The Psychology Department

Core Purpose and Values
The core purpose of the Psychology Department is to cultivate in our students a passion for continued learning and self-development, and to prepare them for productive and satisfying roles in society and/or graduate level training through the transfer of knowledge and skills in psychology. To achieve that purpose, the department holds as its core values:

- Academic excellence and integrity in our faculty and students
- Individual-centered orientation
- Collegiality and mutual respect
- Advocacy and application of psychological principles, theories, and scientific research

Goals and Objectives
The goal of the Psychology Department is to provide majors with sufficient preparation to perform competently in graduate school and/or in their future employment setting. Upon completion of the program, majors should:

- Demonstrate familiarity with major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends.
- Understand and apply basic research methods, including research design, analysis, and interpretation.
- Respect and use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry and the scientific approach.
- Understand and apply psychological principles to personal, social, and organizational issues.
- Weigh evidence, tolerate ambiguity, act ethically and reflect other values underpinning psychology.
- Demonstrate information competence and the ability to use computers and other technology for multiple purposes.
- Communicate effectively with psychologists and others.
- Recognize, understand, and respect the complexity of socio-cultural and international differences in human behavior.
- Show insight into one’s own and others’ behavior and mental processes and apply effective strategies for self-management and self-improvement.
- Understand how to use psychological knowledge, skills, and values in various occupations and in graduate or professional school.
Special Facilities

- The Psychology Statistics Lab is located in OM 297. The lab offers students the latest technology to do statistical analysis. In January 2009 twenty-eight new computers and desks were installed.
- The Psychology Reading Room and Library is located in OM 383B for student use. You will find a networked computer, printer, library journals, textbooks, graduate school and other career materials, and a peaceful place to study.

The Four Psychology Tracks:

General Psychology Track
This program follows a fairly traditional undergraduate psychology program. The General track will give you a firm foundation in psychology, enabling you to get a job in the field or continue in almost any advanced graduate program. It is the most flexible track because you can take up to 6 free psychology elective courses (18 credits) in addition to the required psychology courses. This track also offers the largest variety of concomitant courses. In addition, this track requires only one advanced psychology elective.

Clinical-Counseling Track
This program will give you an experience more tailored to the clinical counseling area. It will prepare you for a career or graduate program in human services, counseling, or psychotherapy. You can take up to 4 free psychology electives in addition to the required psychology courses. The concomitant courses are tailored toward course work that complements the clinical-counseling field.

Industrial-Organizational Track
This program focuses on psychology applied to the workplace. It is especially appropriate for students interested in careers in human resources, management, or as consultants to business, industry, or government. You can take up to 4 free psychology electives in addition to the required psychology courses. The concomitant courses are tailored toward course work that compliments the industrial organizational field.

Paralegal Studies Track
This program prepares you to be a paralegal. KU and Lehigh Carbon Community College have formed a partnership to offer this American Bar Association approved program. Paralegals are primarily employed by lawyers, government offices, real estate firms, insurance companies, estate and trust departments of large banks, hospitals, title companies, and corporations. The paralegal courses serve as your concomitant courses as well as some of your free non-psychology electives.
Choosing Your Classes

Advising

A faculty member from the department of psychology has been assigned to you. Go on-line to MyKU to find out the name of your advisor. Contact your advisor during the Advising Period. You should discuss your future plans with your advisor as soon as you become a psychology major.

- Fall Semester: You will register for Spring classes during the month of November; meet with your advisor in October or November.
- Spring Semester: You will register for Fall classes during the month of April; meet with your advisor in March or April.
- Email your advisor or visit their office. Office locations, office hours, and e-mail addresses are posted outside of the Psychology Department’s Main Office in OM 384. Some advisors put a sign up sheet on their office door during the Advising Period. Some faculty members advise through email or group meetings. Contact your advisor and ask!
- When you meet with your advisor, be prepared. You may only have 10-15 minutes to talk to them.
  - Bring your General Education and Psychology Grid Sheets
  - Put all of your classes that you completed on the grid sheet
  - Bring a list of specific courses you want to take next semester
  - Make sure you have all of the prerequisites for any classes you select
  - Have a back up list of several additional alternative courses you would like to take

- Note: Your advisor will not pick your classes for you!

Registering For Classes

Every student is assigned a specific day and time to register for classes. You have to find this information for yourself.

- Go to KU’s main website http://www.kutztown.edu
- Click on "For Current Students"
- Click on MyKU.
- Enter your Network ID and PASSWORD. The school gave these to you. If you do not remember them, bring a valid photo ID to the IT Help Desk, 2nd floor Stratton Administration building. They will not give you the information through e-mail.

Filling Out the Grid Sheet

The Grid Sheet is an outline of the classes you need to take. You can pick up a copy at the Psychology Department’s Main Office OM 384 or visit our website
http://www2.kutztown.edu/Psychology. Use it to list all of the courses you have taken.

- Use a Pencil. You may need to erase and move courses on the Grid Sheet.
- Write down all completed courses. Only write down the courses you have completed and your current schedule. Do not put courses you have withdrawn from or failed.
- Write all course prefixes and course numbers.
  - The course prefixes are the first three letters. This tells your advisor the discipline (e.g., PSY means psychology; SOC means sociology, PHI means philosophy, etc.)
  - The course number is the first three numbers after the course prefix. This tells your advisor the title of the course (e.g., Psy 110 means Child Psychology).
  - For example, write "Psy 110" if you took Child Psychology.
- Write down the semester hours (SH). The semester hours tell your advisor how many credits the course was worth. Most courses are 3 credits (semester) hours.
- Write down the grade you received.
- List each course only once. For example, as a psychology major you can only list Psy 011 General Psychology one time. It must go under the Psychology Major Program: A. Psychology Core I.: Foundations Course. You cannot put it under General Education.
- Watch out for cross-listed courses. If you take a class that is listed with other disciplines, such as PSY/ANT 290 Culture and Personality, as a psychology major this will count as a PSY elective for you. Even if you register for it as an ANT 290 course, for you it is a PSY 290 course.

Taking Classes at Another College
Before you consider taking a course at another college, check to see if it will count for credit at KU. Course numbers are different at every college. Your psychology advisor is only interested in how it transferred to KU. Before you enroll in the other school's course,

- Go to the Registrar's Website:
  http://www.kutztown.edu/registrar/default.asp
- Click on "Transfer Course Evaluation"
  https://portal.kutztown.edu/oss/misc/transeval.asp
- Find your institution
- Click on the course prefix
- If it is not listed, go to the Registrar in person with the college's course description/information to see if and how it would transfer to KU.

