Gain insight

Do you wonder why people behave the way they do? Are you curious about how to affect that behavior? The Assumption psychology program gives you the opportunity to explore these questions and more.

In the classroom and the research laboratory, you are introduced to the broad spectrum of psychology and its practical applications. In addition, Assumption provides you with a strong liberal arts foundation that allows you to apply your psychology degree to a range of rewarding careers or move on to graduate school.

Mindful exploration

Assumption’s psychology program will challenge you to explore the science of human thought and behavior. Through an exciting mixture of course work, internships, and research, you receive a solid grounding in the principles of psychology, while sharpening your analysis, communication and problem-solving skills.

In small classes and labs, you learn from outstanding faculty members with professional experience as clinicians and researchers. They specialize in a variety of areas, providing students with an array of study options. Avid educators and mentors, our faculty members foster a culture of collaboration among fellow professors and students alike.

Here, you have the opportunity to perform cutting-edge research alongside professors in our state-of-the-art facilities for mental health, developmental, and social, cognitive and affective research. You can also choose to gain hands-on experience doing internships at local institutions, like the prestigious University of Massachusetts Medical School – located just minutes from campus.

“Thanks to the guidance of one of my psychology professors, I completed an independent study and spent a semester in Tokyo conducting cross-cultural research on emotion regulation.”

- Erin Fitzgerald ’12, Psychology major, M.A. candidate in Counseling Psychology, Assumption College

DID YOU KNOW?

Assumption and the University of Massachusetts Medical School, located only four miles from the College, have formed a research partnership through which Assumption psychology students have the opportunity to work alongside top researchers on cutting-edge projects, in both paid and non-paid internships.
Course of study
Assumption psychology majors take foundation courses that address general concepts and theoretical perspectives and electives that allow you to delve more deeply into a specific area of interest:
- Child Development
- Social Psychology
- Abnormal Psychology
- Interpersonal Communication
- Motivation and Emotion
- Cognitive and Brain Science

A minor in psychology is also available.

MASTER OF ARTS IN COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY
Assumption College’s Master of Arts in Counseling Psychology is a nationally renowned program that specializes in cognitive behavior therapy (CBT). The program integrates CBT throughout the curriculum to help students build a broad knowledge base and specific expertise. The faculty are highly skilled psychologists who are committed to fostering students’ development as mental health professionals. The program prepares graduates to meet the educational requirements for licensure as a mental health counselor in Massachusetts and most other states.

DID YOU KNOW?
Thanks to a collaboration between the psychology and biology departments, students interested in the interaction of the psychological and biological reasons for behavior can major in psychology and concentrate in cognitive and brain science or major in biology and concentrate in neuroscience and behavior.

Learn by doing
In order to gain valuable career experience and increase the competitiveness of your applications to graduate programs, psychology majors are strongly encouraged to participate in an internship.

As part of your internship, you also complete a reflective journal, readings in the field, and a comprehensive research paper. Your Assumption professors will serve as both sponsors and mentors during the entire experience. Through your internship, not only will you acquire the knowledge, confidence, and professionalism that will give you a leg up in today’s competitive job market, but you’ll also make important contacts that may lead to employment.

You will develop presentation skills at the Semi-Annual Psychology Department Poster Session where majors present their capstone research projects.

DID YOU KNOW?
Assumption undergraduates perform research projects with faculty in advanced psychology laboratory facilities. The scope of these projects differ according to academic interest, such as emotional reactivity, autism, or co-parenting. Students have published some of these projects in academic journals and/or presented at academic conferences.

WHAT’S NEXT?
Many of our graduates go on to complete their master’s degree or doctorate in psychology, sociology, rehabilitative services, and law at leading institutions.
Psychology majors enter directly into careers in such fields as education, human resources, marketing, communications, and counseling. Here’s a sampling of where Assumption alumni are sharing their insights:

SAMPLE RECENT EMPLOYERS
- AMICA Insurance
- Fidelity Investments
- Justice Resource Institute
- May Institute
- New England Center for Children
- Peace Corps
- Saint Francis Care and Behavioral Health

SAMPLE RECENT GRADUATE SCHOOLS
- Assumption College
- Boston College
- Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology
- Northeastern University
- Smith College
- Tufts University

For a list of the employers and graduate schools of recent program alumni, visit www.assumption.edu/psychology