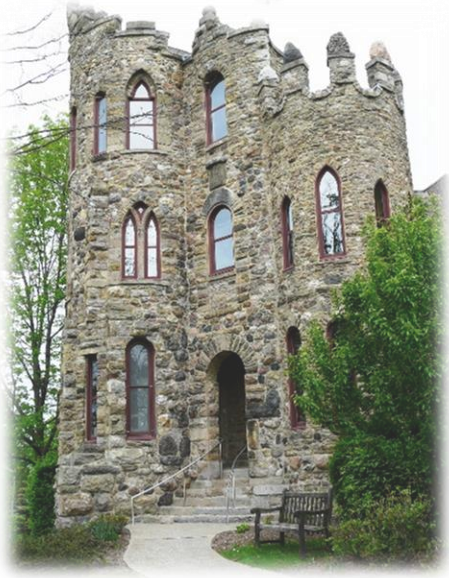


# Undergraduate Psychology at Alfred University





# Our place



Founded in 1836, Alfred University is a co-ed, private, non-religious affiliated higher education institution with public state-sponsored programs in Engineering and Art and Design.

Psychology is the largest major in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, comprising 28% of the annual graduating class.

We are located on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the Science Center. Our faculty have dedicated lab space to conduct research and often collaborate with students on projects. We also have an observation room, allowing two-way or one-way observation for research, counseling, and focus groups.

**Academic calendar:** Based on semesters (Fall, Spring), with opportunities to take classes during the Summer term and Allen terms (5 weeks between Fall and Spring terms).

**Enrollment:** We graduate 30-40 psychology majors and 10-15 psychology minors each year.

**Class Sizes:** The average class size is 18. Our largest class, *Introduction to Psychology*, is capped at 70 students. Some of our senior-level courses have enrollments as low as 4, allowing for focused discussions and dedicated faculty attention.

**Faculty:** Our department employs seven full-time faculty, all with doctorates in their field, who teach 95% of the courses. Students often take multiple classes with one professor, which allows faculty to get to know students and their abilities – an important element for building rapport, post-graduate, networking, and letters of recommendation.

**Course Offerings:** We have options. Students can pursue a general course of study or choose one or more concentrations, which are specifically designed to provide students with background necessary for particular career paths in Clinical and Counseling, Experimental, Child Development, and Industrial/Organizational psychology. We also offer a minor in Psychology and Biopsychology.

Our regular, predictable course offerings allow students to plan ahead, allowing the pursuit of double majors, minors, and participation in sports teams and internships.

# Our Mission

The mission of the Psychology program at Alfred University is to expose students to the major research findings and theories in the field of Psychology. Within the context of a liberal arts education, the Psychology program emphasizes the importance of the scientific approach to the study of individual differences in human behavior, thought, motivation, and emotion.

**Undergraduate education in psychology is “intended to provide students with the workplace skills needed in this information age, a solid academic background that prepares them for advanced study in a wide range of fields, and the knowledge, skills, and abilities that will enhance their personal lives.”**  
-- American Psychological Association

Students in the Psychology program have the opportunity to gain applied experience through supervised counseling skills training, directed research, independent study, and internships.

At the completion of the program, students should be prepared for graduate education and/or entry into occupations which utilize knowledge of human behavior, such as counseling, education, law, medicine, and business.

## Our Program: Fast Facts

- ψ **Small class sizes:** The average class size is 18, with our largest class capped at 70 students
- ψ **You get to know your professors:** 95% of our classes are taught by our full-time faculty. You'll probably have a professor more than once, which allows you to build rapport. They'll get to know you and help you grow academically.
- ψ **Predictable course offerings:** Courses are offered on a predictable cycle, allowing students to plan in advance or coordinate with other majors and minors.
- ψ **Dedicated advising:** You'll meet with your advisor every semester to discuss courses and future academic plans.

# What makes us different?

## Focus on Skill Building: Counseling

### Coursework

For students who wish to pursue careers in counseling after graduation, we offer an opportunity for undergraduate seniors to enroll in *Clinical Procedures* during the fall semester of their last year.

We have an observation room with six adjoining rooms that can be used for one-way observation, which allow students to provide peer counseling to first-year students under direct supervision.

Through regular feedback from peers and instructors, students are given the chance to practice and develop their counseling techniques and reflect on their own performance.

### Experience

During the spring semester of their senior year, students in the Clinical Track of the Psychology major are required to do a *Clinical Practicum*. In this fieldwork experience, students spend approximately 100 hours practicing their skills at a site within the community.

As we are an integral member of the local community, faculty have excellent rapport with nearby agencies and organizations, ensuring that nearly every student is placed in a practicum. This allows students to gain practical experience under the supervision of a mentor, and provides invaluable skills above and beyond those gained in the classroom.