Next, you will have to fill out a form at the Registrar's office called "Permission to Study at Another College" before you enroll in that class. The form can be downloaded at:

http://www.kutztown.edu/registrar/forms/permittostudy.pdf

Note the following:
- You must earn at least a C- for a course to transfer.
- It will transfer as a CR grade. It will not be calculated as part of your GPA or QPA. Do not do this if you are trying to bring up your QPA.
If you earned an F or D grade for a course (such as General Psychology) taken at KU, you will need to repeat the specific course (such as General Psychology) at KU. Transferred credit will not erase your D or F.

Thirty semester hours of the last 45 semester hours of credit required for graduation must be taken at KU.

Transfer students must complete at least half of their credits in psychology at KU to earn a major or minor in psychology from KU.

Please visit the Registrar’s website for KU’s official policy.

Repeating a Course
You must be very careful about repeating a course. As of Fall 2009, you may take any given course up to 3 times, regardless of grade earned, but there is a maximum of 6 total repeats across your entire KU career. The most recent grade (regardless of whether it is higher or lower) will be the grade calculated in your QPA and all course attempts will always be listed on your transcript.

- Make sure you take the exact same class; the course prefix and course number must match. It can be a different section (the last three numbers) and/or a different professor.
- The course will always appear on your official transcripts. Your transcript will always list each time you took a course, each grade you received and will indicate which grade is included or excluded in your QPA.
- If you received an F in the course at KU and you repeat the course at another college, it may transfer to KU. But it will not raise your QPA or change your grade calculations. Transfer courses come over as a CR grade and are not calculated into your KU QPA. So do not waste your time repeating the course at another college to bring up your QPA.
- Once you are granted your degree, your transcript and QPA are set in stone.
- Please visit the Registrar’s website for KU’s official policy.

Foreign (Modern) Language Options
You are not required to study another language for the psychology major. But it will help you, especially if you have an interest in human services. Spanish is especially good to know if you want to work in this area. Some northern and south-eastern states prefer French.

- If you took a foreign language in high school, take the on-line placement exam to assess proper placement.
  http://www.kutztown.edu/academics/liberal_arts/language/placement.shtml
- If you take the course in which the exam places you, and you earn a C or better, then you will receive the credits for the courses below that level. For example, if the exam places you into SPA 103 and you take SPA 103 and earn a C or better, then you will automatically earn credit for SPA 011 and SPA 012. That is an additional 6 credits! (A total of 9 credits will
be applied). However, if you take a level below where the exam placed you, then those lower credits will not be earned.

- The 011, 012, 103, and 104 levels must be taken sequentially. They may not be taken at the same time (even though the computer allows you to register for them).

**Adding a non-Psych Minor**

To add a minor, you will need to go to the discipline’s department to fill out a "Change of Major/Minor" form. Do this during the first weeks of a semester. For example, if you want to add a minor in Sociology, you have to go to the department of Sociology to request it. They will give you a grid sheet with the minor requirements and assign you a minor advisor. Most minors do have a QPA entrance requirement, usually 2.0.

- Double check that you have room on your psychology grid sheet to fit the minor. Otherwise you may have to take additional classes.
- Most minor classes will go under your Psychology - E. Concomitant Course (if applicable), Psychology - F. Free Electives, and General Education Requirements.
- Your psychology advisor cannot advise you about these courses. You must work with your minor advisor.
- A minor is not required to graduate with a degree in psychology.

**The Psychology Minor**

See the psychology department’s secretary in OM 384 to declare the minor. The chairperson of the psychology department will become your psychology minor advisor. The requirements to graduate with a minor in psychology are:

- A PSY QPA of 2.00 or higher as well as overall QPA of 2.0 or higher
- Completion of 18 credit hours in psychology
  - A grade of C or higher in General Psychology (Psy 011)
  - At least 3 psychology courses (9 credits) at the 2XX level or higher
  - Two psychology electives at any level (6 credits)
- Note: You cannot have a psychology minor if you are a psychology major. Also you must complete at least one-half of your PSY credits at KU.

**Changing Your Psychology Track**

If you want to change your psychology track go the Psychology Main Office OM 384. The department’s secretary will do this for you, depending upon what time of the semester you ask. It will be processed the following semester unless you do this before the first week of class. Use the new grid sheet to pick classes.
Changing Your Major
If you want to change your major, go to the department in which you would like to major. There may be a QPA entrance requirement. The secretary at that department will change your major and assign you a new advisor. For example, if you want to become a Social Work Major, go to the Social Work Office. Be sure to get a copy of that department’s grid sheet requirements. Use that to pick your classes for the following semester. Ask to see one of their professors for advising.
- It will be processed on the date received in the Registrar’s Office. Your psychology advisor will remain your advisor until the change is formally processed.
- You will get a new advisor from that department when the change is effective.

Adding a Second Major or Second Degree
Some students wish to declare an additional major. Pick up a grid sheet for the other major at that department office and speak with the department about requirements to add the additional program. Psychology is a BS degree; if the other major is also a BS degree, then it is likely that you can complete both majors within 120 credits. If the other major is a different degree, (e.g. BA, BSW, BSED), then you must complete a minimum of 150 credits as you would be a “dual degree” student rather than a “double major” in the BS degree. Pursuing a dual degree (150 credits) is rarely advantageous, but a double major is worthwhile. Please see the Registrar’s Home Page for additional information.
- Make sure you tell the secretary that you do not want to drop your psychology major.
- It will be processed the following semester unless you do this before the first week of class.
- You will be assigned a second advisor from that department the following semester.
- It is strongly advised that you meet with both your psychology advisor and a professor from that department to pick your classes. Your psychology professor cannot advise you for that major. You will have two advisors, two grid sheets, two degrees (Dual Degree students)!
- You will continue to use the psychology grid sheet for the psychology major. Your psychology advisor does not need to see your other grid sheet.

Applying For Graduation
All seniors must apply for graduation one semester before you intend to graduate. You can do this through the MyKU link or you can go to the Registrar’s Office to fill out a form. The absolute deadline is the first week of class - during your last semester.
**Withdrawing from a Course**

Before you withdraw from a course after the drop-add period, you may want to talk to the professor for advice. This is not necessary, but it may be helpful. To withdraw you must go in person to the Registrar’s Office to fill out a “Withdrawal from a Class” form. If you receive financial aid, scholarships, or your parents' health insurance, check with those offices before you withdraw.

Withdrawal Deadlines are:
- End of Week 10 - withdraw and receive a “W” grade, which has no effect on QPA,
- After Week 10, students cannot withdraw from a course and will receive a grade determined by the instructor.
- WF no longer exists as a grade; WF on a transcript was always computed as an F.
- If you do not officially withdraw from the class, you will receive a grade determined by the instructor.
- Please visit the Registrar’s website for KU’s official policy.

