



CENTER FOR CAREER & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Major Possibilities: Psychology

Quick Facts

- The psychology program is designed to provide the experiences necessary to prepare the student for graduate school in animal learning and behavior, biopsychology, child psychology, clinical psychology, cognitive psychology, counseling psychology, developmental psychology, industrial/organizational psychology, personality and social psychology, and social work.
- To work as a counselor or psychologist, you need an advanced degree.
- The basic research, writing and analytical skills, as well as the understanding of the psyche, gained by psychology majors make the major broadly applicable as a grounding course of study for many professions in business, social services, and education.
- Internships (including research and shadowing) help shape professional identities, develop 21st century career-readiness skills, and make meaning of the academic experience.

Psychology Major Synopsis

The Psychology program emphasizes that psychology is first a science and then a profession; it also provides students with a broad background in the field. The Psychology program is housed in the F.W. Olin Building, which has state-of-the-art facilities for conducting research with humans and animals. Students may choose to complete a Bachelor of Arts (BA) or a Bachelor of Science (BS) degree with a major in Psychology. Introduction to Statistics is required as a supporting course. Students develop skills in oral and written communication, critical thinking, creative problem solving, and quantitative reasoning. The Psychology and Education majors may be paired by counting Principles of Psychology and Developmental Psychology towards both majors.

Sample Occupational Areas

Psychologists study the human mind and human behavior. Research psychologists investigate the physical, cognitive, emotional, or social aspects of human behavior. Psychologists in health service fields provide mental health care in hospitals, clinics, schools, or private settings. Psychologists employed in applied settings such as business provide training, conduct research, design organizational systems, and act as advocates for psychology. A doctoral degree usually is required for independent practice as a psychologist. PhDs or PsyDs normally require about five to seven years of study, culminating in a dissertation. People with master's degrees in psychology have a few job options, and a bachelor's degree allows graduates to assist psychologists.

- **Clinical Psychologists** constitute the largest majority of psychologists. They work most often in counseling centers, practices, hospitals, or clinics. Areas of specialization include health psychology, neuropsychology, and geropsychology.
- **Cognitive Psychologists** study the area of the brain that deals with memory, problem solving, and language. They also do research related to computer programming and artificial intelligence.
- **Counseling Psychologists** advise people on how to deal with problems of everyday living. They work in universities, hospitals, and private practices.
- **Developmental Psychologists** study the cognitive, social, and physical development that takes place throughout life. Specialties include childhood, infancy, adolescence, geriatrics, disabilities, etc.
- **Experimental or Research Psychologists** study behavioral processes with humans and animals. Some areas include motivation, learning & memory, and effects of substance abuse.
- **Industrial/Organizational Psychologists** apply psychological principles to the work place and research methods to improve productivity and quality of work life.
- **School Psychologists** work with students in early childhood and elementary and secondary schools. They work in schools to resolve students' learning and behavioral problems.
- **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.

Sample Job Titles

GOVERNMENT, SERVICE, AND EDUCATION

Animal Behaviorist
Art Therapist
Behavioral Therapist
Career Advisor
Caregiver
Case Worker
Child Psychiatrist
Clinical Psychologist

Cognitive Psychologist
Counselor
Healthcare Provider
Legal Aide
Pharmacist
Probation Officer
Recreational Therapist
Research Psychologist
Sexual Services Outreach
Social Worker

Teacher
Urban Planner

Sales Manager
Statistical Analyst

INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE

Community Relations Specialist
Financial Advisor
Human Resources Manager
Insurance Agent
Labor Relations Manager
Market Research Analyst

ARTS, MEDIA, AND ENTERTAINMENT

Advertising Manager
Copywriter
Market Researcher/Analyst
Media Buyer/Planner
Television/Media Analyst

