

PSYCHOLOGY, B.A. (LIBERAL ARTS)

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: University Park, World Campus

Program Learning Objectives

Content Knowledge:

1. Students will demonstrate knowledge of major psychological concepts, theories, and empirical findings
2. Students will demonstrate the ability to apply psychological concepts and theories to research and real life situations.
3. Students will demonstrate knowledge about the history, values, and scientific foundations of the field of psychology.*

Thinking Skills:

1. Students will use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and the scientific approach to solve problems related to behavior and mental processes.
2. Students will demonstrate critical thinking in the analysis, evaluation, and interpretation of information in the scientific literature to distinguish the scientific literature from other sources.
3. Students will demonstrate the ability to formulate and defend one's own scholarly opinion based on reading, interpreting, and synthesizing psychological literature.*

Communication Skills:

1. Students will communicate effectively (in writing and/or orally) the results of a project or internship.
2. Students will demonstrate the ability to effectively extract central points and summarize psychological research literature and to write in the format of psychological research.
3. Students will demonstrate the ability to translate psychological knowledge into everyday language.*

Research Skills:

1. Students will differentiate among the research methods used in psychology and apply the designs in evaluation or development of a research study.
2. Students will demonstrate the ability to analyze and interpret quantitative psychological data using statistics, graphs, and data tables.

Diversity and Ethical Considerations:

1. Students will show evidence of knowledge and appreciation for cultural diversity and relativity in human. Students will experience and for the complexity of human behavior and interactions.
2. Students will demonstrate knowledge, and the application of, basic principles of scientific and professional ethics
3. Students will demonstrate sensitivity to ethical concerns and professionalism (including cultural considerations) in settings where applications of psychology and/or psychological research occur.

Career-related Skills:

1. Students will demonstrate knowledge of professional options and required training for careers in the major subfields of psychology.
2. Students will 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.

* Indicates a University Park specific learning objective