**Withdrawing from the University/ Leave of Absence**

If you need to withdraw from all of your classes or take a leave of absence, you will need to fill out the “Withdrawal/Leave of Absence Form” from the Registrar’s Office. This form is online. [http://www.kutztown.edu/registrar/default.asp](http://www.kutztown.edu/registrar/default.asp)

For exceptional situations and students who need to speak to a counselor, University Counseling Services is located in Beck Hall.

**Academic Warnings and Probations**

If at the end of any semester your overall QPA falls below a 2.0, you will be put on Academic Warning by the university for the following semester. At this point, you will not be allowed to register for more than 15 semester hours. If you receive financial aid, check with their office as falling below a 2.0 may affect you. If you do not raise your overall QPA to a 2.0 or above in the next semester, you will be put on Academic Probation. If you are put on Academic Probation, you will not be able to participate in any intercollegiate activities or leadership positions at KU. If you do not raise your overall QPA to 2.0 or above during this semester, you will be dismissed from the university.

**Academic Honesty Policy**

Academic dishonesty involves any attempt to obtain academic credit or influence the grading process by means unauthorized by the course instructor. Please visit KU’s website for their official policy. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to the following situations and examples:
- Providing or receiving unauthorized assistance in course work and lab work, or unauthorized assistance during examinations or quizzes.
• Using unauthorized notes, materials, and devices during examinations or quizzes.
• Plagiarizing the work of others and presenting it as one’s own without properly acknowledging the source or sources. At its worst extreme, plagiarism is exact copying, but it is also the inclusion of a paraphrased version of the opinions and work of others without giving credit. It is not limited to written materials. It includes the wrongful appropriation in whole or in part of someone else’s literary, artistic, musical, mechanical, or computer-based work.
• Presenting material to fulfill course requirements that was researched or prepared by others (such as commercial services) without the knowledge of the instructor.
• Falsifying or inventing data to be presented as part of an academic endeavor.
• Gaining unauthorized access to another person’s or the University’s computer system. Violations include tampering with or copying programs or data or access codes associated with coursework.
• Possessing or arranging for someone else to possess course examination or quiz materials at any time without the consent of the instructor.
• Altering or adding answers on exercises, exams, or quizzes after the work has been graded.
• Making fraudulent statements, excuses, or claims to gain academic credit or influence testing or grading.
• Taking examinations or quizzes for someone else or arranging to have someone take examinations or quizzes in place of the person registered for the course.

Requirements for Psychology Majors

Grid Sheets
Refer to the department web page,
http://www2.kutztown.edu/academics/colleges-and-departments/psychology/academic-resources.htm,
to download the appropriate grid sheet for your track and program year of entry.

Requirements
All psychology majors must:
• Choose a psychology track to complete. We have four programs; general track, clinical- counseling, industrial/organizational, and paralegal
• Complete a minimum of 120 credits overall
• Maintain an overall QPA of 2.25 or higher to remain in the psychology major
• Achieve a grade of C or higher in General Psychology (Psy 011), Statistics for the Social and Behavioral Sciences (Psy 200), and Experimental Psychology (Psy 270) to graduate with a psychology degree
• Meet the psychology department comprehensive examination requirements to graduate with a degree in psychology

**General Psychology (Psy 011)**
You need to get at least a C in General Psychology to graduate with a degree in Psychology. This is the first class you must take before you can enroll in any other psychology class. If you receive a grade of D, then MyKU will block you from registering for some psychology classes. It is strongly advised that you retake PSY 011 right away before you register for other psychology classes.

**NOTE:** As a psychology major, you can only put this class on the grid sheet under: Psychology Major Program A. Psychology Core 1. Foundations Course. General Psychology does not count as a General Education course.

**Child (Psy 110), Adolescent (Psy 120), and Lifespan Development (Psy 125)**
You will need to take at least one developmental class. But be very careful that you do not take all three courses. Because there is a lot of material overlap, only two of these classes will count toward graduation. So only take one or two of these classes if you want it to count toward graduation.

**Mathematics Course**
Take this during your Freshman or Sophomore year (1st, 2nd, or 3rd semester). You must take at least one math course (not MAT 003, 040, or 045) to graduate with a degree in psychology. Take this before you take Statistics for the Social and Behavioral Sciences (Psy 200), You may need to take MAT 105 if you entered the program prior to Fall 2010.

**Statistics for the Social and Behavioral Sciences (Psy 200)**
Take this class during your Freshman or Sophomore year (2nd, 3rd, 4th semester). Before you can take this class, you must "pass" a MAT 017 (Introduction to Math) or higher MAT course (not 003, 040 or 045). You must get at least a C in Psy 200 to:
• graduate with the psychology degree.
• take PSY 270 Experimental Psychology
• take PSY 310 Principles of Measurement
• take any PSY 300 level or Psy 400 level classes (500 level classes are for grad students).

**Experimental Psychology (Psy 270)***
You can only take this class after you have earned at least a C in Statistics (Psy 200). Take this class during your sophomore or junior years. You will need to earn at least a C in this class to graduate with a degree in psychology.

The Concomitant Courses
These are non-psychology courses that complement your psychology major. You must take 3 classes (9 credits) at the 100 level or above. Specific courses vary by track and are listed under Psychology E. Concomitant Course.

General Track Students
- Your concomitant courses may be any 100 level and above classes

Clinical Counseling Track Students
- Your concomitant courses must be 100 level and above classes from ANT, CRJ, SOC, SWK, or intermediate SPA. There are no other options.

Industrial Organizational Track Students
- Your concomitant courses must be 100 level and above classes from ACC, BUS, MGM, MKT, POL 347 or SOC 270. This will soon change to add PRO

Paralegal Track Students
- Your concomitant courses are defined for you on your grid sheet. You must take PLG courses. There are no other options.

Advanced Psychology Electives
Depending on your track, you will choose PSY electives at the 3xx or 4xx level.

Psychology Free Electives
You may choose any PSY course here (as long as you do not take all three developmental psych courses (PSY 110, 120, and 125).

The Psychology Comprehensive Evaluation

Students need to pass the comprehensive evaluation during their senior year in order to graduate. The evaluation is currently a portfolio submitted during PSY 380 Senior Seminar. For complete portfolio requirements and details see: http://www2.kutztown.edu/academics/colleges-and-departments/psychology/academic-resources/senior-comps.htm
Suggested Semester Course Sequence for Psychology Majors
7-6-10 version (for majors who begin after Fall 2010)

**Freshman: First Semester**  **Freshman: Second Semester**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Course</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSY 011 General Psychology</td>
<td>PSY 1xx or 2xx</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAT 017*</td>
<td>MAT 017 or PSY 200*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*In addition to or in lieu of MAT 017, MAT 105 or higher is recommended for Psychology majors who plan to go to graduate school.

