Psychology Department

About the Department

The Psychology Department offers a program leading to a Bachelor of Arts in psychology, providing the knowledge and skills necessary to pursue study in psychology beyond the B.A. or to obtain employment in government, education or various human services fields.

Psychology is the scientific study of the principles governing behavior and mental processes in humans and other animals and the application of these principles for the well being of both. The department provides a high-quality education for students in the methods, theories, research and applications of psychology. Our faculty engages in teaching, research and service; all of which enhance the University, the community and the discipline of psychology.

Hands-On Experience

Students are offered opportunities to learn skills and abilities outside the classroom in our various faculty-mentored courses. For example, in the Psychology Practicum students gain valuable training experience in a range of clinical settings. In Individual Study or Research in Psychology courses, students meet regularly with faculty regarding independent projects or they assist faculty in designing and performing scientific research. This may include library research, developing hypotheses, testing participants, conducting interviews, coding data or presenting findings. These concrete experiences under the guidance of our diverse faculty help students develop valuable and practical skills especially critical thinking.

An Expansive Approach

The program has a broad and enhanced curriculum covering four main areas. The brain sciences area includes courses on the biological bases of behavior, cognitive processes, sensation and perception, and fundamentals of human neuropsychology. The developmental area includes infancy and childhood, adolescence, death and dying, developmental disabilities, and nature/nurture. The social area offers courses on the psychology of sexuality, the psychology of men or women, attitude and attitude change, and psychology and the law. Finally, the clinical area offers courses on abnormality, childhood disorders, tests and measurement, and the psychology of personality.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Students who have graduated from the Psychology Department have gone on to careers in:

- customer relations
- case worker
- employment counselor
- personnel analyst
- advertising sales
- staff training and development
- program manager
- social services director
- residential youth counselor

“What we call ‘normal’ in psychology is really a psychopathology of the average, so undramatic and so widely spread that we don’t even notice it ordinarily.”

— Abraham Maslow, Toward a Psychology of Being

www.salisbury.edu/psychology