

WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR IN PSYCHOLOGY

OVERVIEW OF MAJOR

Concordia University's Department of Psychology offers at the undergraduate level programs leading to either a B.A. or B.Sc. degree in Psychology. Students may follow a Major, Specialization or Honours sequence, and a Minor in Psychology is offered for students registered in other departments. Students may also follow a B.Sc. Specialization or Honours Program in Psychology with a Behavioural Neuroscience option. At the graduate level it offers degrees of Doctor of/Doctorate in Philosophy (Psychology) and Master of/Magisteriate in Arts (Psychology) as well as a Certificate in Clinical Psychology. The latest information on programs, as well as research interests of faculty, can be explored in depth on the Department's web site <http://psychology.concordia.ca/>. In Quebec, a person must be registered with the Ordre des psychologues du Québec <http://www.ordrepsy.qc.ca> to earn the right to use the title of psychologist.

EXAMPLES OF JOBS ACQUIRED BY CONCORDIA GRADUATES

The following job titles are representative of the types of entry-level positions for which Concordia University students are eligible upon graduation. Note that the numbers following each job title refer to Canada's National Occupational Classification (NOC) code. For details on these titles go to <http://www5.hrsdc.gc.ca/NOC/>.

- Activity Leader
- Applied Behaviour Analysis
- Therapist (4151)
- Behavioural Therapist (4151)
- Child Development Specialist
- Client Care Counsellor
- Counsellor (4143, 4151, 4153)
- Drop-In Community Worker (4212)
- Focus Group Facilitator
- Guidance Counsellor (4143)
- Human Resource Coordinator (1121)
- Intake Counsellor
- Intensive Behavior Intervention Therapist
- Interviewer (1223)
- Job Search Advisor (4213)
- Outreach Worker
- Psychologist (4151)
- Rehabilitation Specialist (3111)
- Research Assistant (4122, 4164)
- Respite Agent (3413)
- School Violence Prevention Program Assistant
- Special Care Counsellor
- Special Needs Companion
- Training Coordinator (0112)
- Vocational Counsellor (4213)
- Youth Animator

CELEBRATED PHILOSOPHY MAJORS

Albert Bandura. Originator of Social Cognitive Theory.

Abraham Maslow. One of the Founders of Humanistic Psychology

Phillip McGraw. Psychologist, Author and Television Host Known as "Dr. Phil"

Steven Pinker. Canadian Experimental Psychologist. Cognition & Learning Researcher

Natalie Portman. Actress

B.F. Skinner. Behaviorist and Developer of Operant Conditioning

MORE JOB TITLES

The study of psychology lays down the foundation for many career paths in business, science and mental health. The titles below are not meant to be exhaustive but are representative of fields which psychology majors pursue. Keep in mind that some occupations require further education (e.g., a higher degree, second degree, diploma). Note that the numbers following each job title refer to Canada's National Occupational Classification (NOC) code.

For details on these titles go to <http://www5.hrsdc.gc.ca/NOC/>.

- Career Counsellor (4213)
- Child Care Worker (4212, 4214)
- Clinical Psychologist (4151)
- Correction Counsellor Trainee
- Criminologist (4169)
- Crisis Intervention Worker (4212)
- Employee Assistance Administrator (0112)
- Family Educator
- Gerontology Aide
- Group Home Worker (4212)
- Human Factors Practitioner (4161)
- Industrial/Organizational Psychologist (4151)
- Integration Aide
- Labour Relations Specialist (1121)
- Market Research Consultant (4163)
- Mental Health Worker (4212)
- Outplacement Specialist (4213)
- Personnel Analyst
- Police Officer (6261)
- Probation Officer (4155)
- Professor (4121)
- Psychometrician (4169)
- Public Opinion Survey Researcher (4164)
- Retail Sales Manager (0621)

- Social Services Assistant (4212)
- Social Worker (4152)
- Special Education Technician (4212)
- Sports Psychologist (4151)
- Substance Abuse Worker (4212)

POTENTIAL WORK SETTINGS

Psychology graduates find jobs across all major sectors of the economy including private industry, education, government, self-employment and nonprofit. A large percentage of psychology graduates work in business settings finding positions primarily in human resources, public relations, retail and advertising. A smaller percentage of graduates find employment in the social service sector, often in counselling and social work settings. Those with graduate degrees have the training to seek employment in the academic and research sectors. To research specific employers who hire those in the field, there are many resources available in such locations as the Career Resource Centre, the Webster Library, Vanier Library and the Internet