**Sophomore: Third Semester**  **Sophomore: Fourth Semester**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Course</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSY 200 Statistics or 270 or 310**</td>
<td>PSY 270 or 310** or PSY 1xx or 2xx</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY 1xx or 2xx</td>
<td>PSY 1xx or 2xx course</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** PSY 200 Statistics is a prerequisite to PSY 270 and 310.

**Junior: Fifth Semester**  **Junior: Sixth Semester**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Course</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSY 270 or 310** or 3xx course</td>
<td>PSY 270 or 310** or 3xx</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY elective</td>
<td>PSY 379 or PSY advanced elective</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** PSY 200 Statistics is a prerequisite to PSY 270 and 310.

**Senior: Seventh Semester**  **Senior: Eighth Semester**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Course</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSY 379 or PSY 380 or PSY elective</td>
<td>PSY 379 or PSY 380 or PSY elective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY advanced elective</td>
<td>PSY advanced elective</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Complete MAT 017 before the third semester.
2. Complete PSY 200 before the fifth semester.
3. Complete PSY 270 and 310 before the seventh semester.

Keep in mind that:

- A 2.25 overall GPA is required to remain in the major; a 2.0 overall GPA and a 2.0 Psych GPA are required for graduation.
- PSY 011, 200, and 270 require a C or better to graduate.
- The minimum number of PSY credits required is 42; at least half must be completed at KU.
- The maximum number of PSY credits that count toward graduation is 51.
- Students must pass a Senior Comprehensive Evaluation. See [http://www2.kutztown.edu/academics/colleges-and-departments/psychology/academic-resources/senior-comps.htm](http://www2.kutztown.edu/academics/colleges-and-departments/psychology/academic-resources/senior-comps.htm)
- Internship/practicum courses require a 2.5 or higher GPA and completion of at least 12 credits of PSY along with other prerequisites.
- 4xx courses are “combined graduate/undergraduate level courses and only students with junior standing and a 2.9 or higher GPA can enroll.
- Graduation requires a minimum of 120 total credits. You must apply to graduate. [http://www.kutztown.edu/registrar/](http://www.kutztown.edu/registrar/)
General Schedule of Course Offerings in Psychology

The Psychology Department offers a wide variety of courses. Below is a generalized schedule to help you know when particular courses are likely to be available so that you can better plan your course sequence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Semester</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>011</td>
<td>General Psychology</td>
<td>F, S, Su</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>110</td>
<td>Child Psychology</td>
<td>F, S, Su</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>120</td>
<td>Adolescent Psychology</td>
<td>F, S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>125</td>
<td>Lifespan Development</td>
<td>F, S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>140</td>
<td>Educational Psychology</td>
<td>F, S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>160</td>
<td>Human Exceptionalities</td>
<td>F, S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200</td>
<td>Statistics</td>
<td>F, S, Su</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>202</td>
<td>Psych. of Personality</td>
<td>F, S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>215</td>
<td>Psych. of Prejudice</td>
<td>Once a year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>217</td>
<td>Psychology and the Law</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>220</td>
<td>Industrial/Organizational Psychology</td>
<td>F, S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>240</td>
<td>Social Psychology</td>
<td>F, S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>242</td>
<td>Performance Psychology</td>
<td>?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>245</td>
<td>Conflict &amp; Conflict Resolution</td>
<td>?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>250</td>
<td>Abnormal Psychology</td>
<td>F, S, Su</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>265</td>
<td>Human Sexual Behavior</td>
<td>?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>270</td>
<td>Experimental Psychology</td>
<td>F, S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>280+</td>
<td>Selected Topics</td>
<td>?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>290</td>
<td>Culture and Personality</td>
<td>Once a year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>305</td>
<td>Practicum</td>
<td>F, S, Su</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>310</td>
<td>Psych. Measurement</td>
<td>F, S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>311</td>
<td>Learning, Motivation, &amp; Emotion</td>
<td>F, S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>312</td>
<td>Sensation and Perception</td>
<td>F, S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>325</td>
<td>Physiological Psychology</td>
<td>F, S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>331</td>
<td>Health Psychology</td>
<td>F, S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>333</td>
<td>Psych. of Leadership in Organization</td>
<td>Every 3rd semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>336</td>
<td>Diversity in Organizations</td>
<td>?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>340</td>
<td>Cognitive Psychology</td>
<td>F, S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>350</td>
<td>Personnel Psychology</td>
<td>Every 3rd semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>351</td>
<td>Organizational Psychology</td>
<td>Every 3rd semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>355</td>
<td>Organization Development &amp; Change</td>
<td>Every 3rd semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>360</td>
<td>Clinical Psychology</td>
<td>F, S, Su</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>362</td>
<td>Industrial Psych. Internship</td>
<td>F, S, Su</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>363</td>
<td>Clinical Internship</td>
<td>S, Su</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>370</td>
<td>Selected Research Topics</td>
<td>F, S, Su</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>375</td>
<td>Psychotherapy</td>
<td>F, S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>379</td>
<td>History and Systems</td>
<td>F, S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>380</td>
<td>Senior Seminar</td>
<td>F, S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>429</td>
<td>Behavior Modification</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>432</td>
<td>Human Neuropsychology</td>
<td>Once a year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

F = Fall  S = Spring  Su = Summer  ? = offered on an irregular basis
Special Opportunities for Psychology Majors

Clinical Psychology (Psy 360)
Dr. Emmanuel Akillas puts a form outside of his office in OM 394 a few weeks before registration begins. E-mail him for more information - akillas@kutztown.edu. Have a back up plan if you are unable to register for this class. If you plan to do a clinical internship (Psy 363/364) you must take this class first. To enroll in this class, you must have:

- completed Abnormal Psychology (Psy 250)
- earned at least a C in Statistics (Psy 200)

This is a controlled class, which means the professor must give you permission to register. You cannot add this class on your own.
Contact Person: Dr. Emmanuel Akillas akillas@kutztown.edu

Clinical Internship (Psy 363)
Psy 363 is the fieldwork experience, which you will set up with Dr. Emmanuel Akillas. It is not offered in the Fall. Selection of internships and registration is arranged when you take Psy 360 Clinical Psychology. You will also attend seminar, which you attend like a regular class once a week with Dr. Akillas. To enroll you must have

