PSYCHOLOGY, B.S.
(UNIVERSITY COLLEGE)

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: Beaver, Brandywine, Fayette, Greater Allegheny; Hazleton, Lehigh Valley, Mont Alto, New Kensington, Schuylkill, Scranton, York

Program Learning Objectives

Beaver and Scranton Campuses

- **Foundational Knowledge:** Students will demonstrate knowledge of major psychological concepts, theories, and empirical findings.
- **Application:** Students will demonstrate the ability to apply psychological concepts and theories to research and real-life situations.
- **Critical and Creative Thinking:** Students will use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and the scientific approach to solve problems related to behavior and mental processes.
- **Scientific Literature:** 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.
- **Communication:** Students will communicate effectively (in writing and/or orally) the results of a project or internship.
- **Research Writing:** Students will demonstrate the ability to effectively extract central points and summarize psychological research literature and to write in the format of psychological research.
- **Research Methods:** Students will differentiate among the research methods used in psychology and apply the designs in evaluation or development of a research study.
- **Analysis:** Students will demonstrate the ability to analyze and interpret quantitative psychological data using statistics, graphs, and data tables.
- **Culture Diversity:** Students will show evidence of knowledge and appreciation for cultural diversity and relativity in human experience and for the complexity of human behavior and interactions.
- **Ethics:** Students will demonstrate knowledge, and the application of, basic principles of scientific and professional ethics.
- **Professionalism:** Students will demonstrate sensitivity to ethical concerns and professionalism (including cultural considerations) in settings where applications of psychology and/or psychological research occur.
- **Professional Options:** Students will demonstrate knowledge of professional options and required training for careers in the major subfields of psychology.
- **Career Options:** 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.

Brandywine Campus

- **Communication:**
  - Students will demonstrate effective writing for different purposes.
  - Students will exhibit effective presentation skills for different purposes.
  - Students will interact effectively with others.
- **Ethical & Social Responsibility in a Diverse World:**
  - Students will apply ethical standards to evaluate psychological science and practice.
  - Students will build and enhance interpersonal relationships.
  - Students will adopt values that build community at local, national, and global levels.
- **Knowledge Base:**
  - Students will describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology.
  - Students will develop a working knowledge of psychology's content domains.
  - Students will describe applications of psychology.
- **Professional Development:**
  - Students will apply psychological content and skills to career goals.
  - Students will exhibit self-efficacy and self-regulation.
  - Students will refine project-management skills.
  - Students will enhance teamwork capacity.
  - Students will develop meaningful professional direction for life after graduation.
- **Research Skills:**
  - Students will differentiate among the research methods used in psychology and apply the designs in evaluation or development of a research study.
  - Students will demonstrate the ability to analyze and interpret quantitative psychological data using statistics, graphs, and data tables.
- **Scientific Inquiry & Critical Thinking:**
  - Students will use scientific reasoning to interpret psychological phenomena.
  - Students will demonstrate psychology information literacy.
  - Students will engage in innovative and integrative thinking and problem solving.
  - Students will interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research.
  - Students will incorporate sociocultural factors in scientific inquiry.

Fayette Campus

- **Human Behavior:** Students will connect specific human behaviors to the many broad areas of psychology.
- **Professional:** Students will relate applications of psychology to specific professions associate with psychology.
- **Research:** Students will describe and apply the steps of the scientific method.
- **Theory:** Students will summarize the scientific principles of psychology, including its history and major theoretical principles.

Greater Allegheny and Hazleton Campuses

- **Career-Related Skills:**
  - Students will demonstrate knowledge of professional options and required training for careers in the major subfields of psychology
  - 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.
- **Communication Skills:**
• Students will communicate effectively (in writing and/or orally) the results of a project or internship.
• Students will demonstrate the ability to effectively extract central points and summarize psychological research literature and to write in the format of psychological research.

Content Knowledge:
• Students will demonstrate knowledge of major psychological concepts, theories, and empirical findings.
• Students will demonstrate the ability to apply psychological concepts and theories to research and real life situations.

