

Psychology



Technology and Wellness Innovations Research Lab

THE UNIVERSITY
OF TAMPA

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

Bachelor of Science in Psychology

Minor in Psychology

Psychology has become one of the most popular majors for undergraduate students. At UT, the mission of the Department of Psychology is to enable students to think scientifically about human behavior, appreciate the diversity of behavior and experience, and pursue a variety of post-graduate career options. Students majoring in psychology receive curricular and extracurricular experiences that meet or exceed all educational standards for undergraduates set by the American Psychological Association, and include many opportunities to participate in research. Above, associate professor Erica Yuen works with students in the department's Technology and Wellness Innovations Research Lab examining a group-videoconferencing intervention for public speaking anxiety.

What Will You Learn?

The Department of Psychology provides a strong liberal arts background in contemporary psychological theory and research rooted in the scientific method. Students are offered a high-quality educational experience in psychology as a behavioral, cognitive, social science and applied discipline.

All psychology majors complete a set of foundation courses that teach the history and breadth of the field. Students then complete courses from at least five of the six emphasis areas: **cognitive, social, clinical, organizational, biopsychology and developmental.**

The **B.A. in psychology** is designed for those seeking jobs right out of college or additional training in graduate programs in

counseling psychology, social work, school guidance counseling, industrial psychology, organizational behavior, social psychology, developmental psychology and more. The degree also provides a foundation for entry into professional schools such as law school or graduate business programs.

Requiring more science and math than the B.A., the **B.S. in psychology** focuses on preparation for biology-oriented psychology graduate programs in fields such as neuroscience, psychopharmacology and cognitive science, or medical school, including M.D./D.O. and psychiatry.

For a **minor in psychology**, students complete three foundation courses and eight credits at the 300 level from any of the areas of emphasis.

Sample Courses

- Abnormal Psychology
- Behavioral Neuroscience
- Child Psychology
- Adulthood and Aging
- Industrial Psychology
- Sensation and Perception
- Theories of Personality
- Psychological Assessment
- Health Psychology
- Social Psychology
- The Cognition of Game Playing
- Evolutionary Psychology
- Psychology of Personal Relationships
- Psychopharmacology
- Consumer Psychology

FACULTY highlights



Deletha Hardin, Ph.D.
associate professor of psychology

Deletha Hardin is a social psychologist who studies the processes that influence the duration and quality of romantic relationships, and the role of culture in relationships. She recently published a chapter with a colleague in the *Cambridge Handbook of Personal Relationships*. She teaches courses in social psychology, general psychology and statistics and experimental methods.



Erin Koterba, Ph.D.
associate professor of psychology

Erin Koterba specializes in developmental psychology. She is particularly interested in how communication develops in childhood and has studied this in both typically developing children and in infants and toddlers who are at risk for autism. She is active with the Society for Research in Child Development and the International Society on Infant Studies, among other research societies.



CSSME Undergraduate Research Conference

The annual CSSME Undergraduate Research Conference, founded by the Department of Psychology in 2006, allows students to present original, empirical research within any of the disciplines represented by the college, including criminology and criminal justice; education; history, sociology, geography and legal studies; mathematics; political science and international studies; and psychology.

Research

Opportunities to participate in research, internships and service learning projects give UT psychology students a competitive advantage in entering the job market or applying to graduate schools. Students may work with faculty on ongoing research projects or pursue their own independent research, sometimes co-authoring journal articles and presenting results at professional meetings, including the Florida Undergraduate Research Conference (FURC), one of the nation's largest multidisciplinary research conferences.

Internships

Psychology students can benefit greatly from participating in an internship, especially when working in their specific area of interest. For qualified students, internships are available with a variety of local organizations, hospitals and businesses.

Recent student internships have included opportunities with:

- Glazer Children's Museum
- Florida Autism Center of Excellence
- Tampa Crossroads
- Assessment Laboratories
- TECO Services Inc.
- DLA Piper
- Pepin Academies
- Straz Center for the Performing Arts

Service Learning

The department offers several opportunities for students to engage in service learning, which involves community service activities and applies the experience to personal and academic development. Service learning balances learning goals with meeting real community needs, and deepens students' educational experience.

What Can You Do With This Major?