*The psych department did a great job preparing me for graduate school and beyond. I think my first semester of graduate school was so easy because I was so well prepared from the undergraduate classes*

*~ Nichole Johnson, Class of 2019*

# What makes us different?

## Focus on Skill Building: Research

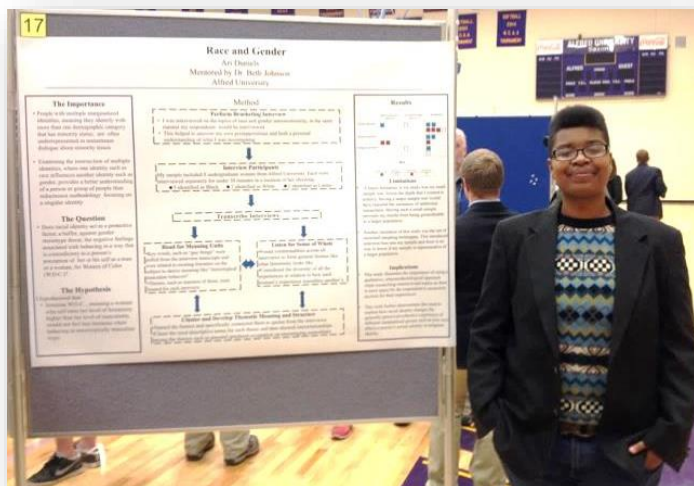
There is a growing need for citizens with information literacy and critical thinking skills. Students in our program are exposed to the basic research methods in psychology during our Psychological Methods and Statistics courses.

Junior and senior undergraduates can take *Research and Design II* and *Research Practicum*; this sequence provides to the opportunity to work closely with a faculty mentor to pursue their own research questions, assemble a research plan, collect and analyze data, and then present that data locally at AU's spring Undergraduate Research Forum or at regional and national conferences.

Research projects cover myriad topics, and often represent the depth and breadth of our field.

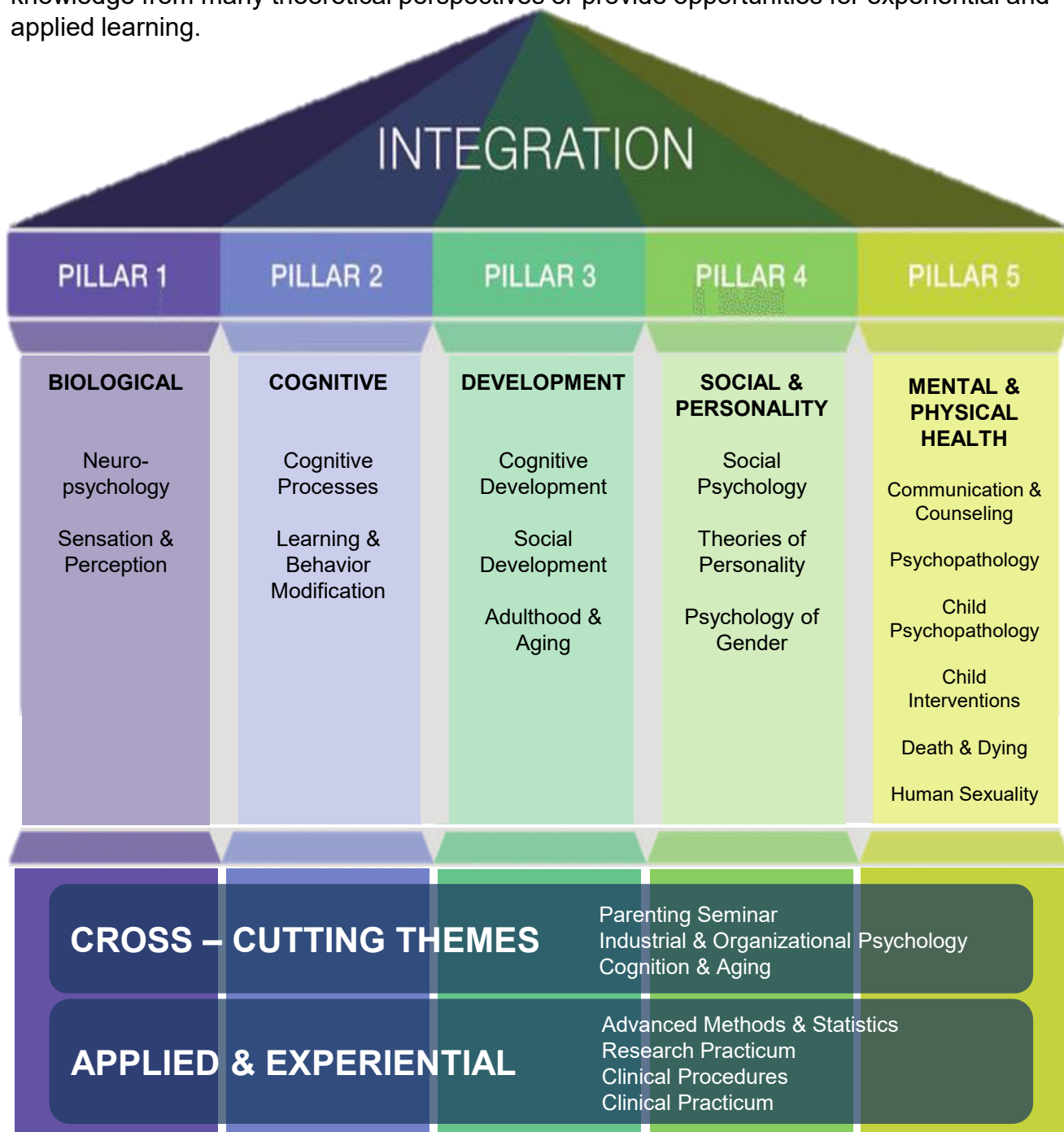
### Some recent project titles include:

- ψ Elder Abuse in Long-Term Care Settings
- ψ Narcissism and Sensitivity to Criticism
- ψ Online Gaming Addiction: Personality and the World of Warcraft
- ψ Perception of Ambiguous Figures
- ψ Sexual Attraction in Lesbians
- ψ Social Media and Emotional Intelligence
- ψ The Effects of Topic Related Comics on Test Anxiety and Test Scores
- ψ Undergraduates' Perceptions of the Rights and Entitlements of Accused Criminals
- ψ Working Memory Capacity and its Effects on Recall in Incidental and Intentional Learning Situations.