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

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

Thinking Skills:
• Students will use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and the scientific approach to solve problems related to behavior and mental processes.
• 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.

Communication: Communicate effectively in writing using APA style correctly.

Critical Thinking: All students will demonstrate critical thinking in the analysis, evaluation, and interpretation of information in the scientific literature and to distinguish the scientific literature from other sources.

Cultural Diversity: All students will show evidence of knowledge and appreciation for cultural diversity and relativity in human experience and for the complexity of human behavior and interactions.

Data Analysis: All students will demonstrate an ability to analyze and interpret quantitative psychological data using statistics, graphs, and data tables in Psych 301W.

Knowledge: All students will demonstrate knowledge of major psychological concepts, theories, and empirical findings.

Lehigh Valley Campus

Lehigh Valley Campus

Communication: Communicate effectively in writing using APA style correctly.

Critical Thinking: All students will demonstrate critical thinking in the analysis, evaluation, and interpretation of information in the scientific literature and to distinguish the scientific literature from other sources.

Cultural Diversity: All students will show evidence of knowledge and appreciation for cultural diversity and relativity in human experience and for the complexity of human behavior and interactions.

Data Analysis: All students will demonstrate an ability to analyze and interpret quantitative psychological data using statistics, graphs, and data tables in Psych 301W.

Knowledge: All students will demonstrate knowledge of major psychological concepts, theories, and empirical findings.

Mont Alto Campus

Empathy Skills: Psychology majors will demonstrate a sense of empathy, the ability to understand someone else’s experience.

Interpersonal Relationships: Psychology majors will build and enhance interpersonal relationships and adopt values that build community at local, national, and global levels by understanding that other sides of an argument.

Preparation for Working with Diverse Experiences: Students will be prepared to work with individuals and families with different experiences from their own.

Preparation for Working with Underrepresented Groups: Students will demonstrate a sense of preparation for working with underrepresented groups.

New Kensington Campus

Career-Related Skills: Preparing students for careers upon graduation.

Critical Thinking: Use critical thinking to solve problems & distinguish scientific from non-scientific.

Data Analysis and Problem Solving: Demonstrate the ability to analyze and interpret quantitative and qualitative data.

Effective Communication: Demonstrate competence in comprehending, reading, writing, and orally communicating research.

Ethical Awareness: Demonstrate knowledge and the application of professional ethics.

Experience Other Cultures: Students immerse themselves into another culture by attending an event (e.g., religious service) outside their own ethnic/religious/sexual orientation/SES group.

Knowledge/Application: Demonstrate knowledge and application of major concepts and theories.

Research Competence: Differentiate among the research methods.

Schuylkill Campus

Ability to prepare presentations in APA style:
• Ability to prepare papers that review past research on behavioral topics
• Ability to prepare research reports in APA style
• Ability to prepare conference presentations

Understanding ethics and application in psychology:
• Understanding of ethical guidelines for research and applied psychologists
• Ability to apply psychological theories in community organizations

Understanding of basic behavioral research methods:
• Understanding basic research methods for psychology and their limitations
• Ability to design basic research projects to study predictors of behavior
• Understanding basic statistics to analyze behavioral data
• Ability to search Library databases for research on behavioral topics

Understanding of the variety of behavior problems and treatment options:
• Understanding of DSM diagnostic terminology for behavior problems
• Understanding of variety of treatment approaches for behavior problems

Understanding of the variety of theories to explain human behavior:
• Understanding of variety of psychological theories to explain behavior
• Understanding of the impact of diversity on human behavior

York Campus

Critical Thinking: Use critical thinking to solve problems & distinguish scientific from non-scientific.
• **Data Analysis and Problem Solving**: Demonstrate the ability to analyze and interpret quantitative and qualitative data.

• **Effective Communication**: Demonstrate competence in comprehending, reading, writing, and orally communicating research.

• **Ethical Awareness**: Demonstrate knowledge and the application of professional ethics.

• **Knowledge/Application**: Demonstrate knowledge and application of major concepts and theories.

• **Research Competence**: Differentiate among the research methods.