



B a c h e l o r o f L i b e r a l A r t s

Profile

The University of Saint Francis was founded in 1890 and has a rich heritage of offering quality education. Rooted in the Catholic and Franciscan traditions of Faith and Reason, the University of Saint Francis engages a diverse community in learning, leadership and service.

The campus has 74 acres of rolling lawns and trees with 19 buildings and four residence halls that surround beautiful Mirror Lake.

Personal attention to students is what makes a USF education so meaningful and enriching to its approximately 2,000 students.

The Department of Psychology and Counseling

The Department of Psychology and Counseling is part of the School of Professional Studies. The school and the department exist to facilitate learning, personal growth and professional development within the Franciscan intellectual tradition.

In the liberal arts tradition, undergraduate psychology courses are offered to promote the science of psychology to both psychology and non-psychology majors. Upon graduation, undergraduate psychology majors are prepared to enter a number of career paths or to pursue graduate level training in psychology or counseling. In addition, an undergraduate psychology major is a valuable asset in pursuing graduate degrees in a number of other disciplines outside of psychology, including the health sciences and business.

Faculty members of the department have a wide variety of interests and specialties. For example, one faculty member is Board Certified in Emergency Crisis Response and has assisted with many disasters including Hurricane Katrina, 9/11, and various wildfires and floods. Another faculty member has a background in clinical psychology, working extensively with children and adolescents. One faculty member has worked extensively with the Bahamian Field Studies program, focusing on culture and communications. Yet another faculty member has a neuropsychological background and experience with psychological testing in the school setting. School counseling and rehabilitation counseling are focus areas for another faculty member.

This array of interests and specialties assists in providing a solid foundation for students to investigate and pursue a wide variety of areas within the discipline of psychology.

Psychology as a Major

Psychology is the scientific study of human and animal behavior. Psychologists are employed in both research and applied areas. Psychology is one of the fastest growing areas for employment in the United States. As scientists, psychologists study two critical relationships: one between brain function and behavior, and one between the environment and behavior. As health service professionals, psychologists treat people with emotional, physical and mental problems. In addition, psychologists are active in applied areas such as business, medicine and athletics.

The major in psychology at the University of Saint Francis is designed to prepare the student for further graduate study in psychology or related fields. Both the major and minor in psychology are designed to help the student develop critical thinking, an appreciation for individual differences and an understanding of human behavior, which would be useful in a number of different professions.

To become a psychologist, one needs to complete a doctoral degree in psychology. Doctoral work can be sought immediately after the completion of the undergraduate psychology major, or the doctoral degree can be pursued following completion of a Master's Degree in Psychology or Master's Degree in Counseling.

Besides the Bachelor's Degree in Psychology, the Department of Psychology and Counseling offers four Master's degrees: the Master of Science in Education in School Counseling, Master of Science in Mental Health Counseling, Master of Science in Pastoral Counseling, and Master of Science in Psychology.

Degree Requirements for the BA in Psychology:

Graduation with a major in psychology requires successful completion of program requirements with a minimum of 128 credit hours and completion of the department's comprehensive examination in psychology.

Psychology Courses

General Psychology
Psychology of Learning
Human Growth and Development

Child and Adolescent Psychology
Interpersonal Relationship Skills
Maturing and Aging in
Modern Society
Statistics
Gender Psychology
Abnormal Psychology
Psychology of Personality
Introduction to Substance
Abuse Disorders
Experimental Psychology
Industrial and
Organizational Psychology
History and Systems of Psychology
Social Psychology
Behavior Modification
Introduction to Clinical Psychology
Physiological Psychology
Special Studies in Psychology

Frequently Asked Questions

What type of student is attracted to a major in psychology?

Most students majoring in psychology have an intellectual and emotional interest in humans and humanity. They are interested in answering questions about the “whys” of behavior.

Will I be a psychologist when I complete my undergraduate degree in psychology?

You must have an advanced degree to be a psychologist. An undergraduate major in psychology prepares you for admission to an advanced degree and is a good background for preparation and entry into many other fields.

Will I be able to find a job with an undergraduate degree in psychology?

The field of psychology has experienced a 50 percent growth rate in the last several decades and is expected to continue. Nationally, less than five percent of psychology graduates report being unemployed. The vast majority of graduates are employed within three months of graduation.

Psychology provides excellent training in communication and problem solving skills, which is considered an asset by many prospective employers. Nationally,

50 percent of psychology undergraduates have jobs that are closely related to their degrees.

Student Financial Aid

Financial aid is available in the form of scholarships, grants, loans, and work-study.

More than 95 percent of undergraduate students receive some form of financial assistance; most receive more than one type of aid. Early estimated packages are available online at www.sf.edu to any student who has been admitted to the university.

All students are encouraged to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Priority deadline is no later than March 10.

For More Information

Call the Office of Admissions at 260-434-3279, 800-729-4732, visit our website at www.sf.edu, or arrange for a campus visit.