# Major: General & Specific

Students who major in Psychology take courses that represent the breadth and depth of our field. All students take the foundational core, followed by selections from each of the broad psychological categories. Students may also elect to take courses that integrate or apply knowledge from many theoretical perspectives or provide opportunities for experiential and applied learning.



## CORE FOUNDATION

PSYC 101: Introduction to Psychology  
 PSYC 221: Psychological Research & Methods I  
 PSYC 222: Psychological Research & Methods II  
 PSYC 310: Professional Preparation  
 PSYC 497: Senior Seminar

# Major: General & Specific

## One major. 6 Concentrations



### 1 General

The General psychology major provides students with a broad range of courses. It is the most flexible and pairs well with many other majors



### 2 Clinical & Counseling

A focused plan of study, with courses like Clinical Procedures and Clinical Practicum, to prepare students to enter graduate study in the clinical and counseling fields.



### 3 Scientific/ Experimental

Students propose, design, and conduct their own research under faculty supervision. With courses like Advanced Methods and Statistics and Research Practicum.



### 4 Child Development

Provides opportunities to focus on various aspects of child development, including parenting, social and cognitive development, and developmental disorders



### 5 I/O Business

Provides the psychological background for those who want to work in human resources, leadership, marketing, or other business-related fields. Part of our 4+1 MBA program.



### 6 Equine- Assisted Psychotherapy

Prepares learners to incorporate horses into experiential activities that promote human growth and learning. Students will be eligible for certification as an Equine Specialist Professional through EAGALA.

The Division also offers Special Topics courses. Typically, these are not part of the regular curriculum, but related to a particular faculty member's interests or areas of expertise, including:

- Depictions of Aging in Movies
- Aging and Public Policy
- Drug & Alcohol Addiction
- Adverse & Protective Childhood Experiences
- Introduction to Sports Psychology
- The Meaning of Life
- Mysteries of the Brain
- Psychology of the African-American Experience

# Major: General & Specific

Students who major in Psychology can select one of six concentrations. These concentrations all require the same foundational core, but each has a program of study to provide students with skills specific to particular interests or career paths.

1: General	2: Clinical/Counseling	3: Scientific/Experimental
<p>The most flexible option; allows the greatest choice of electives and complements many other majors and minors ( ≥44 cr.).</p>	<p>Courses provide theoretical background and hands-on experiences to prepare students for careers in fields that rely heavily on clinical and counseling skills ( ≥ 48 cr.).</p>	<p>Courses prepare students for careers in fields that rely heavily on data analysis or graduate study. Students propose, design, and conduct their own research under faculty supervision ( ≥ 48 cr.).</p>
<p><b>Foundational Core (16 cr.)</b>            101 Intro to Psychology            221 Methods &amp; Stats I            222 Methods &amp; Stats II            310 Professional Preparation            497 Senior Seminar</p>	<p><b>Foundational Core (16 cr.)</b>            101 Intro to Psychology            221 Methods &amp; Stats I            222 Methods &amp; Stats II            310 Professional Preparation            497 Senior Seminar</p>	<p><b>Foundational Core (16 cr.)</b>            101 Intro to Psychology            221 Methods &amp; Stats I            222 Methods &amp; Stats II            310 Professional Preparation            497 Senior Seminar</p>
<p><b>A. Biological (4 cr.)</b>            270 Fundamentals of Neuropsychology            280 Applied Neuropsychology</p>	<p><b>A. Biological (4 cr.)</b>            270 Fundamentals of Neuropsychology            280 Applied Neuropsychology</p>	<p><b>A. Biological (6 cr.)</b>            270 Fundamentals of Neuropsychology            280 Applied Neuropsychology</p>
<p><b>B. Learning &amp; Cognitive (4 cr.)</b>            251 Learning &amp; B-Modification            311 Sensation &amp; Perception            332 Cognitive Processes</p>	<p><b>B. Learning &amp; Cognitive (4 cr.)</b>            251 Learning &amp; B-Modification            311 Sensation &amp; Perception            332 Cognitive Processes</p>	<p><b>B. Learning &amp; Cognitive (8 cr.)</b>            251 Learning &amp; B-Modification            311 Sensation &amp; Perception            332 Cognitive Processes</p>
<p><b>C. Developmental (4 cr.)</b>            118 Adult Development &amp; Aging            261 Cognitive Development            262 Social Development            340 Adverse &amp; Protective Childhood Experiences</p>	<p><b>C. Developmental (4 cr.)</b>            118 Adult Development &amp; Aging            261 Cognitive Development            262 Social Development            340 Adverse &amp; Protective Childhood Experiences</p>	<p><b>C. Developmental (4 cr.)</b>            118 Adult Development &amp; Aging            261 Cognitive Development            262 Social Development            340 Adverse &amp; Protective Childhood Experiences</p>
<p><b>D. Social &amp; Personality (4 cr.)</b>            273 Psyc of African-American Experience            282 Social Psychology            341 Theories of Personality            372 Psychology of Gender</p>	<p><b>D. Social &amp; Personality (4 cr.)</b>            273 Psyc of African-American Experience            341 Theories of Personality            372 Psychology of Gender</p>	<p><b>D. Social &amp; Personality (4 cr.)</b>            273 Psyc of African-American Experience            282 Social Psychology            341 Theories of Personality            372 Psychology of Gender</p>
<p><b>E. Mental &amp; Physical Health (pick 1)</b>            210 Communication &amp; Counseling            322 Health Psychology            342 Psychopathology            351 Human Sexuality            371 Death &amp; Dying            471 Child Psychopathology            472 Child Interventions</p>	<p><b>E. Mental &amp; Physical Health (*)</b>            322 Health Psychology            351 Human Sexuality            371 Death &amp; Dying</p>	<p><b>E. Mental &amp; Physical Health (pick 1)</b>            210 Communication &amp; Counseling            322 Health Psychology            342 Psychopathology            351 Human Sexuality            371 Death &amp; Dying            471 Child Psychopathology            472 Child Interventions</p>
<p><b>Electives (to make 44)</b></p>	<p><b>Concentration Specific (14 cr.)</b>            210 Communication &amp; Counseling            342 Psychopathology            491 Clinical Procedures            492 Clinical Practicum</p>	<p><b>Concentration Specific (8 cr.)</b>            411 Research &amp; Design II            412 Research Practicum</p>