Sample Internship Employers of SU Students

Adult Protective Services (Austin, TX)
AIDS Services of Dallas (Dallas, TX)
Alcohol Concern (London, UK)
The Arbor (Georgetown, TX)
Austin-Travis County EMS (Austin, TX)
Austin Child Guidance Center (Austin, TX)
Autism Center for Education (Austin, TX)
Bexar County Adult Protective Services (San Antonio, TX)
Boys and Girls Club (Georgetown, TX)
Brookwood in Georgetown (Georgetown, TX)
The Caring Place (Georgetown, TX)
CASA Wichita Falls (Wichita Falls, TX)
The Center for Success and Independence (Houston, TX)
Central Texas Treatment Center (Granger, TX)
Children's Bereavement Center of South Texas (San Antonio, TX)
The Christi Center (Austin, TX)
Escape Family Resource Center (Houston, TX)
Genesis Women's Shelter (Dallas, TX)
Georgetown Behavioral Health Institute (Georgetown, TX)
Georgetown Police Department Victim Services (Georgetown, TX)
Girstart (Austin, TX)
Helping Hand Home (Austin, TX)
Hope Alliance Center (Round Rock, TX)

Houston Police Department (Houston, TX)
Lifeworks (Austin, TX)
LifeSteps (Round Rock, TX)
MHMR Tarrant County (Fort Worth, TX)
Mothers Against Drunk Driving (Austin, TX)
National Instruments (Austin, TX)
OT Connections (Pflugerville, TX)
Ride On Center for Kids (Georgetown, TX)
SafePlace (Round Rock, TX)
Seton Shoal Creek Hospital (Austin, TX)
South Texas Veterans Healthcare System (San Antonio, TX)
Spirit Reins (Liberty Hills, TX)
STARRY: Children at Heart (Round Rock, TX)
St. David's Georgetown Hospital (Georgetown, TX)
Toquigny Advertising (Austin, TX)
Texas Children's Hospital (Houston, TX)
Texas Tech Center for Resiliency (Lubbock, TX)
The Georgetown Project (Georgetown, TX)
The Locker (Georgetown, TX)
The Office of the Attorney General (Austin, TX)
UTD Center for Brain Health (Dallas, TX)
UT Southwestern (Dallas, TX)
Williamson County Juvenile Justice Center (Georgetown, TX)

Sample Full-Time Employers of SU Grads

ABA Therapist (Human Behaviors LLC)
Behavioral Therapist (Center for Autism and Related Disorders)
Cancer Information Specialist (American Cancer Society)
Case Manager (Safeplace, Community Connections)
Children's Protective Services Specialist II
Client Services Representative (AIM Mutual Funds)
Clinical Assistant (Seton Healthcare Family)
Clinical Research Associate (Medplace)
Dementia Care Specialist (Baylor Scott & White Healthcare)
Direct Care Staff (Austin Recovery)
Enrichment Specialist (Anderson Cancer Center)
Family Preservation Case Worker (CPS)
HR Assistant (Sears Customer Network)
Intake Service Coordinator (Travis County Integral Care)

Investor (Janus)
Juvenile Detention Officer (Williamson County)
Legal Assistant (Quan, Burdette & Perez PC)
Mental Health Associate (San Marcos Treatment Center)
Mental Health Professional (Travis County MHMR)
Psychiatric Nurse Assistant (Austin State Hospital)
Recruiter (Aerotek)
Research Assistant (UT Health Science Center, San Antonio)
Shelter Staff (Hope Alliance)
Social Services Outreach (Capital Area Food Bank of Texas)
Substance Abuse Counselor (MHMR Tarrant County)
Teacher (Baby Gator Child Development & Research Center)
Therapeutic Childcare Specialist (Helping Hand Home for Children)
Youth Care Counselor (Meridell Achievement Center)

Professional Associations

American Board of Professional Psychology

American Psychological Association

Association for Psychological Science

Association for Women in Psychology

Mental Health America

National Council for Behavioral Health

Psi Chi, International Honor Society in Psychology

Society for Personality and Social Psychology