- completed Clinical Psychology (Psy 360)
- earned at least a C in Statistics (Psy 200)
- completed at least 12 psychology credits
- a QPA of 2.5 or higher (or permission from the professor)
- enough room on your grid sheet in your advanced psychology electives and psychology electives to fit both of these classes. Note these classes are worth a total of 6 credits.
- approval from the Psychology Department Chair and the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Contact Person: Dr. Emmanuel Akillas akillas@kutztown.edu

Practicum in Psychology (Psy 305)
This is an opportunity for you to gain a variety of possible experiences. It is not the same thing as a clinical internship. For example, you may volunteer on or off campus for a service organization, government agency, daycare, or school district. Or you may work as a research assistant for a KU faculty member or for health professionals at Lehigh Valley Hospital. First, go to one of the KU psychology professors with your idea. If the professor can accommodate you, you will need to write a brief proposal outlining your planned work and activities.
With the professor's approval, you must contact the site to arrange the practicum. (If you have an interest in a research practicum at Lehigh Valley Hospital you must contact Dr. James Jackson吉祥@kutztown.edu.) This all must be arranged and approved before you can register for the class. To enroll in this class you must have:

- earned at least a C in Statistics (Psy 200)
- junior or senior status
- completed at least 12 psychology credits
- a QPA of 2.5 or higher overall and within the major (or approval of the professor)
- enough room on your grid sheet in your advanced psychology electives and/or psychology electives. Note that a maximum of 45 credits in psychology will count toward graduation.
- approval from the Psychology Department Chair and the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- it can be taken for 1 - 6 credits

This is a controlled class, which means the professor who will supervise the practicum must give you permission to register. You cannot add this class on your own.

Contact person: Any Psychology professor

**Industrial Organizational Internship (PSY 362)**

This is an academically based, supervised work experience designed to apply theory to practice. Students have the opportunity to interact with professionals in their area of interest, develop the communication skills, and to build a strong resume and references. This experience will provide not only career focus but also increased self-confidence and maturity. This course has 8 - 16 contact hours per week and is worth 3 - 6 credits. To enroll in this class you must have:

- earned at least a C in Statistics (Psy 200)
- completed Industrial Organizational Psychology (Psy 220)
- a QPA of 2.5 or higher overall and within the major (or approval of the professor)
- enough room on your grid sheet in your advanced psychology electives and/or psychology electives.
- approval from the Psychology Department Chair and the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Contact Person: Dr. Ronald Stoffey stoffey@kutztown.edu or Dr. Michele Baranczyk baranczy@kutztown.edu

This is a controlled class, which means the professor must give you permission to register. You cannot add this class on your own.
Independent Research (Psy 370)

This is a controlled class, which means the professor must give you permission to register. You cannot add this class on your own. This is an opportunity for you to gain research experience in the field. It is worth between 1 and 6 credits. First, go to one of the KU psychology professors to discuss your ideas. It usually takes between 2 - 3 months before you register for the class to plan this project. Also, note that your request to take this class must go through an approval process. Have a backup plan if it does not get approved. You can earn up to 6 credits. To enroll in this course, you must have:

- earned at least a C in Statistics (Psy 200)
- completed Experimental Psychology (Psy 270)
- completed at least 12 psychology credits
- a QPA of 2.5 or higher overall and within the major
- enough room on your grid sheet in your advanced psychology electives and/or psychology electives. Note that a maximum of 45 credits in psychology will count toward graduation
- approval from the Psychology Department Chair and the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

If the professor can accommodate you they will give you the approval form to fill out. The professor will help you prepare a project outline describing:

- The topic of the independent study
- Methodology/ plan of action
- Equipment/ resources needed
- Products expected of the student (e.g., paper, video, oral presentation, etc.)
- Methods of evaluation

Research Assistants

Students are encouraged to assist faculty with research. Many professors are actively doing research and need student assistants. Talk to any psychology professor to see if they need assistance. Some prefer you have completed Statistics (Psy 200) and Experimental Psychology (Psy 270). They may ask you to do literature reviews, data code, data analysis, and/or data gathering. It is a fantastic way to build your professional experience. Often, students and professor present their research at local and national conferences.

Research Scholars Program at Lehigh Valley Hospital

KU also has a relationship with the Research Scholars program at Lehigh Valley Hospital. If you have an interest in a research practicum at Lehigh Valley Hospital you must contact Dr. James Jackson: jackson@kutztown.edu. Some of
these positions are fulltime paid positions during the summer; during the academic year you may be able to earn credit for PSY 305 and/or 370.

**Supplemental Instructor Position for General Psychology**

Through KU’s Peer Mentoring Program, you can be employed as a Supplemental Instructor (SI) for general psychology. Supplemental Instructors work with a psychology professor who is teaching a large section (over 100 students) of general psychology. You must attend all classes and hold two one-hour study review sessions every week. In addition, you may be asked to help the professor distribute tests or other clerical duties. Supplemental Instructors are not allowed to teach, supervise the class, or grade assignments. To qualify, you must have:

- At least a 3.0 QPA
- At least 60 earned credits overall

If interested, contact the psychology professor scheduled to teach the class. Arrangements are made at least two weeks before the class begins. You can work a maximum of 8 hours per week. Most students work 6 hours per week. If the professor can use you, contact the Director of Tutoring Services. Although there is no guarantee you will be chosen from the pool of applicants, let Dr. Stewart know the name of the professor you would like to work with.

Contact Person: Dr. Thomas Stewart tstewart@kutztown.edu

**KU Psi Chi and Lehigh Valley Psychological and Counseling Association (LVPCA)**

**Student Research Conference**

In association with LVPCA, every Spring semester the KU Chapter of Psi Chi hosts a Psychology Student Poster Research Conference at Kutztown University. This is a great opportunity to present your research. Admission is free. Every Fall semester, there is a Call for Papers. Research submissions must represent undergraduate or graduate research conducted by the student. Research may be experimental or non-experimental, but must include a working hypothesis, design, and results. Completed research is preferable, but research in progress with preliminary data and interpretation is considered.

Contact Person: Dr. Laura Koenig Koenig@kutztown.edu

**Research Grants**

Students may apply for funds to conduct research that is being supervised by a Kutztown University psychology professor. Through the psychology department, you may apply for the *Keller-Sharp Research Fund*. This is a monetary award granted to any student in need of research materials. Additional research grants are offered through Kutztown University. Funding is available for undergraduates to attend conferences to present work they’ve authored or co-authored. Check out KU’s Undergraduate Research
Committee’s website: http://www.kutztown.edu/committees/urc/ for more information about application guidelines. In addition, student members of Psi Chi, the national honor society, may apply for various grants through the Psi Chi organization.