\* Category is fulfilled by concentration specific courses

# Major: General & Specific

## 4: Child Development

Students gain theoretical background and practical experiences to work with children in educational, school counseling, research, and childcare settings (≥51 cr.).

### Foundational Core (16 cr.)

101 Intro to Psychology  
221 Methods & Stats I  
222 Methods & Stats II  
310 Professional Preparation  
497 Senior Seminar

### A. Biological (4 cr.)

270 Fundamentals of Neuropsychology  
280 Applied Neuropsychology

### B. Learning & Cognitive (4 cr.)

251 Learning & B-Modification  
311 Sensation & Perception  
332 Cognitive Processes

### C. Developmental (8 cr.)

261 Social Development  
262 Cognitive Development

### D. Social & Personality (4 cr.)

273 Psyc of African-American Experience  
282 Social Psychology  
341 Theories of Personality  
372 Psychology of Gender

### E. Mental & Physical Health (pick 1)

210 Communication & Counseling  
322 Health Psychology  
342 Psychopathology  
351 Human Sexuality  
371 Psychology Death & Dying

### Concentration Specific (11 cr.)

320 Parenting Seminar  
340 Adverse & Protective Childhood Experiences

### Pick 1 from each group:

471 Child Psychopathology  
472 Child Interventions

485 Practicum  
492 Clinical Practicum

## 5: Industrial/Organizational

This concentration prepares students to combine psychology and business in fields such as marketing, management, and human resources (≥50 cr.).

### Foundational Core (16 cr.)

101 Intro to Psychology  
221 Methods & Stats I  
222 Methods & Stats II  
310 Professional Preparation  
497 Senior Seminar

### A. Biological (4 cr.)

270 Fundamentals of Neuropsychology  
280 Applied Neuropsychology

### B. Learning & Cognitive (4 cr.)

251 Learning & B-Modification  
311 Sensation & Perception  
332 Cognitive Processes

### C. Developmental (4 cr.)

118 Adult Development & Aging

### D. Social & Personality (4 cr.)

282 Social Psychology

### E. Mental & Physical Health (pick 1)

210 Communication & Counseling  
322 Health Psychology  
342 Psychopathology  
351 Human Sexuality  
371 Psychology Death & Dying

### Concentration Specific (17 cr.)

302 Psychological Measurement  
362 Industrial-Organizational Psychology

### 9 credits from the following:

MGMT 305 Career & Org  
MGMT 318 Gender Equity  
MGMT 328 Management & Org\*  
MGMT 472 Human Resource  
MGMT 484 Operations Management \*  
MKTG 221 Market Principles\*  
MKTG 452 Market Research

\* Take courses marked with (\*) and ACCT 211, ACCT 212, ECON 201, ECON 202, FIN 348, for a minor in Business Administration and be eligible for the 4+1 Psychology + MBA program.

## 6: Equine-Assisted Psychotherapy

This concentration prepares students to incorporate horses into experiential therapies and be eligible for certification as an Equine Specialist Professional (≥ 63 cr.)

