

Recommended courses for selected career categories

Note: Additional career categories appear in section II of the Majors Handbook. For advice on which courses to take for other career categories, speak with your faculty advisor and contact a faculty member with training in that area. To determine which faculty members have training relevant to your goals, visit the Psychology Department [website](#).

Mental Health

Psychologists in the mental health field (the term “Counselors” is nearly synonymous) treat mental, emotional and behavioral disorders. These range from short-term crises, such as difficulties resulting from adolescent conflicts, to more severe, chronic conditions, such as schizophrenia. Some psychologists treat specific problems exclusively, such as phobias or clinical depression. Others focus on specific populations — for instance, youths, families, couples, ethnic minority groups, or older people.

Suggested coursework: PSY 139, PSY 171, PSY 199

Industrial /Organizational Psychology

I/O Psychologists typically work in employee selection, management development, survey research, training, organizational development, performance appraisal, career development and program evaluation. They are employed in industry, government, hospitals, social services and mental health agencies, advertising, consulting and marketing research.

Suggested coursework: PSY 33, PSY 34, PSY 159, PSY 197

Education & School Psychology

School Psychologists work with students who have behavioral problems, academic difficulties, disabilities and other issues. They also work with teachers and parents to develop techniques to deal with home and classroom behavior.

Suggested coursework: PSY 153, PSY 164, PSY 196

Health Psychology

Health psychologists specialize in how biological, psychological and social factors affect health and illness. They study how patients handle illness, why some people don't follow medical advice and the most effective ways to control pain or change poor health habits. They also develop health care strategies that foster emotional and physical well-being.

Suggested coursework: PSY 89

Engineering Psychology (Ergonomics, Human Factors)

Engineering Psychologists investigate how humans interact with computers (How can a computer be designed to prevent fatigue and eye strain in people?) and other components of their environment (What arrangement of an assembly line makes production most efficient? What is a reasonable workload?)

Suggested coursework: PSY 164, PSY 166, PSY 190

Forensic Psychology

Forensic psychologists apply psychological principles to legal issues. Their expertise is often essential within the judicial system. They can, for example, help a judge decide which parent should have custody of a child or evaluate a defendant's mental competence to stand trial. Forensic psychologists also conduct research on jury behavior or eyewitness testimony. Some forensic psychologists are trained in both psychology and the law.

Suggested coursework: PSY 12

Medical & Neuroscience fields

Suggested coursework: PSY 170, PSY 177, PSY 194