Psychology

WHY STUDY PSYCHOLOGY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE?

The University of Maine’s psychology major is designed to foster a scientific understanding of behavior by exploring the wide range of factors that shape it — from molecules to the brain as a whole, from sensory input to reasoning, and from genetics to social and cultural influences. Students explore how behavior develops from infancy to old age and what it means for a behavior to be considered pathological.

Although psychology is broad in scope, UMaine’s psychology major is focused on developing rigorous scientific reasoning skills (methodological, statistical and logical argument), forming an exceptional foundation for critical thinking across disciplines. To further foster critical thinking and communication skills, the psychology major culminates in a capstone experience in which students apply, integrate and extend the base of knowledge they acquired to a specific topic of interest.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A DEGREE IN PSYCHOLOGY?

UMaine’s psychology major and minor prepare students for a wide range of professional and educational opportunities. Graduates enroll in a variety of graduate and professional programs, including medical, dental, and law school. They pursue graduate programs in psychology, social work, counseling, neuroscience, forensic science, political science, occupational therapy, and criminal justice. Our graduates enter the workforce as case workers, educators and managers in human services (e.g., Acadia Hospital, Community Health and Counseling, New Hampshire Hospital, St. Michael’s Center). Others work as laboratory/research technicians (e.g., The Jackson Laboratory, Duke University, Vanderbilt University, National Institute of Mental Health), teacher/child care workers (e.g., New England Center for Children) or even as the chief justice of the Maine Supreme Court.

OUR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

UMaine’s psychology major is designed to build a solid scientific understanding of the core areas of psychology (clinical, cognition, developmental, physiological and social) while also requiring students to build a deeper understanding in an area of concentration. Outside the classroom, psychology majors gain valuable (and credit-earning) experiences in both on- and off-campus settings, including faculty research laboratories or field learning at local human service and mental health facilities.

OUR GRADUATE PROGRAM

A low student-to-faculty ratio and small class size characterize the Psychology Department’s graduate programs. Each student works directly with at least one faculty mentor as a means of gaining valuable teaching, research and professional experience. The graduate program offers advanced training leading to a doctoral degree in clinical psychology, developmental psychology, or psychological sciences. The doctoral program in clinical psychology is accredited by the American Psychological Association. The Psychology Department also offers thesis-based master’s degrees in developmental psychology and psychological sciences.

RESEARCH FACILITIES

UMaine’s Psychology Department houses a variety of specialized research facilities offering state-of-the-art hands-on instruction and mentoring opportunities for graduate and undergraduate students. The Psychology Department maintains an Infant...
ABOUT UMAINE
The University of Maine, founded in Orono in 1865, is the state’s premier public university. It is among the most comprehensive higher education institutions in the Northeast and attracts students from across the U.S. and more than 73 countries. It currently enrolls 11,286 total undergraduate and graduate students who can directly participate in groundbreaking research working with world-class scholars. The University of Maine offers doctoral degrees in 35 fields, representing the humanities, sciences, engineering and education; master’s degrees in roughly 70 disciplines; 90 undergraduate majors and academic programs; and one of the oldest and most prestigious honors programs in the U.S. The university promotes environmental stewardship on its campus, with substantial efforts aimed at conserving energy, recycling and adhering to green building standards in new construction. For more information about UMaine, visit umaine.edu.

explore

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology
Minor in Psychology
Concentration in Abnormal/Social Psychology
Developmental Psychology
Biological/Cognitive Psychology

Master of Arts in Psychology
Programs: Developmental Psychology, Psychological Sciences

Ph.D. in Psychology
Programs: Clinical Psychology, Developmental Psychology, Psychological Sciences (Biological, Cognitive or Social Psychology)

Five-Year Master of Business Administration

Neurophysiology (ERP) and Behavioral Assessment Suite, multiple social psychology suites with the capability to measure psychological and physiological responses to social situations, facilities to record and assess peer-to-peer interactions, facilities for cognitive and neurophysiological assessment of both normal and clinical populations, facilities for investigating neurocomputational models of cognition, and facilities for neurophysiological, immunohistochemical and behavioral assessment of laboratory animals.

UMaine psychology faculty work with a number of local public schools, medical centers and community organizations allowing for research opportunities outside the lab. In addition, UMaine’s Psychology Department operates its own laboratory preschool offering the opportunity for applied experience and research with a population of two-to-five-year-old children for our undergraduate and graduate students. The department’s Psychological Services Center serves as a community mental health facility for Orono and surrounding communities and as a training environment for graduate students.

OPPORTUNITIES TO EXCEL
The Psychology Department is committed to fostering undergraduate research. Psychology faculty help undergraduate students apply for research fellowships, and each year, a number of these undergraduate students as well as other undergraduates in the Psychology Department present their research at local, national and international conferences. In addition, the department hosts a chapter of the National Psychology Honor Society (Psi Chi).

OUR FACULTY
UMaine’s psychology faculty are recognized within the college and the university as being outstanding teachers, scholars and mentors. They maintain regionally and nationally funded research programs and are invited to speak at prestigious national and international conferences. The expertise of the psychology faculty extends beyond the classroom to real-life issues that affect Mainers such as addiction, mental health, bullying, stress, social stigma, developmental delays, and improving child care for working families.

HOW DO I APPLY?
Visit umaine.edu for an application, as well as information about academics and life at UMaine.

The psychology department here at the University of Maine allows for growth and enhancement within the field. It provides access to participate in excellent research opportunities. The faculty and graduate students in the program are very helpful and informative and have helped prepare me for applying to graduate schools. I have learned so much here and can honestly say I am proud to be a psychology major at the University of Maine.”

— Amanda Parslow, Class of 2011, psychology major

The University of Maine does not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, including transgender status and gender expression, national origin, citizenship status, age, disability, genetic information, or veteran status in employment, education, and all other programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding nondiscrimination policies: Director, Office of Equal Opportunity, 101 North Stevens Hall, 581.1226, eoinfo@umit.maine.edu.