### Foundational Core (16 cr.)

101 Intro to Psychology  
221 Methods & Stats I  
222 Methods & Stats II  
310 Professional Preparation  
497 Senior Seminar

### A. Biological (4 cr.)

270 Fundamentals of Neuropsychology  
280 Applied Neuropsychology

### B. Learning & Cognitive (4 cr.)

251 Learning & B-Modification

### C. Developmental (4 cr.)

261 Social Development  
262 Cognitive Development  
340 Adverse & Protective Childhood Experiences

### D. Social & Personality (4 cr.)

273 Psyc of African-American Experience  
341 Theories of Personality  
372 Psychology of Gender

### E. Mental & Physical Health (6 cr.)

210 Communication & Counseling  
342 Psychopathology

### Concentration Specific (23 cr.)

#### Pick 1:

471 Child Psychopathology  
472 Child Interventions

#### All of the following:

381 Animal Assisted Therapies  
382 Equine Assisted Psychotherapy  
491 Clinical Procedures

EQUUS 202 Nature of Horses  
EQUUS 203 Horsemanship & Groundwork  
EQUUS 205 Intro to Equine Science

# Minors & Programs

## Psychology Minor (24 cr.)

A minor in psychology provides students the opportunity to explore various psychological concepts and implications for human behavior. It is a great companion to many other majors.

### Foundational Core (8 cr.)

101 Intro to Psychology  
221 Methods & Stats I

### AB. Biological, Learning, & Cognitive (4 cr.)

251 Learning & B-Modification  
270 Fundamentals of Neuropsychology  
280 Applied Neuropsychology  
311 Sensation & Perception  
332 Cognitive Processes  
429 Cognition & Aging

### C. Developmental (4 cr.)

118 Adult Development & Aging  
261 Social Development  
262 Cognitive Development  
340 Adverse & Protective Childhood Experiences

### D. Social & Personality (pick 1)

273 Psyc of African-American Experience  
282 Social Psychology  
341 Theories of Personality  
372 Psychology of Gender

### E. Mental & Physical Health (pick 1)

210 Communication & Counseling  
322 Health Psychology  
342 Psychopathology  
351 Human Sexuality  
371 Psychology Death & Dying  
471 Child Psychopathology  
472 Child Interventions

**Electives (to make 24)**

## Biopsychology Minor (28 cr.)

Courses in this minor provide an interdisciplinary area of study, combining coursework in biology, neurology, and psychology, with a focus on the relationship between the physiological and psychological systems. Students have an advisor from both psychology and biology.

### A. Biology Core (12 cr.)

BIOL 211 Cellular Biology  
BIOL 307 Anatomy & Physiology:  
Nerves & Skeleton

#### Pick 1

BIOL 130 Intro to Human Genetics  
BIOL 212 Principles of Genetics

### B. Psychology Core (12 cr.)

PSYC 270 Fundamentals of Neuropsychology  
PSYC 311 Sensation & Perception  
PSYC 322 Health Psychology

### C. Advanced Application (4 cr.)

BISY 485 Practicum or Internship  
BISY 499 Thesis



Students dissect cow eyes in  
Sensation and Perception

# Minors & Programs

## Art Therapy Preparation

Art Therapy is an expressive therapy that uses creative art-making processes to improve someone's mental and emotional health. *A Master's Degree is required for entry-level practice in Art Therapy.*

The American Art Therapy Association (<http://www.arttherapy.org>) recommends that students planning to pursue graduate study in Art Therapy do the following to prepare:

- Double major in Art and Psychology or combine an Art major/minor with a Psychology major/minor
- Complete a minimum of 18 credits hours of Studio Art work
- Prepare a portfolio of original art work demonstrating competence with art materials
- Complete a *minimum* of 12 credit hours in Psychology
  - Introduction to Psychology
  - Developmental Psychology
  - Psychopathology
- In consultation with practicing art therapists, we *recommend* the following psychology courses:
  - ◆ Introduction to Art Therapy
  - ◆ Child Interventions
  - ◆ Child Psychopathology
  - ◆ Psychological Measurement
  - ◆ Psychological Measurement
  - ◆ Learning & Behavior Modification
  - ◆ Psychological Measurement
  - ◆ Theories of Personality
  - ◆ Clinical Procedures
  - ◆ Practicum



Rosemarie Oakman shows off her "iron brain" at an Alzheimer's Glass and Iron event

## Gerontology

Gerontologists specialize in working with older adults. By 2050, 21% of the U.S. population will be 65 or over, resulting in an increased demand for professionals in a wide variety of fields who understand issues related to the aging process. Services for the aging is already one of the fastest growing job markets.

Students who major or minor in gerontology often find careers in nursing, long-term care facilities, physical and occupational therapy, healthcare, and community programs.

# Students

The Psychology Department has two student-based organizations: a chapter of Psi Chi, the International Honor Society in Psychology, and a Psychology Club that is open to all interested students. The two organizations often co-sponsor events.

## *Psi Chi, International Honor Society in Psychology*

Alfred University has held a chapter of the international honor society in psychology since 1964.

The purpose of Psi Chi is to encourage, stimulate, and maintain excellence in scholarship, and to advance the science of psychology.

Student members are eligible for scholarships and grants through Psi Chi, and have access to three professional publications.

Membership is open to undergraduate and graduate psychology students who meet the minimum qualifications:

- Junior class standing or above
- Declaration of major or minor in psychology
- GPA of 3.3 or higher in at least 12 credit hours of courses taken at AU across three semesters
- GPA of 3.1 or higher within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.