Contact Person: Your research advisor or Dr. Anita Meehan meehan@kutztown.edu

On Line Subject Pool
Students who are being supervised by a faculty member may recruit college students for subjects using the Psychology Department’s Subject Pool. This is a web-based program used to recruit research subjects. Once your study receives approval from KU’s Internal Review Board (IRB) you may make arrangements to use this website tool.
Contact Person: Dr. Robert Ryan rryan@kutztown.edu

Psychology Club
The Psychology Club is open to all students regardless of their major. Meetings are generally held twice a month in OM 288 or OM 287 on the second and fourth Thursday at 11:00 AM. Look for flyers posted in Old Main or visit the Psychology Department’s website for a calendar of events. You may also join the Psychology Club’s Facebook Group. At each meeting, the Psychology Club president will have a sign up sheet, which will place you on an e-mail list. The Psychology Club sponsors a psychology newsletter, speakers, workshops, trips to conferences, and social events throughout the year.

Contact Person: See the psychology department’s secretary in OM 384 for the name of the current Psychology Club president or contact current advisor: Dr. Derek Mace Mace@kutztown.edu

Psychology Awards
Every Spring the Psychology Department holds The Psychology Awards Ceremony. You may nominate yourself for some of these awards. Nomination forms are distributed in February. The submission deadline is March 1st.
Contact Person: Dr. Laura Koenig Koenig@kutztown.edu
The following awards are given to outstanding students in the major.
- The Academic Achievement Award is given to a graduating senior with the highest QPA.
- The Field Experience Award is given to the student who demonstrated excellence in their field work/ internship.
- The Scientist/ Practitioner Award is given to the student who demonstrated excellence in research and fieldwork.
• The **Leadership Award** is given to the student who demonstrated leadership through on or off-campus organizations.
• The **Research Award** is given to the student who demonstrated excellence in research.
• The **Gill-Lauer-Sharp Award** is given to a graduating senior who shows the most promise of success in a graduate program.
• The **Model Psi Chi Student Award** is given to a Psi Chi member who best exemplifies Psi Chi's twin ideals of scholarship and service.
• The **Jaymie-Creitz Scholarship** is presented to a female psychology major that entered Kutztown University through the Office of Extended Learning and demonstrated commitment to animal welfare and/or MADD/SADD. The student must have earned 21 credits or more.

**Psi Chi**

Psi Chi is the national honorary society for psychology. The Psi Chi officers generally hold at least one membership meeting each semester. They sponsor various speakers, workshops, and the LVPCA Research conference. Membership is open to all students who meet the following qualifications:

- Completion of at least 36 undergraduate credits at Kutztown University
- Completion of 15 semester hours of psychology at Kutztown University
- Declaration of a major in psychology.
- At least a 3.25 QPA overall and in psychology
- High standards of personal behavior
- Two-thirds affirmative vote of those present at a chapter meeting

The group holds a formal initiation ceremony once a year in March or April. There is a one-time fee of $60 to join the national society. This includes a lifetime membership, membership certificate, certificate holder, and a set of honor cords that can be worn during your KU graduation ceremony. For further information see the KU Psi Chi website at [http://www2.kutztown.edu/academics/colleges-and-departments/psychology/student-resources/psi-chi-honor-society.htm](http://www2.kutztown.edu/academics/colleges-and-departments/psychology/student-resources/psi-chi-honor-society.htm)

Contact: Dr. Laura Koenig [Koenig@kutztown.edu](mailto:Koenig@kutztown.edu)
University Honors Program

Students may join KU’s Honors Program, which focuses on completing higher-level coursework. To enroll you need a minimum QPA of 3.25. An Honors Diploma is awarded to those students in the program who have:

- met all college requirements
- have completed at least 21 semester hours in Honors courses
- have attained a minimum QPA of 3.25
- have completed a two unit service component

For more information visit the KU Honors Program website: http://www.kutztown.edu/academics/undergrad_honors.shtml

Careers and Graduate School

Bachelor's Degree Career Options

A professional career in psychology usually requires an advanced degree. However, there are many options with a Bachelor's degree. Here is a sampling:

**Activity Leader**

**Addictions Specialist**

**Admissions Evaluator**

**Business Manager**

**Career Planning Professional**

**Case Manager**

**College Admissions Representative**

**College Student Affairs Representative**

**Compliance Officer**

**Community Relations Director**

**Corporate Merchandising Manager**

**Correctional Caseworker**

**Corrections Officer**

**Crisis Intervention Specialist**

**Crime Prevention Coordinator**

**Day Care Aid or Director**

**Foster Home Worker**

**Hospice Coordinator**

**Human Resources Administrator**

**Juvenile Protection**

**Marketing**

**Paralegal (with a paralegal track Bachelor's degree)**

**Patient Service Representative**

**Personnel Director**

**Prevention Specialist**

**Program Director**

**Psychiatric Technician**

**Publishing Representative**

**Recreation Specialist**

**Rehabilitation Aid**

**Salesperson**

**Social Service Administrator**

**Therapeutic Staff Support Worker**

**Research/Statistical Consultants**

**Veteran's Advisor**

**Work Activity Program Director**

**Youth Services Director**

Advanced Degree Career Options:
Agency Counselor
- Specialize in psychotherapy or counseling. To practice psychotherapy, they must become a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC). Agency Counselors must earn a M.A., M.S., or M.C.  

Addictions Counselor
- Treat people with substance addictions, gambling addictions and/or eating disorders. They must be certified. To practice psychotherapy, they must be licensed by their state. Although many practice with a Bachelor’s degree, addictions counselors typically earn a M.A., M.S., or M.C.

Clinical Psychologists
- Specialize in the assessment and treatment of people suffering from emotional or behavioral disorders. Clinical psychologists work with children, adolescents, adults, elderly or families. They work in hospitals, treatment centers, clinics, private practice, schools, colleges and universities. To practice psychotherapy, they must be licensed by their state. Clinical Psychologists earn a Ph.D.

Counseling Psychologists
- Specialize in the assessment and treatment of people suffering from emotional or behavioral disorders. Clinical psychologists work with children, adolescents, adults, elderly or families. To practice psychotherapy, they must be licensed by their state. Counseling Psychologists earn a Ph.D., Psy.D. or Ed.D.

Developmental Psychologists
- Examine changes in physical state, cognitive abilities, and social behavior across the life span. Generally, developmental psychologists specialize in a particular age level such as infancy, early childhood, adolescence, or old age. They may be found in a variety of settings including schools, day care centers, children and youth intervention programs, government positions, or universities. Developmental Psychologists earn a Ph.D. or Ed.D.

