

Psychology

- √ Major
- √ Minor
- √ Concentrations: Behavioral Neuroscience
Forensics
- √ Gerontology Certificate

Description of the major:

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.

The student experience:

- Students have the opportunity to conduct individual research during their junior and senior years. Recent projects include studies on the effect of gender on criminal sentencing, texting behavior and driving, social media and personality, and learning styles.
- 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 that serve special needs children.

- The Gerontology Certificate program, administered through the Department of Psychology, offers students a foundation of knowledge and skills in the study of aging.

Beyond the classroom:

Students majoring in psychology are involved in many professions including: behavioral consulting; counseling; teaching; research; forensic psychology; government agencies; business and marketing; and care providers in hospitals and community mental health agencies.

Areas of study:

The University catalog has the complete list of courses for the major. You can find the catalog online at catalog.coastal.edu.

Courses include:

PSYC 226	Research Methods in Psychology
PSYC 302	Developmental Psychology
PSYC 407	Principles of Learning
PSYC 410	Abnormal Psychology
PSYC 430	Social Psychology
PSYC 460	Physiological Psychology
PSYC 465	Psychology and the Law

For more information:

- Terry Pettijohn II, Ph.D., department chair, 843-349-6447 or pettijohn@coastal.edu
- Jackie Moore, administrative specialist, 843-349-2275 or jmoore5@coastal.edu
- www.coastal.edu/psych



P.O. Box 261954 • Conway, SC 29528-6054 •
800.277.7000 • coastal.edu