**AU Psi Chi Team participate in the cancer awareness and fundraising event Relay for Life**



*I've always loved my experience in the AU Psych department, but after going to grad school at a big research university, and now teaching at a mid-size university, I think I better appreciate what a special experience that was and how hard the faculty work to provide that environment.*

*Having professors that love what they do, having small classes where students get to really know each other and faculty, having opportunities to be mentored in independent research.... these things don't exist everywhere. Not only did these experiences make me a competitive grad school applicant, but they have shaped how I think about the experiences I want to provide my own students.*

*~ Dr. Danielle Sitzman,, Associate Professor of Psychology, Class of 2008*

# Students

The Psychology Department has two student-based organizations: a chapter of Psi Chi, the International Honor Society in Psychology, and a Psychology Club that is open to all interested students. The two organizations often co-sponsor events.

## **Psychology Club**

The Psychology Club is open to all students with psychology-related interests, and provides an opportunity to become involved in psychology activities and get to know professors on a more personal level. There are no formal criteria for becoming a member.

The Psychology Club has been involved in the following activities in recent years:

- Sponsoring speakers to discuss psychology-related careers and special topics
- Discussions of psychology themes in films
- Participating at youth recreation centers in nearby communities
- Halloween parties for local community children
- Suicide prevention training/SAFE Talk certification



**PSYC club painting pumpkins with teens at the Hornell Concern for Youth**

**PSYC club creates activities to simulate and raise awareness of aging senses at a local health fair.**



*I had an amazing experience as a psych major at Alfred. I without a doubt would not be where I am today if it wasn't for AU. Alfred's psych program gave me the building blocks and knowledge that allowed me to successfully navigate graduate school and now my career as a school counselor! I fell in love with psych back then and it's been one of the best things to ever happen to me. I will always be thankful for what Alfred and the psych department has given me!*

*~ Quentin Bade, School Counselor, Class of 2018*



# Faculty

Our faculty are dedicated teachers. Representing over 166 years of combined teaching experience, our regular course offerings are taught by professionals who have earned their doctorate in their respective fields. Moreover, our faculty have earned more Excellence in Teaching Awards than any other Department at AU, and consistently earn extremely positive student evaluations.



**Dr. Amy Button, Associate Professor of Psychology**

Psy. D., Alfred University

**Teaching Areas:** Introductory Psychology, Research Methods and Statistics, Research Practicum, Professional Preparation in Psychology, Clinical Procedures, Psychopathology, Communication and Counseling Skills

**Research Interests:** College students with disabilities, Bullying  
button@alfred.edu



**Dr. Bethany Johnson, Associate Professor of Psychology**

Ph.D., University of Nebraska-Lincoln

**Teaching Areas:** Introductory Psychology, Social Psychology, Principles of Learning and Behavior Modification, Psychology of Gender, Human Sexuality, Advanced Research and Design

**Research Interests:** Integration of social psychology with scholarship of teaching and learning, metacognition  
johnsonbc@alfred.edu



**Dr. Danielle Gagne, Professor of Psychology  
Department Chair**

Ph.D., University of New Hampshire

**Teaching Areas:** Introductory Psychology, Cognitive Psychology, Sensation & Perception, Cognition and Aging, Adult Development & Aging, Death & Dying

**Research Interests:** Discourse processing and aging, Self-efficacy beliefs, Teaching and Learning  
gagne@alfred.edu



**Dr. Julia Langdal-Sittu, Assistant Professor of Psychology**

Ph.D., Fuller Graduate School of Psychology

**Teaching Areas:** Introductory Psychology, Theories of Personality, Psychopathology, Communication and Counseling Skills, Clinical Procedures, Child Psychopathology, Sports Psychology

**Research Interests:** Student engagement; scholarship of teaching and learning, pop culture and psychology  
langdalsittu@alfred.edu

# Faculty



## **Dr. Lou Lichtman, Professor of Psychology**

Ph.D., University of Maine

**Teaching Areas:** Introduction to Psychology, Neuropsychology, Parenting, Adverse & Protective Childhood Experiences, Senior Capstone Seminar

**Research Interests:** Brain specialization, neural correlates of behavior disorders, weight control, parenting  
flich@alfred.edu



## **Dr. Michelle Tichy, Assistant Professor of Psychology**

Ph.D., University of Minnesota

**Teaching Areas:** Social & Developmental Psychology, Spirituality & healing

**Research Interests:** Children's moral development, multicultural mentoring, leadership  
tichy@alfred.edu



## **Dr. Nancy Furlong, Emeritus Professor of Psychology**

Ph.D., University of Pittsburgh

**Coordinator, Corning Community College Degree Completion Program**

**Teaching Areas:** Cognitive and Social Development, Research Methods, Statistics  
ffurlong@alfred.edu



## **Dr. Robert Maiden, Professor of Psychology**

Ph.D., New School of Social Research

**Teaching Areas:** Gerontology, Communication and Counseling, Clinical Supervision, Addictions and Drug Use, Health Psychology, Senior Seminar

**Research Interests:** Individual and family psychotherapy, rural elderly and public policy, learned helplessness, community mental health  
fmaiden@alfred.edu

# Staff



## **Mrs. Lisa Weaver, Secretary**

Lisa graduated from AU in 1997 with her degree in Psychology, and has returned to provide clerical, organizational, and emotional support for students and faculty.

weaver@alfred.edu

# Careers & Jobs

## *Where do I go after college?*

The undergraduate psychology degree prepares students for entry level jobs in human services, human resources, business, and research. It also prepares students for graduate studies, which are essential for advancement in many careers within psychology.

