental organizations. They study the behavior of both human beings and animals, such as rats, monkeys and pigeons. Prominent areas of study in experimental research include motivation, thought, attention, learning and memory, sensory and perceptual processes, effects of substance abuse, and genetic and neurological factors affecting behavior.”

What are the career opportunities for a psychology concentrator? (from <http://www.uncwil.edu/stuaff/career/Majors/psychology.html>)

Entry-level Positions

Activity Leader	Crisis Intervention Counselor	International Student Advisor
Admissions Evaluator	Customer Service Rep.	Job Developer
Advertising Assistant	Customs/Immigration Officer	Junior Market Analyst
Assist. Account Executive	Employment Agency Counselor	Labor Relations Specialist
Community and Social Service Worker	Food and Beverage Assistant Manager	Market Research Analyst
Case Worker	Health Club Assist. Mgr.	Marketing/Sales Manager
Community Relations Rep.	Hospice Coordinator	Media Buyer
Copywriter	Hotel Event Management	Media Planner
Corporate Merchandising	Human Resources	Mental Health Coordinator
Corrections Officer	Public Opinion Surveyor	Personnel Assistant
Correctional Caseworker	Public Relations Assist.	Personnel Interviewer
Cottage Parent	Recreation Specialist	Statistician Assistant
Probation Officer	Sales Representative	Teacher
Professional Employment Recruiter	Social Service Professional Staff	Technical Writer/Communicator
Program Developer	Wage/Benefits Analyst	Television/Media Research
Youth Corrections Officer		

Related Career Titles for Advanced Degrees

Account Executive	Crisis Intervention Counselor	International Student Advisor
Art Therapist	Counselor - School	Job Developer
Child Psychologist	Counselor - Vocational	Junior Market Analyst
College Student Affairs	Creative Director	Labor Relations Specialist
Career Planning Prof.	Human Resources Adm.	Market Research Analyst
Community Relations Dir.	Personnel Manager	Marketing/Sales Manager
Counselor - Alcohol/Drug	Physical Therapist	Training & Development Professional
Counselor - Career	Music Therapist	Sociologist
Psychiatrist	Occupational Therapist	Financial Advisor

Psychologist	Financial Aid Director	Health Educator
Counselor - Guidance	Employee Assistance Director	Media Buyer

How do you get ready? (from <http://career.utk.edu/students/majors/pdf/psychology.pdf>)

- Psychology provides a broad, liberal arts background.
- Some students may choose to study psychology because they enjoy the subject but wish to pursue careers requiring “any major.” In this scenario, it is critical to develop desirable skills through internships, part-time or summer jobs, or volunteer experiences. Some skills valued most by employers include communication, interpersonal, leadership, teamwork and computer.
- Other students may major in psychology because they want to work in a related field. Many entry-level helping positions are available. However, the amount of direct client contact is limited for those who have a bachelor’s degree. Students may wish to pursue graduate education in psychology, social work, counseling, college student personnel, or other related fields to increase opportunities and earning potential. Research career fields to learn what type of degree (master’s or doctoral) and subject area are most appropriate. The following list provides some examples:

Master’s Degree

- Licensed Clinical Social Worker
- Professional Counselor
- Educational, Vocational and School Counselors
- Substance Abuse and Behavioral Disorder Counselors
- Rehabilitation Counselors
- Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists

Doctoral Degree

- Counseling Psychologist
- Licensed Clinical Psychologist
- Experimental Psychologist
- School Psychologist
- Sport Psychologist
- Industrial/Organizational Psychologist

- For those wishing to pursue graduate education, maintain a high grade point average, secure strong faculty recommendations, and gain experience through volunteer or work opportunities.
- Assist a faculty member with his or her research.

Related Major Skills (from <http://www.uncwil.edu/stuaff/career/Majors/physics.htm>)

Interpersonal communication (oral and written)	Engage in ethical practice
Knowledge of human development & behavior	Problem solving
Able to observe, analyze & interpret Information	Decision making
Concern for and sensitivity to others	Interviewing techniques
Critical and inferential thinking	Good listener
Insight to deal effectively with people	Able to promote healthy relationships
Ability to resolve or mediate conflicts	Understanding of group dynamics

What about the future? (from <http://www.bls.gov/oco>.)

“Employment of psychologists is expected to grow 15 percent from 2006 to 2016, faster than the average for all occupations. Employment will grow because of increased demand for psychological services in schools, hospitals, social service agencies, mental health centers, substance abuse treatment clinics, consulting firms and private companies.

Overall employment of counselors is expected to increase by 21 percent between 2006 and 2016, which is much faster than the average for all occupations.”

For additional job outlook information, refer to www.bls.gov/oco.

