PSYCHOLOGY, B.S. (CAPITAL)

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: Harrisburg

Program Learning Objectives

• Content Knowledge: Content Knowledge: Demonstrates familiarity with the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in psychology. Understand and apply psychological principles to personal, social, and organizational issues.
  • Demonstrate knowledge of major psychological concepts, theories, and empirical findings.
  • Demonstrate the ability to apply psychological concepts and theories to research and real life situations.

• Research Skills: Understand basic research methods in psychology, including research design, data analysis, and interpretation.
  • Differentiate among the research methods used in psychology and apply the designs in evaluation or development of a research study.
  • Demonstrate the ability to analyze and interpret quantitative psychological data using statistics, graphs, and data tables.

• Thinking Skills: Respect and utilize critical and creative thinking skills.
  • Use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and the scientific approach to solve problems related to behavior and mental processes.
  • Demonstrate critical thinking in the analysis and evaluation of information to distinguish scientific from nonscientific claims related to psychology OR Demonstrate critical thinking in the analysis, evaluation, and interpretation of information in the scientific literature to distinguish the scientific literature from other sources.

• Communication Skills: Demonstrate the ability to communicate effectively in a research project, or capstone clinical or research experience.
  • Communicate effectively (in writing and/or orally) the results of a project or internship.
  • Demonstrate the ability to effectively extract central points and summarize psychological research literature and to write in the format of psychological research.

• Diversity and Ethical Considerations: Be able to tolerate ambiguity, act ethically, and reflect other values that are the underpinnings of psychology as a science.
  • Show evidence of knowledge and appreciation for cultural diversity and relativity in human experience and for the complexity of human behavior and interactions.
  • Demonstrate knowledge, and the application of, basic principles of scientific and professional ethics.
  • Demonstrate sensitivity to ethical concerns and professionalism (including cultural considerations) in settings where applications of psychology and/or psychological research occur.

• Career-related Skills: Knowledge of different career areas that are appropriate for psychology majors.
  • Demonstrate knowledge of professional options and required training for careers in the major subfields of psychology.

• Demonstrate the ability to identify personally-relevant career options to implement their psychological knowledge, skills, and values in occupational pursuits in a variety of settings.