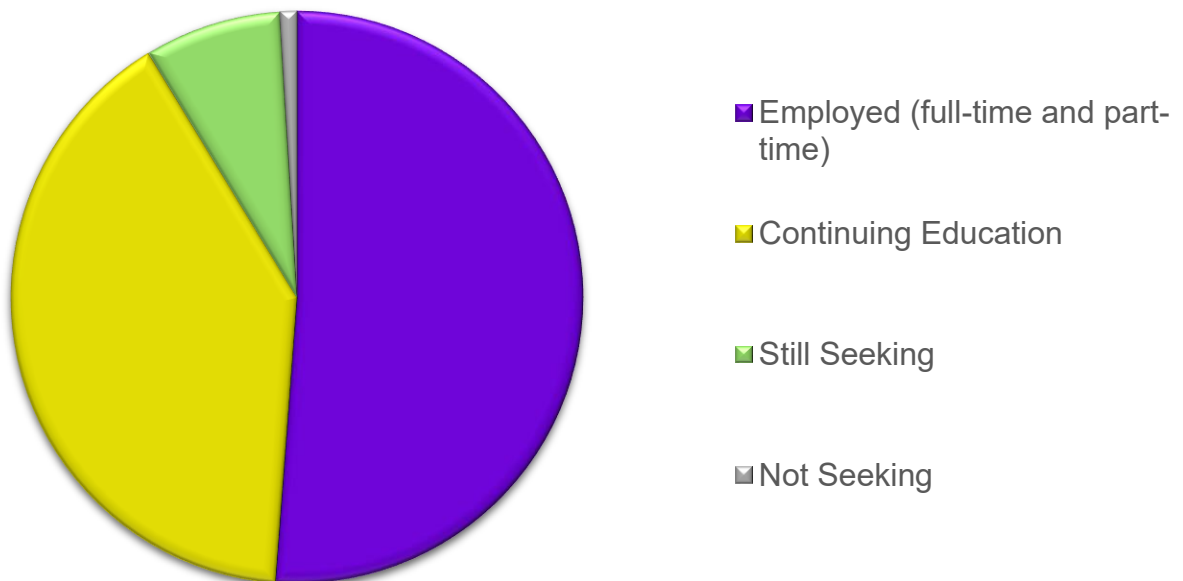
Our students to pursue careers in a variety of fields. Professions well-suited for psychology majors typically involve people skills, analytical skills, writing skills, and research skills, such as human services (counseling, social work), business (human resources, sales, marketing), criminal justice (probation officer, corrections officer), health, recreation, and education (rehabilitation counselor, teacher).



*"I spend 6 years in Alfred [undergraduate and graduate] working with phenomenal psych professors and being a part of a tight knit and supportive community. My psych training has been a crucial part of my career as a school psychologist. I LOVE my job and the work that I do Alfred University holds such a special place in my heart because that is where I found my calling, found myself, met my significant other, and made strong relationships."*

*~ Marissa Ramirez, School Psychologist, Class of 2020*

## Career Outcomes for Psychology Majors 2017 – 2019\*



# Careers & Jobs

## Educational Degree and Job Outlook for Graduates

The type of degree a job seeker holds also plays an important role in determining job outlook. Here is the outlook for different levels of education:

- **Doctorate Degree:** Job prospects are strongest for those who have a Ph.D., Psy.D., or specialist degree in an applied area. Those who have additional training in research methods, technology, and computer science may be at an advantage over those who don't have experience in these areas.
- **Master's Degree:** The competition for jobs will be especially fierce among those with a master's degree in psychology. For example, while there are jobs at the master's degree level for industrial-organizational psychologists, the availability of positions available with this type of degree is far more limited than it is for those with a doctorate. Other options for psychologists with a master's degree include working in counseling or mental health services under the direction and supervision of a licensed psychologist.
- **Bachelor's Degree:** The U.S. Department of Labor suggests that opportunities will be more limited for those holding a bachelor's degree in psychology. However, those with this type of degree can still find entry-level jobs in areas such as marketing, case management, sales, advertising, teaching, labor relations, writing, and criminal justice.

