



P.O. Box 261954
Conway, S.C. 29528-6054
1.800.277.7000
www.coastal.edu

Psychology

What does a psychology major study?

Psychologists study human and animal behavior and apply knowledge in a variety of ways. They are concerned with how organisms perceive and adapt to the world around them; how organisms learn, store and process information; and how organisms develop, mature and age. Psychology majors are also interested in the physiology of organisms, social relationships, problem solving, creativity, intelligence, deviant behavior, motivation and measurement. Individuals who pursue psychology must be good observers and able to record and interpret what they observe. Like all scientists, they must have curiosity, patience, diligence and commitment to precision and accuracy. Psychology is an exciting combination of research, theory and application that students find rewarding and challenging.

Why study psychology at Coastal Carolina University?

- Students have the opportunity to conduct individual research during their senior year. Recent projects include studies on the effect of gender on criminal sentencing, drinking habits of college students, paranormal beliefs, road rage, and the effect of marijuana on memory.
- Psychology majors have presented their research at local, regional, and national professional conferences and submitted their research for publication in undergraduate and professional research journals.
- Students also have the opportunity to earn elective credit or internship credit for volunteer work in various community organizations including mental health centers, rape crisis and spouse abuse agencies, and agencies which serve special needs children.
- The Gerontology Certificate program, administered through the Department of Psychology and Sociology, offers students a foundation of knowledge and skills in the study of aging.

What are some career options for psychology majors?

- Behavioral consultant
- Counselor
- Teacher or researcher
- Forensic psychologist
- Social psychologist
- Social Work
- Care providers in hospital and/or community mental health agencies

What kind of courses do psychology majors take?

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| PSYC 226 | Research Methods in Psychology | PSYC 410 | Abnormal Psychology |
| PSYC 340 | Sports Psychology | PSYC 460 | Physiological Psychology |
| PSYC 302 | Developmental Psychology | PSYC 483 | Principles of Psychological Testing |
| PSYC 400 | Human Learning | | |

Whom can I contact for more information?

- William Hills, Ph.D., chair of the department, 843-349-2276 or hillsw@coastal.edu
- You can also find more information at www.coastal.edu/psychology.