What can I do with a degree in... Psychology?

College of Arts & Sciences
Career Services

The Department of **Psychology** offers BA, BS, MS, and Ph.D. degrees in Psychology. There are many different specialty areas in psychology, all psychologists have one thing in common - they are all interested in the scientific study of behavior - understanding how people and other organisms develop, learn, think, feel, act, and relate to one another. Psychologists tend to be involved in: finding new knowledge in the field through research activities; applying knowledge to the solution of problems of individuals and/or groups; or teaching the body of knowledge to others.
Department of Psychology website: http://psychology.okstate.edu

Psychology majors develop the following skills:

Psychology is a liberal arts degree meant to open up the mind and give a person a better understanding of the world. The degree is meant to provide students with a better understanding of how to think, analyze, and express themselves clearly. Students will have a greater understanding of human behavior.

Information-finding: Psychology students are trained to search through a wide range of resources to obtain information.

Interpersonal: Psychology students also learn about the mechanisms of social communication and the potential sources of interpersonal conflict.

Problem-solving: Psychology students learn how to apply different strategies and approaches to understanding problems and how to identify the practical steps to implement a solution.

Critical Evaluation: Students learn to evaluate, critically, the quality of an argument; to identify the shortcomings and pitfalls of a particular line of action; and to anticipate problems or difficulties.

Depending on your desired career path, additional skills may need to be developed to be competitive in the marketplace upon graduation. Make an appointment with a career consultant to design your individual career development plan.

College of Arts & Sciences Career Success E-Guide

Provided to all new, incoming students as an introduction to career planning process

If you don't have an E-Guide...Get one!!!

Visit the A&S Career Services Office

Questions?

College of Arts & Sciences Career Services
Student Success Center, LSE 2nd Floor
Stillwater, OK 74078-3016
Visit the A&S website to make an appointment to see a Career Consultant @
http://ascareers.okstate.edu

Build Skills Beyond the Classroom:

- Join related clubs, professional associations, & organizations
- Athletics/Sports
- Military
- Part-time Employment (Summer/Work Study)
- Internships/Job Shadowing
- Travel/Work Abroad
- Volunteer/Community Service

Job & Internship Web Sites

- **American Psychological Association**
www.apa.org
- **Social Service Jobs**
www.socialservice.com
- **Psychology Job Links**
http://www.geocities.com/heartland/flats/5353/classes/psychjobs/
- **Oklahoma Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse**
www.odmhsas.org
- **Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration**
www.samhsa.gov
- **Oklahoma State Board of Licensed Social Workers**
www.state.ok.us/~osblsw
- **National Association of Social Workers**
www.socialworkers.org
- **Association for Psychological Science**
www.psychologicalscience.org
- **Office of Juvenile Affairs**
http://www.oja.ok.gov/
- **Oklahoma Council on Law Enforcement Education & Training**
http://www.cleet.state.ok.us/
- **Peterson's (Graduate School)**
http://www.petersons.com/Default.asp?ShowTab=gr
- **American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy**
www.aamft.org
- **American Counseling Association**
www.counseling.org
- **American Mental Health Counselors Association**
www.amhca.org
- **Encyclopedia of Psychology**
http://www.psychology.org/links/Career/
- **Social Psychology Network**
http://www.socialpsychology.org/career.htm

Sample Careers for Psychology Majors

Social & Human Services (Bachelors or Masters)

Social & Human Services workers assess clients needs, establish their eligibility for benefits and services, and help clients obtain them. Social and Human Service workers also provide emotional support and help clients become involved in their own well-being, in community recreation programs, and in other activities.

Career Options

Social Worker (MSW)	Case Manager
Mental Health Counselor	Outreach Worker
Community Support Worker	Life Skill Counselor

Potential Employers

Mental Health Agencies	Hospitals
Non-Profit Organizations	Insurance Firms
Government Agencies	College/University

Psychologists (Ph.D. Required)

Psychologists study the human mind and behavior. Psychologists in research fields investigate the physical, cognitive, emotional, or social aspects of human behavior. Psychologists in applied fields provide mental health care in hospitals, clinics, schools, or private settings. Psychologists formulate hypotheses and collect data to test their validity.

Career Options (Psychologists)

Clinical	Developmental
Industrial-Organizational	Counseling
Experimental/Research	School
Social	

Potential Employers

Government Agencies	Law Firms
College/University	K-12 School
Non-Profit Organizations	Hospitals

Psychology Club

An undergraduate organization dedicated to helping students learn about the field of psychology. Activities include workshops about career opportunities at the bachelor's level, admission to graduate programs, and presentations from professionals in various psychology specialty areas. We also facilitate interaction between students and psychology faculty, and opportunities for community service. All OSU students are welcome to join regardless of major.

Psychology Club website:
http://psychology.okstate.edu/undergrad/Psych%20Club.htm

For further research on career & employment options, utilize your preferred internet search engine OR the following websites are a great place to begin your research:

www.monstertrak.com	**www.mymajor.com**
www.quintcareers.com	**www.monster.com**
www.careerbuilder.com	**www.bls.gov/oco**

Counselors (Masters)

Counselors assist people with personal, family, educational, mental health, career decisions, and problems. Their duties depend on the individuals they serve and on the settings in which they work.

Career Options

Rehabilitation Counselor	Career Counselor
Marriage/Family Therapist	Academic Advisor
Educational/Vocationall	School Counselor
Mental Health Counselor	
Behavioral Counselor	
Substance Abuse Counselor	

Potential Employers

Mental Health Organizations	Hospitals
Government Agencies	K-12 School
College/University	Law Enforcement
Community Programs	Church
Non-Profit Organizations	Insurance Firms

Additional Career Paths for Psychology Majors

Human Resources

Human Resources Management
Human Resources Specialist
Personnel Administrator
Recruiter
Benefits Analyst

Government & Community

Community Relations Officer
Recreation Worker
Urban planning officer
Health Educator
Volunteer Administrator
Public Statistician
Probation & Parole Officer
Daycare Center Worker
Welfare Eligibility Worker

Journalism

Advertising Copywriter
Media Buyer
Public Relations Specialist
Newspaper Reporter
Technical Writer

Research

Opinion Survey Researcher
Research Assistant
Marketing Researcher
Laboratory Assistant

College of Arts & Sciences Career Services offers a:

Arts & Sciences 4111 Job Search Strategies
(AS 4111) 1 Credit Course
Arts & Sciences Majors (for Juniors & Seniors only)
Visit Arts & Sciences Career Services website:
http://ascareers.okstate.edu for the course description