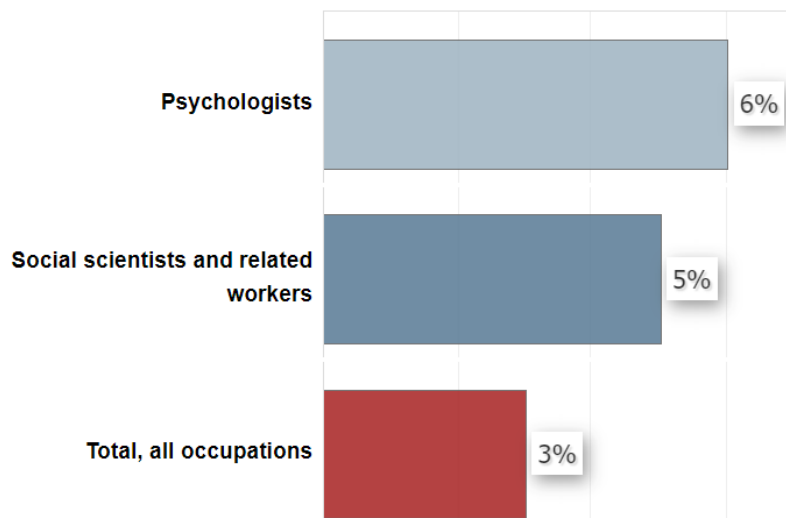
## What is the job outlook for psychologists?

Increased demands for ...

- clinical and counseling psychologists as more people turn to psychologists for help with their problems. **(+11%)**
- school psychologists due to an increased awareness of the connection between mental health and learning. These workers also will be needed to help students whose educational, behavioral, or developmental issues impact their ability to learn. **(+1%)**
- industrial-organizational psychologists to help with tasks such as selecting and retaining employees, implementing trainings, and improving office morale. **(+6%)**

## Psychologists

Percent change in employment, projected 2022-32



Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook*, Psychologists, at <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/life-physical-and-social-science/psychologists.htm> (visited March 20, 2024).

# Careers & Jobs

An undergraduate psychology major is versatile enough to equip graduates for work in many professions, aside from being a psychologist.

***Psychology majors acquire skills that transfer to non-psychology professions, such as:***

- ψ Understanding how to predict and understand the behavior of people and groups.
- ψ Using and interpreting data.
- ψ Evaluating the legitimacy of claims about behavior.
- ψ Understanding how memory and learning function.
- ψ Gaining insight into problematic behaviors.
- ψ Demonstrating the capacity to adapt to change.
- ψ Managing difficult situations and high stress environments.
- ψ Starting and carrying out projects.
- ψ Showing persistence in challenging circumstances.

*“My psych training helped me in several ways, most notably at work in the Federal space where I juggle multiple teams/moving parts and gigantic egos. Being equipped with the right knowledge made this so easy for me to excel.”*

*~ Joy Frye, Class of 2012*



***What professions or career paths do our students take?***

Our graduates have put their skills to work in many professions

- Academic Advisor
- Advertising Manager
- Art Therapist
- Behavioral Analyst
- Career Counselor
- Case Manager/ Worker
- Chemical Dependency Counselor
- Child Care Provider
- Clinical/Counseling Psychologist
- College Admissions Counselor
- Consultant
- Criminal Investigator
- Employment Interviewer
- Human Resources Director
- Labor Relations Advisor
- Lawyer
- Market Research Analyst
- Clergy
- Organizational Trainer
- Paralegal
- Parole Officer
- Personnel Specialist
- Psychiatric Nurse
- Public Opinion Surveyor
- Rehabilitation Counselor
- Researcher
- Sales Associate
- Social Worker

# Careers & Jobs

This table shows a list of occupations with job duties that are **related** to psychology.

OCCUPATION	JOB DUTIES	ENTRY-LEVEL EDUCATION	2022 MEDIAN PAY
Market Research Analysts	Market research analysts study market conditions to examine potential sales of a product or service. They help companies understand what products people want, who will buy them, and at what price.	Bachelor's degree	\$68,230
Marriage and Family Therapists	Marriage and family therapists help people manage and overcome problems with family and other relationships.	Master's degree	\$56,570
School and Career Counselors	School counselors help students develop the academic and social skills needed to succeed in school. Career counselors help people choose careers and follow a path to employment.	Master's degree	\$60,140
Social Worker	Social workers help people solve and cope with problems in their everyday lives. Clinical social workers also diagnose and treat mental, behavioral, and emotional issues.	Bachelor's or Master's degree (by State)	\$55,350
Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors	Substance abuse, behavioral disorder, and mental health counselors advise people who suffer from alcoholism, drug addiction, eating disorders, mental health issues, or other mental or behavioral problems. They provide treatment and support to help clients recover from addiction or modify problem behaviors.	Bachelor's or Master's degree (by State)	\$49,710
Survey Researchers	Survey researchers design and conduct surveys and analyze data. Surveys are used to collect factual data, such as employment and salary information, or to ask questions in order to understand people's opinions, preferences, beliefs, or desires.	Master's degree	\$60,410
Training and Development Specialists	Training and development specialists help plan, conduct, and administer programs that train employees and improve their skills and knowledge.	Bachelor's degree	\$63,080

# Questions?


If you have questions, please contact:  
Dr. Danielle D. Gagne  
Department Chair  
(607) 871-2873  $\psi$  [gagne@alfred.edu](mailto:gagne@alfred.edu)

Psychology, Gerontology, & Communication Studies  
Science Center 424  
1 Saxon Drive  
Alfred, NY 14802



 Psychology Office: (607) 871 – 2213

 Psychology Division: [getpsyched@alfred.edu](mailto:getpsyched@alfred.edu)

 <https://www.alfred.edu/academics/undergrad-majors-minors/psychology.cfm>

 Alfredupsychology

 Alfred University Psychology