

# PSYCHOLOGY

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The Department of Psychology offers the Bachelor of Science degree for its majors. The department has five primary goals:

1. Gain knowledge in key concepts, principles, and themes in psychology
2. Engage in scientific inquiry and critical thinking using integrative thinking and problem solving
3. Promote ethical and social responsibility that enhances the greater community
4. Demonstrate effective oral and written communication skills
5. Develop meaningful professional direction for life after graduation

In the Jesuit educational tradition of academic excellence and care of the whole person, students are challenged to develop a capacity for critical thinking, a willingness to submit their efforts to clear and high standards, and an understanding of the ethical dimensions of personal and professional life. A rigorous program of study that provides knowledge of the field of psychology with breadth and depth is complemented by opportunities to engage in psychology in action through research projects, field experiences, and collaborations with professionals in the field. Full-time faculty are highly accessible to students, are committed to teaching and mentoring undergraduates, and engage in one-to-one relationships with psychology majors. Students learn about the multiple applications of psychological science to the service of others, and especially those whose human dignity is most threatened in our society. Students are encouraged to integrate their knowledge of psychology with their own developing values and beliefs. Sensitivity to and consideration of cultural, religious, and gender differences are fostered in the study of psychology.

## Program Activities

### Honors in Psychology

Psychology majors with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.7 may graduate with honors in psychology by participating in the Psychology Undergraduate Honors Program. Interested students should contact the associate chair for information about the requirements for the program, which involves writing a senior thesis that is mentored by a department faculty member. Students are notified of invitation in the spring of their junior year. See the psychology department web page for additional information.

### Advising

In addition to advising in the advising center, psychology majors are encouraged to engage with our full-time faculty to discuss their interests in psychology, graduate school options, career planning, and professional development. First- and second-year students should reach out to the associate chair at their home campus. Juniors and seniors will be paired with a specific faculty connection who is meant to serve as an important resource and point of contact as they progress through the major.

### Research Opportunities and Clubs

To encourage undergraduate research, the psychology program offers opportunities for research involvement and club activities, including psychology club, and chapter of Psi Chi. Founded on September 4, 1929, at Yale University, Psi Chi is the international honor society in

psychology. Its purpose is "to encourage, stimulate, and maintain excellence in scholarship and to advance the science of psychology." Psi Chi is the world's largest honor society, with 500,000 life members and chapters at 940 U.S. colleges. Membership is for life, with no annual dues. Fordham's two chapters of Psi Chi at Lincoln Center and Rose Hill accept undergraduate or graduate students who have completed at least 12 credits of psychology and maintained a cumulative GPA of at least 3.32. Induction ceremonies are held in April and December of each year. Several courses involve community-engagement opportunities.

## For more information

Visit the psychology department web page.