**Degree(s)**
- Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in psychology
- Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in psychology
- Minor in psychology

**Program Overview**

Psychology is the science of behavior. Students learn how human behavior depends on biological factors, developmental status, cognitive processes and social conditions. Behavioral science encompasses a wide range of methods and topics, from brain function to cultural influences. The discoveries of psychology improve understanding of the human experience and the quality of life.

As one of the most popular majors at Saint Louis University, psychology provides students with multiple avenues to explore their own interests and develop their abilities through research, service and study. Areas of study include cognitive neuroscience, developmental psychology, social/personality psychology and applied psychology.

The department of psychology’s mission is to broadly educate students in the discipline of psychology and its applications. We accomplish this by integrating empirical science, theory and practice focused toward the evidence-based understanding of the behavior and experience of individuals and groups, including the family, organizations and institutions.

We encourage intellectual curiosity, critical thinking and ethical responsibility in ourselves and our students. Our commitment to value-based, holistic education and our enthusiasm for psychology is realized in the products of our research, in our graduates and in service to others locally, nationally and globally. We seek to contribute to the improvement of the human condition and to promote human welfare through understanding past knowledge, discovering new knowledge and disseminating our knowledge through teaching, publication and service. We educate students to be professionals and challenge them to be ethically responsible, to be committed to serving others and to respect human diversity in all its forms.

**About the Faculty**

The 27 faculty members hold doctoral degrees and teach courses in the specialties of clinical, social, developmental, cognitive neuroscience and industrial/organizational psychology. They conduct and publish research with graduate and undergraduate students and are nationally known for their contributions to psychology and related fields.

**Curriculum**

The undergraduate psychology program offers students three degree options: a B.A., a B.S. and a minor in psychology. Each introduces students to the study of psychology, while developing capacities for evidence-based reasoning, quantitative thinking and psychological inquiry.

Students can also gain valuable, hands-on experience by assisting faculty or graduate research projects, as well as conducting their own research through capstone research projects, and by volunteering at human services sites through capstone practicum projects.

**Degree requirements:**
- Minimum of 31 credit hours in psychology for the B.A.
- Minimum of 36 credit hours in psychology for the B.S.

**Minor requirements:**
- Minimum of 18 credit hours in psychology
Admission Requirements

Freshman: All applications are thoroughly and carefully reviewed. Solid academic performance in college preparatory course work is a primary criterion in reviewing a freshman applicant’s file. College admission test scores (ACT or SAT) are used as an additional indicator of the student’s ability to meet the University’s academic requirements and to qualify the student for certain University scholarship programs. To be considered for admission to any Saint Louis University undergraduate program, the applicant must be approaching graduation from an accredited high school or have an acceptable score on the General Education Development (GED) test.

Transfer: Applicants must be a graduate of an accredited high school or have an acceptable score on the GED. An official high school transcript and official test scores are required only of those students who have attempted fewer than 24 transferable semester hours (or 30 quarter hours) of college credit. Those having completed 24 hours or more of college credit need only submit a transcript from previously attended college(s). In reviewing a transfer applicant’s file, the office of admission holistically examines the student’s academic performance in college-level coursework as an indicator of the student’s ability to meet the academic rigors of Saint Louis University.

Internships and Careers

Students may gain volunteer experience in a variety of practicum settings, including mental health, research, consulting, schools and community service organizations. In addition to completing multiple courses in research methodology and statistics, students may seek out opportunities to be undergraduate research assistants working in a faculty member’s research lab.

Majors receive a strong liberal arts education in preparation for entry-level employment, with strengths in understanding people and evidence-based reasoning. The B.A. and B.S. degrees further prepare students to enter graduate programs for professional training as psychologists for which a Ph.D. is needed. Students may also use the B.A. and B.S. degrees in psychology as pre-professional training in medicine, physical therapy, occupational therapy, social work, education and law.

Scholarships and Financial Aid

There are two principal ways to help finance a Saint Louis University education:

+ Scholarships: awarded based on academic achievement, service, leadership and financial need.
+ Financial Aid: provided in the form of grants and loans, some of which require repayment.

For priority consideration for merit-based scholarships, applicants should apply for admission by Dec. 1 and complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by March 1.

For information on other scholarships and financial aid, visit the student financial services office online at finaid.slu.edu.