Experimental Psychologists
- Are trained in designing and conducting research in specific areas. Areas traditionally grouped under this label include learning; sensation and perception; human performance; motivation and emotion; cognitive processes, language, thinking and communication; and comparative and physiological psychology. Experimental Psychologists earn a Ph.D.

Industrial Organizational (I/O) Psychologists (Personnel/Organizational Psychologists)
- Are employed in business/industry, government, or academic settings. They study how work is organized, how the satisfaction of employees can be improved, the quality of the organization’s services, and productivity. They may consult with management on the development of effective selection and training programs for employees. They may design programs for the early identification of management potential, administer career counseling or pre-retirement counseling programs, develop affirmative action programs, recommend changes in job definition, and design an appropriate system of performance evaluation. I/O Psychologists earn a Ph.D. Some are employed with a Master’s Degree.

Marital and Family Therapists (MFT)
- Specialize in doing couples and family counseling. They may help couples fix their marriage or obtain a divorce. They may help families resolve conflicts and cope with life changes. To practice psychotherapy, they must be licensed by their state. Marital and Family Therapists earn a M.A., M.S., M.C., Psy.D. or Ph.D.
Forensic Psychologists
- Do psychotherapy or counseling with prisoners, give expert testimony, research, determine legal competence to stand trial, investigate malingering, and/or help lawyers with jury selection. Forensic Psychologists earn a Ph.D.

School Psychologists
- Are specialists in identifying and addressing school and personal problems. Many school psychologists administering standardized tests in the schools. They may also serve as consultants in education for the handicapped, mentally disturbed, or mentally retarded or in developing special programs in adult education. To practice psychotherapy, they must be licensed by their state. School Psychologists earn a Ph.D.

School Counselors
- Assist students with personal, vocational, family, academic and mental health problems. They must be certified. To practice psychotherapy, they must be licensed by their state. School Counselors earn a M.S., M.A, M.C., and/or Ed.S.

Social Psychologists
- Study how people influence and relate to one another. Colleges, business, industry, government, and human services employ them. Many social psychologists are hired for their expertise in survey research methods and program evaluation. In particular, market research firms are likely to employ social psychologists, who have a strong background in quantitative methods. Social Psychologists earn a Ph.D. in social psychology.

Preparing a Curriculum Vitae (CV)

Most psychology graduate schools, medical schools, and employers of human services will ask you to send them your vita. The word vita is Latin for "life." It lists all of your educational achievements, tutoring/teaching experiences, research experiences, related job experiences, publications, presentations, awards, honors, and professional affiliations. It lists everything you have accomplished so far in the field of psychology. If you apply for a job, fellowship, grant, or professional affiliation in counseling, research, education, or medicine you will be required to send a vita. A resume, on the other hand, is a brief one or two page summary of your skills, experience and education. Once you put your CV together, ask several of your psychology professors for their feedback before you send it to graduate schools or employers.

Letters of Recommendation

When you apply for a job or graduate school, you will probably be asked to submit 2 - 3 letters of recommendation.
These letters should come from professional people, not friends or family. They should come from your psychology professors who know you well. You may also want to ask other professors or work supervisors.
Get to know your professors on a personal level. Let them know your plans and ambitions. Be involved with activities above and beyond your required class work. Become a research assistant. Be an active member of your class through participation. Talk to your professor outside of class. To write a good referral, the professor needs to know more about you than your test performance and attendance record in class. Reference forms typically ask the professor to rate you on:

- **Academic characteristics** such as intellectual ability, breadth and depth of knowledge, written and oral expression, analytical skills, and potential for success at graduate study,
- **Professional characteristics** such as seriousness of purpose, organizational ability, maturity, integrity, professionalism, self-reliance, self-discipline, initiative, reliability, leadership ability
- **Intrapersonal characteristics** such as self-knowledge, insightfulness, concern for others, and ability to remain objective.
- **Interpersonal characteristics** such as cooperativeness, receptiveness to constructive criticism, and flexibility.

Do not give their name to graduate schools or employers until after you asked them yourself. Try to see them in person (sometimes professors need a face with the name). Ask them, "*Do you feel that you would be able write me a good letter of recommendation?*" A professor may oblige and write you a letter, but it may not be a strong letter.

If the professor can write you a good letter of recommendation, give them:

- The recommendation forms.
  - Make sure you fill everything out and sign it.
  - Decide whether or not to waive your rights to read the letter.
    - Be aware that waving your rights may make the recommendation more credible to the recipient.
- The deadline for the application.
  - Give professors at least 2 weeks notice
- Self-addressed stamped envelopes or school addressed stamped envelopes.
  - Be sure to address each envelope according to the instructions in each recommendation form. Some schools and employers require the letter to be sent directly to their office. Some require you to send all of your letters with your application.
  - If you are applying to several school or positions that require you to mail the letter with your application make sure you indicate the school or employer somewhere on the envelope.
will receive them sealed and will not be able to open them to check where it is to be sent.

- If the school requires you to send the letter with your application, do not unseal the letter. This will make it invalid.
- Make sure you have enough postage on the envelope.
- Any information they need from you.
  - Ask each professor what material or information they need to write your letter.

**Applying to Graduate Schools**

The decision to go to graduate school is a big one and can feel overwhelming. With a little preparation and organization the process can go smoothly. If you plan to go to graduate school discuss your plans with your advisor as early as possible. Adequate preparation for graduate school requires appropriate coursework as well as research experience, possible internship experience, and other activities related to the field. Since all of this takes time, the earlier you begin to prepare the better. Your advisor and other professors with whom you have developed a good relationship are your best resources for information and guidance. The Psychology Department’s Graduate Assistants are also available to answer any questions you may have about the graduate school process. They are located in OM 393. Several factors that are important include:

- Your GRE scores
- Your QPA
- Your interview with the program, if invited
- Letters of recommendation from your psychology professors
- Research experience
- Clarity and focus of your statement of purpose or other required essays

If you plan to go directly to graduate school after graduation, you should start preparing at least two years in advance. Most graduate programs in psychology are competitive. As an applicant you have to stand out. Here is some useful advice:

**Build Your Professional Experience**

- Start to draft your CV (curriculum vita) and/or resume. Every time you do something significant that is related to the field, add it.
- Volunteer to be a research assistant in a faculty member’s research program. You can read about the research programs being conducted by some of the faculty on the faculty page of the Psychology Department’s website. A lot of programs like to see this experience. It especially looks very good if you can present your research at a conference and/or publish it.
- Get involved on campus with any clubs or related activities. Start this your Freshman year!
• Try to do an internship if you can. Although this is not required, it will help you a lot.
• Do any volunteer work you can in the field
• Attend psychology research conferences or workshops
• Join Professional Organizations in the field

Prepare for the Graduate Record Exam
The Graduate Record Exam (GRE) is an aptitude test, like the SAT, that measures verbal reasoning, quantitative reasoning, critical thinking, and analytical writing skills. Most, but not all, graduate programs in psychology require it. Some schools require the GRE -Subject Test for Psychology. The Psychology GRE is an achievement test that measures how much you know about the field of psychology.