Available at Albright College Career Development Center’s Resource Library

- Great Jobs for Psychology Majors, by Julie DeGalan and Stephen Lambert
- Career Opportunities in Health Care, Shelly Field
- Careers for Caring People and Other Sensitive Types, by Adrian A. Paradis
- Careers for Good Samaritans and other Humanitarian Types, by Marjorie Eberts and Margaret Gisler
- Careers for Kids At Heart and Others Who Adore Children, by Marjorie Eberts and Margaret Gisler
- Careers for New Agers and Other Cosmic Types, Blythe Camenson
- Careers for Scholars and Other Deep Thinkers, Blythe Camenson
- Careers in Criminology, by Marilyn Morgan
- Opportunities in Child Care Careers, by Renee Wittenberg
- Opportunities in Counseling and Development Careers, by Neale Baxter and Philip A. Perry
- Opportunities in Gerontology and Aging Services Careers, by Ellen Williams
- Opportunities in Human Resource Management Careers, by William J. Traynor and J. Steven McKenzie
- Opportunities in Mental Health Careers, by Philip A. Perry
- Opportunities in Non-Profit Organization Careers, by Adrian A. Paradis
- Opportunities in Psychology Careers, by Charles M. Super and Donald E. Super
- Opportunities in Social Science Careers, by Rosanne J. Marek
- Opportunities in Social Work Careers, by Renee Wittenberg

Disclaimer

Links to Internet sites are provided for your convenience and do not constitute an endorsement by Albright College or the Career Development Center.

Links found at <http://www.uncwil.edu/stuaff/career/Majors/index.htm>

Job and Internship Search Links

- American Counseling Association, <http://www.counseling.org/CareerCenter/Opportunities/TP/Home/CT2.aspx>
- American Psychological Association, <http://www.psychcareers.com/>
- Association of Psychological Science, <http://www.psychologicalscience.org/jobs/>
- Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers, <http://www.appic.org/>
- Charity Navigator, <http://www.charitynavigator.org/index.cfm/bay/search.advanced.htm>
- Community Career Center (Nonprofit Jobs), <http://www.nonprofitjobs.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.sjob>
- Chronicle of Philanthropy, <http://www.philanthropy.com/>
- Corporation for National and Community Service (includes Americorp), <http://www.nationalservice.org/>
- Human Services Career Network, <http://www.hscareers.com/>
- Idealist, <http://www.idealist.org/>
- National Human Services Assembly, http://www.nassembly.org/nassembly/na_job_display.cfm
- Nonprofit Times Jobs, <http://www.nptjobs.com/>
- Opportunity Knocks, <http://www.opportunitynocs.org/>
- PeaceCorps, <http://www.peacecorps.gov/>
- Philanthropy News Network, <http://www.pnnonline.org/modules.php?op=modload&name=phprofession&file=index>
- PsycCareers, <http://www.apa.org/ads/>
- Psych Watch, http://www.psychwatch.com/job_page.htm
- School psychology job center, http://www.schoolpsychology.net/p_jobs.html
- Social Psychology Network, <http://www.socialpsychology.org/forums/jobforum/>
- Social Service.com, <http://www.socialservice.com/>
- Social Service Jobs <http://www.socialworkjobbank.com>
- Human Service Careers <http://hscareers.com>
- Social Service Jobs <http://ihiresocialservices.com>
- Society for I/O Psychology, <http://www.siop.org/JobNet/>
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, <http://www.dhhs.gov/jobs/index.html>
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, <http://www.hud.gov/jobs/index.cfm>
- I Hire HR <http://ihirehr.com>
- HR Connections <http://www.hrjobs.com>
- HR Job Net <http://www.hrjobnet.com>
- HRM Jobs <http://www.hrmjobs.com>
- Jobs4HR.com <http://www.jobs4hr.com>

Career Planning Links

- Accredited Graduate Programs in Counseling (from CACREP), <http://www.cacrep.org/directory.html>
- Careers in School Psychology, <http://www.indiana.edu/%7Ediv16/G&O.htm>
- Encyclopedia of Psychology, <http://www.psychology.org/links/Career/>
- Eye on Psi Chi, <http://www.psichi.org/pubs/eye>
- Non-Academic Careers in Psychology, http://www.apa.org/science/nonacad_careers.html
- PsycCrawler, <http://www.psychcrawler.com>
- Psych Web, <http://www.psywww.com>
- PsychGrad, <http://www.psychgrad.org>
- Psychology Careers, <http://www.apa.org/students/brochure/>
- Social Psychology Network (info for all areas of psychology), <http://www.socialpsychology.org>

Professional Associations Links

- American Counseling Association, <http://www.counseling.org/>
- American Psychological Association, <http://www.apa.org>
- American Psychological Society, <http://www.psychologicalscience.org/>
- APA of Graduate Students, <http://www.apa.org/apags>
- National Association of Social Workers, <http://www.naswdc.org/>