Psychology careers are diverse, with many specialty areas to choose from. A master's or doctoral degree and a license (clinical, counseling or school psychology) are required of most psychologists. **Graduate schools** attended by UT psychology grads include:

- Columbia University (social-organizational psychology)
- University of Massachusetts Dartmouth (clinical psychology)
- Florida State University (social work)
- University of Miami (mental health counseling)
- The University of Rhode Island (behavioral science)
- Florida Institute of Technology (biological sciences)
- Stetson University College of Law (J.D.)
- Oklahoma State University (human development and family science)

Dynamic Work Settings

Because psychologists perform such a wide variety of tasks, work settings can vary dramatically. **Educational institutions** employ many psychologists in teaching positions and as counselors, researchers and administrators. Other psychologists are employed in **health care**, primarily in hospitals, physicians' offices and outpatient mental health and substance abuse centers. **Government agencies** also employ psychologists in correctional facilities, law enforcement and other settings. **Businesses** hire industrial-organizational psychologists to conduct research, train employees or assist management in improving workplace quality. After several years of experience, some psychologists — usually those with doctoral degrees — many choose to enter **private practice** or set up private research or consulting firms.

Lauren Silverlieb-Seltzer '19 B.A. in psychology Graduate student in industrial and organizational psychology

During her time at UT, Honors student Lauren Silverlieb-Seltzer worked as a research assistant, investigating the impact of sexism on perceptions of sexual harassment in academic settings. She spent two summers interning at Bright Horizons in the human resources department, and during her senior year she was a recruitment intern at DLA Piper, a global law firm. Lauren is currently pursuing her M.S. in industrial and organizational psychology at the University of Central Florida.

"Taking Industrial Psychology my freshmen year solidified for me why I chose to major in psychology and the career I wanted to pursue," she said. "I would not be where I am today without the opportunities UT provided me and the guidance of my advisor. All of the professors and courses in the psychology department prepared me very well for my future opportunities and learning experiences."

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistic's Occupational Outlook Handbook, job growth for psychologists is expected to **grow by 14 percent** through the year 2026 — faster than the average growth rate predicted for other occupations.



alumni profiles

Shaifali Saxena '19

Behavior technician, Autism Learning Partners, Buffalo, NY

Brett Boehne '18

Pursuing Doctorate of Physical Therapy, Gannon University

Forrest Harrison '18

Audit intern at Focal Point Data Risk; pursuing M.S. in cybersecurity, The University of Tampa

Whitney Nasse '14

Mental health counselor, Tampa Crossroads; pursuing Ph.D. in clinical psychology, National Louis University

Thomas Vacca '14

Enterprise strategy analyst, Florida Blue, Tampa; earned Master of Public Health in biostatistics, University of Louisville

Alexandra Barker '13

Associate compensation analyst, Darden, Orlando; earned M.S. in industrial and organizational psychology, University of Central Florida

Leif Benner '13

Pursuing Ph.D. at Johns Hopkins University; researcher at National Institutes of Health; earned M.Sc. in neuroscience, Oxford University

College of Social Sciences, Mathematics and Education

Psychology



Debra Tuberion '20
Hometown: Union Beach, NJ
Major: psychology
Minor: law, justice and advocacy
Activities: Honors Program, RA, Diversity Advisory Group, Phi Alpha Delta law fraternity, Active Minds student coordinator

Debra Tuberion has conducted research on bipolar disorder, and last summer interned at Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer law firm. "As a psychology major I've been able to explore a field I'm greatly passionate about with professors that have amazing experiences and backgrounds and truly care about their students' learning experience and success," she said. "After graduation, my goal is to attend law school and to one day practice family law."

Student Organizations

The **Psychology Club** focuses on increasing awareness about psychology, unifying students who have an interest in the field of psychology, assisting with academic development through study groups, and becoming aware of the numerous applications of psychological principles in the workplace and the community at large.

Psychology students are also encouraged to become members of **Psi Chi**, the international honor society in psychology. The UT campus chapter hosts educational and social events throughout the year.

Honors Program

Eligible students are invited to participate in UT's Honors Program, which fosters a close-knit atmosphere among the most inquisitive, intellectually spirited and enterprising

students. Innovative courses and one-on-one tutorials promote learning in ways that go beyond the classroom and regular coursework. The program also sponsors community service projects and travel-study courses. Honors students may choose to live among their peers on Honors floors in University residence halls.

Career Services

UT's Office of Career Services offers advisory services to students, helping them craft effective résumés, find internships and prepare for graduate school or employment. Students and alumni have free, lifetime access to a variety of tools and networks to help advance their careers. This includes Handshake, a specialized online resource exclusively for UT students and alumni that posts job openings from thousands of employers. Learn more at www.ut.edu/career.



About UT

The University of Tampa is a medium-sized, private university offering more than 200 undergraduate and graduate programs of study. Richly diverse, UT is the school of choice for approximately 10,000 students from all 50 states and 132 countries.

Visit www.ut.edu/psychology to learn more about the Department of Psychology.



OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS | 401 W. Kennedy Blvd. | Tampa, FL 33606-1490
(813) 253-6211 | admissions@ut.edu | www.ut.edu