

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

2086 David King Hall
Fairfax Campus

Phone: 703-993-1384
Website: psychology.gmu.edu

Undergraduate Programs

The department offers a bachelor of arts degree and a bachelor of science degree in psychology. All psychology majors complete a broad range of courses from social and abnormal psychology to cognitive and biopsychology. Students can also choose from special topics courses such as forensic psychology and romantic relationships.

In addition to the general degree in psychology, students can choose a concentration in clinical psychology, cognitive and behavioral neuroscience, developmental psychology, education psychology, forensic psychology, health psychology, human factors and applied cognition, or work and organizational psychology. These concentrations may be of interest to students who are planning to attend graduate school.

Students in psychology may have the opportunity to do research with a faculty member or do a service learning course, which allows them to put into practice what they've learned in the classroom.

Students interested in graduate study should be aware that undergraduate research experience and letters of recommendation are major factors for admission to graduate study. Such students should distribute courses across a number of areas in psychology and work closely with one or more professors on individual projects during their junior and senior years.

Minors

The department offers minors in psychology, brain, body, and behavior, clinical psychology, developmental psychology, forensic psychology, health psychology, and industrial/organizational psychology. These minors are available to students in any major in the university.

Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Program

The department offers highly-qualified undergraduate majors the opportunity to apply to an accelerated master's degree program in psychology with a concentration in cognitive and behavioral neuroscience. If accepted, students will be able to earn both an undergraduate degree and the master's degree with a concentration in cognitive and behavioral neuroscience after satisfactory completion of 146 credits, generally within five years.

Graduate Programs

The graduate programs in psychology are distinguished by an emphasis on basic research and the application of research to solving practical problems in families, schools, industry, government, and health care settings.

The department offers master's and doctoral degrees with concentrations in applied developmental psychology, cognitive and behavioral neuroscience, human factors/applied cognition, and industrial/organizational psychology. It also offers a doctoral degree with a concentration in clinical psychology.

Funding

The department offers teaching and research assistantships, which are awarded on a competitive basis. Other sources of funding such as grants, loans, and employment on campus are also available. Students awarded assistantships must register for a minimum of six credits a semester and show satisfactory progress toward their degree.

Certificates

The department offers graduate certificates in applied psychology, with concentrations in transportation human factors and usability, and cognitive neuroscience. These have been designed to meet the needs of students who desire to upgrade their skills and earn a certificate as evidence of their skill attainment. Students may take these as stand-alone certificates or pursue them concurrently with a graduate degree program. Part of the certificate course work may be able to be applied to the degree. Students must apply and be accepted to a graduate certificate program.

The certificate programs are open to all students who hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited university and meet the admissions requirements for the master's degree in psychology with a concentration in human factors and applied cognition.

Non-Degree Status

Applicants who have not been admitted to a graduate degree program or a certificate program may apply for non-degree status. Non-degree students must meet the same admission requirements as degree-seeking students. Non-degree status is not intended as a way to qualify for admission as a degree-seeking student.

While it may be possible to transfer the credits earned in non-degree status to a degree program, such transfers are not automatic. They require the approval of the graduate director and the dean. If approved, a maximum of 12 credits earned in non-degree status may be applied to a degree program. Non-degree students who intend to transfer their credits to a degree program should discuss this with the appropriate program director.

Faculty

Department Faculty

Professors

Cortina, Denham, Esposito-Smythers, Helton, Kashdan, Klimoski, Mandes, Parnak, Riskind, Tangney, Tetrack, Winsler (associate chair for graduate studies), Zaccaro

Research Professors

Olds

Associate Professors

Baldwin (director, Human Factors Program), Bitler, Buffardi, Cattaneo (director, Clinical Program), Chaplin, Curby (director, Applied Developmental Program), Dalal, Fisher, Flinn (director, Cognitive and Behavioral Neuroscience Program), Kaplan, King, McDonald, McKnight, Peterson, Renshaw (Chair), Rowe, Shaw, Short, J. Thompson

Research Associate Professors

Stuewig

Assistant Professors

Adams, Goldstein, Kornienko, Kuykendall, Le, P. Lee, Y. Lee, Wiener, Wiese,

Term Assistant Professors

Chronsiak, Dumas, Hurley, Mehlenbeck (director, Center for Psychological Services), Murdoch (associate chair for undergraduate studies), Ramsdell

Term Assistant Professors

Sontag

Affiliates

Eby, Hunt, Bachus

Programs

- Applied Industrial and Organizational Psychology, MPS
- Applied Psychology Graduate Certificate
- Brain, Body and Behavior Minor
- Clinical Psychology Minor
- Cognitive Neuroscience Graduate Certificate
- Developmental Psychology Minor
- Forensic Psychology Minor
- Health Psychology Minor
- Industrial / Organizational Psychology Minor
- Psychology Minor
- Psychology, BA
- Psychology, BS
- Psychology, MA (CHSS)
- Psychology, PhD