Psychology | Major

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS IN BRIEF

The Department of Psychology and Counseling at Alvernia University prepares students to study behavior and mental processes within an applied framework. This approach encourages students to integrate psychological research and theories with ethical practice and moral responsibility. The Psychology and Counseling Department instills in students the concept of service to diverse populations with an emphasis on human dignity.

ACADEMIC QUALITY

The Department provides an environment that fosters the development of critical thinking skills for students in courses designed for psychology majors and designed for both psychology majors and non-majors. At Alvernia, students work one-on-one with dedicated faculty who will help develop a program tailored to students’ personal interests.

Psychology majors bring the discipline alive through hands-on service learning experiences. Students may find themselves evaluating a community agency treatment program or working directly with individuals with diverse disabilities. Faculty members connect students with professionals in the community who act as mentors while the students gain valuable work experience that often leads to employment.

STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

Psychology related activities at Alvernia University extend beyond the classroom. Other avenues which allow students interested in psychology to get together to share common intellectual, recreational, professional, and service interests are the Psychology Club and Psi Chi. The Psychology Club is a recognized organization of Student Government. Its membership is open to all members of the Alvernia community. The club sponsors lectures, career talks, get-togethers, and service projects at area agencies.

Alvernia University has its own chapter of the National Honor Society in Psychology, Psi Chi. The criteria for becoming a member are available from the department. Psi Chi sponsors speakers on campus, organizes trips to psychology conventions, and coordinates informal discussion groups centering around graduate work and careers in psychology. Our students have had the opportunity to spend a semester in Washington D.C. through the Washington Experience program, working closely with policy makers and researchers.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Alumni of the program have made successful careers and have gone on to graduate education (or both) in a variety of settings. Some recent graduates currently hold the following titles:

- Case managers
- Intake supports coordinators
- Employment counselors
- Clinical assistants
- Psychiatric assistants
- Therapists
- Directors
- Licensed counselors
Many graduates are completing their graduate level work at schools such as:

Immaculata University  Minnesota State University
John Jay School of Criminal Justice  Northern Illinois University
Kutztown University  St. Joseph's University
Loyola University  Temple University
Marywood University  West Chester University
Millersville University

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Psychology Major Requirements (44 Credits)

PSY 101  Introductory Psychology
PSY 208  Human Development Across the Life Span
PSY 301  History and Systems in Psychology
PSY 310  Experimental Psychology
PSY 314  Counseling Theories and Techniques
PSY 320  Research Methods in Psychology
PSY 408  Senior Seminar
PSY 412  Practicum I
PSY 413  Practicum II
PSY 422  Practicum I Seminar
PSY 423  Practicum II Seminar
15 elective credits in psychology

Psychology Minor Requirements (18 Credits)

PSY 101  Introductory Psychology
PSY 208  Human Development Across the Life Span
PSY 215  Multicultural Issues in Psychology -OR-
PSY 308  The Psychology of Gender
PSY 309  Scientific Methods in Behavioral Science
6 elective credits in psychology

Emphases in Psychology
Electives in Psychology may be fulfilled in one of the following emphases:

- General Psychology
- Counseling/Rehabilitation
- Forensic Psychology
- Sport Psychology

CONTACT INFORMATION

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