CO LLEG E O F LIBERA L A RTS A N D  SCIEN CES

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 or psychological sciences. The doctoral program in clinical psychology is accredited by the American Psychological Association. The Psychology Department also offers a thesis-based master’s degree in 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 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. 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 and offers a research intensive track within the psychology major. 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.