Start to prepare for the GRE during your Sophomore year. You can buy a GRE preparation book at any bookstore. There are GRE prep courses that you can take, but they tend to be expensive. In addition, you may also look at a study guide at the Psychology Department's Main Office, OM384. You will want to take the GRE during your Junior year. You should have them completed by the beginning of your Senior year at the latest. If you are applying for a Fall Graduate Program, generally you will need to have these scores for your applications in December. You can register for the GRE test on line www.ets.org/gre/ or call 1-800-473-2255. Once you register for the test, the GRE company will send you free test preparation materials. The cost for GRE test is about $140.

Investigate Graduate Programs
Do a search on line for graduate programs that interest you.
• Compare their admission requirements and criteria.
  o Most programs require a minimum overall GRE score of 1000.
  o Most Master programs require a minimum 3.0 QPA.
  o Most Doctorate programs require a minimum 3.50 QPA.
• Look at the course work each program offers.
  o If you are applying to Master's level counseling programs, make sure the program will qualify you to be licensed. Although not always necessary, you may want to go to an accredited program. The two accreditation boards in the US are the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) and the Council on Rehabilitation Education (CORE). Most Master’s programs require 3-5 years to complete.
  o If you are applying to Doctorate level counseling or clinical programs, make sure they are APA or CACREP approved. Most Doctoral programs require 5-8 years to complete.
• See if they offer any type of assistantships, fellowships, or financial aid.
• If possible, visit the campus before you apply.
• Note each school’s application deadlines. Most Doctoral programs only admit a handful of students once a year in the Fall. Generally, Doctoral programs have a December/January deadline. If you apply to Doctoral programs, it is strongly advised that you also apply to some Master level programs as well. Some Master’s programs have Spring admissions. Their application deadlines vary.

After you mail your applications to the schools, contact them to make sure they received all of your materials.

Statement of Purpose
Most schools require students to write a statement of purpose covering biographical information, interests, and goals. Here are some tips for writing a good statement:

• Find out as much information as possible about the specific graduate programs to which you are applying. Read books, search the Web, read over the materials each school sent to you, talk to your professors, talk to your friends, etc.
• If you have research experience (e.g., worked as a research assistant, completed an independent study), field experience (e.g., internships), and/or volunteer experience (e.g., Big Brother/Big Sister), describe it. The level of detail should be sufficient to convey the basics of what you have done.
• Be sure to convey why the school should accept you as opposed to someone else with similar qualifications (e.g., similar GRE scores, QPA, research experience, etc.). Why should they pick you?
• When you describe your areas of research interest, be focused. For example, to say you are interested in studying social psychology is too broad. To say you are interested in stereotyping, prejudice, discrimination and related issues is better.
• If possible, you should mention one or two faculty members at the school whose research interests match your own and with whom you would like to work.
• Explain why you have decided to pursue psychology as a career. Do not say you want to be able to make more money.
• Explain why you want to go to the particular school. What makes the school especially appropriate for you? Don’t say because it’s a short commute.
• Be honest. Do not say anything that cannot be verified. You are sure to be rejected if you are caught lying about your accomplishments. Also, when you write about something, be sure you know what you are talking about (e.g., don’t discuss psychological theories or research that you don’t really understand).
• Do not be arrogant.
• Make sure that your writing is extremely clear, concise, and free of any spelling, grammatical, punctuation, or usage errors. Ask the best writers you know to help you proofread. Good writing is highly valued because it conveys good thinking.

• Use an outline, write a rough draft, and revise, revise, revise. Make sure your statement of purpose truly is a sample of your absolute best writing.

• Try to convey the impression of a motivated but logical and realistic applicant. Avoid overly emotional and dramatic statements.
Professional Organizations In Psychology

Here is a list of some, not all, of the national and regional organizations in psychology:

**National Organizations**

American Art Therapy Association (AATA)
American Association for Paralegal Education (AAPE)
American College Counseling Association (ACCA)
American Counseling Association (ACA)
American Mental Health Counselors Association (AMHCA)
American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC)
American Psychological Association (APA)
American Psychology Law Society (AP-LS)
American Rehabilitation Counseling Association (ARCA)
American School Counselor Association (ASCA)
Association for Assessment in Counseling and Education (AACE)
Association for Adult Development and Aging (AADA)
Association for the Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies (ABCT)
Association of Black Psychologists (ABP)
Association for Counselors and Educators in Government (ACEG)
Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (ACES)
Association for Creativity in Counseling (ACC)
Association for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Issues in Counseling (ALGBTIC)
Association for Multicultural Counseling and Development (AMCD)
Association for Psychological Science (APS; formerly Amer. Psych. Society)
Association for Spiritual, Ethical, and Religious Values in Counseling (ASERVIC)
Association for Specialists in Group Work (ASGW)
Counseling Association for Humanistic Education and Development (C-AHEAD)
Counselors for Social Justice (CSJ)
International Association of Addictions and Offender Counselors (IAAOC)
International Association of Marriage and Family Counselors (IAMFC)
National Alliance of Professional Psychology Providers (NAPPP)
National Association of Legal Assistants (NALA)
National Association of School Psychologists (NASP)
National Career Development Association (NCDA)
National Employment Counseling Association (NECA)
National Federation of Paralegal Association (NFPA)
National Institute for Mental Health (NIMH)
Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology (SIOP)
Society for the Teaching of Psychology (STP)

**Regional Organizations**

Central Pennsylvania Paralegal Association (CPPA)
Eastern Psychological Association (EPA)
Lehigh Valley Psychological and Counseling Association (LVPCA)
Pennsylvania Counseling Association (PCA)
Pennsylvania Association of Addictions & Offender Counseling (PAAOC)
Pennsylvania Association of Counselor Education & Supervision (PACES)
Pennsylvania Association of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, & Transgender Issues in Counseling (PAGLBTIC)
Pennsylvania Association of Multicultural Counseling & Development (PAMCD)
Pennsylvania Association of Specialists in Group Work (PASGW)
Pennsylvania Association of Spiritual, Ethical, & Religious Values in Counseling (PASERViC)
Pennsylvania College Counseling Association (PACCA)
Pennsylvania Mental Health Counselors Association (PAMHCA)
Pennsylvania Psychological Association (PPA)