- Advertising Firms
- Child Welfare Agencies
- Colleges and Universities
- Community Organizations
- Correctional Facilities
- Crisis Centres
- Day Care Centres
- Government Services (Federal, Provincial and Municipal)
- Hospitality Industry
- Hospitals
- Human Resource Departments
- Insurance Companies
- Marketing and Marketing
- Research Agencies
- Mental Health Institutions
- Military
- Placement/ Employment Agencies
- Research Centres
- Retail Stores
- Schools and School Boards
- Shelters and Residences
- Social Service Organizations
- Special Need Centres
- Specialized Consulting Firms
- Youth Drop-In Centres

SKILLS AND CHARACTERISTICS

Graduates of psychology programs are able to understand and relate to other people. This is a skill sought after by many employers. They also possess sound research, writing and problem solving skills as well as the ability to analyze, synthesize and evaluate information. In addition, students will find the following skills, interests, values and other characteristics valuable for succeeding in the field.

- Ability to Communicate Effectively
- Ability to Moderate Conflict
- Adapt and Manage Change
- Computer Literate
- Critical Thinker
- Design and Conduct Surveys
- Emotional Maturity
- Ethical
- Good Judgement
- Highly Literate
- Interpersonal Skills
- Integrity
- Knowledge of Human Development and Behaviour
- Knowledge of Statistics and Research Methodology
- Listening and Questioning Skills
- Observe and Evaluate Critically
- Proficient Conducting Library Research
- Read Critically
- Understand Complex Problems and Identify Solutions
- Write Reports and Proposals

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION AND OTHER LINKS

Making wise career decisions requires exploring your field. A multitude of Internet sites and other resources will help you do this to the best of your ability. Professional association sites, in particular, are very useful for their career descriptions and job hunting tips. Moreover, these authoritative sites frequently provide links to Internet sites which announce job openings and list potential employers. A few recommended sites are included below.

CANADIAN

Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association

<http://www.ccpa-accp.ca/>

This organization is dedicated to the enhancement of the counselling profession in Canada. To this end, they produce an electronic bulletin and conduct conferences and other events that promote professional development and opportunities to network. Click on For Students' to get started.

Canadian Psychological Association

<http://www.cpa.ca>

Good site for Canadian careers and programs. Click on Students to access information on internships, workshops and the CPA Graduate Guide which provides information on graduate psychology programs in Canada. Also of interest is the Campus Corner Profiles.

L'Ordre des psychoéducateurs et psychoéducatrices du Québec

<http://ordrepsest.qc.ca/>

The professions of psychoeducator is regulated by this organization in Quebec.

This site provides information on these careers as well as the requirements and admission procedures to the Order.

L'Ordre des psychologues du Québec

<http://www.ordrepsy.qc.ca>

In Quebec, a person must be registered with the L'Ordre des psychologues du Québec to earn the right to use the title of psychologist. Among other things, this site provides an overview of careers, theoretical approaches and areas of practice in the psychology field as well as information on the requirements and admission procedures to the Order.

L'Ordre des travailleurs sociaux et des thérapeutes conjugaux et familiaux du Québec

<http://www.optsq.org/>

This site provides information on the requirements to become a social worker in Quebec as well as a listing of social work schools in Canada.

INTERNATIONAL

American Psychological Association Online: Student

<http://www.apa.org/about/students.aspx>

Site designed by APA for undergraduate and graduate students in psychology. One can locate information on programs, graduate school funding, and careers. Of interest is the APA Style Helper.

Psych Web Resources

<http://www.psywww.com/>

Good site for psychology-related information for students and teachers of psychology. Included is a link to the well-known and award-winning Dr. Markey Lloyd's Careers in Psychology Page.

Psychology Graduate Applicant's Portal

<http://www.psychgrad.org>

Award winning portal site that is divided into four sections – Life After Graduate School; Doing Well As an Undergraduate; Succeeding in Graduate School; and Applying to Graduate School. Includes numerous useful links. Has section for Canadian students who are applying to Canadian schools.

CREATE YOUR AMAZING CAREER – CAREER RESOURCE CENTRE TITLES

For those who need more help with their career and educational planning, the Career Resource Centre (CRC) offers books, pamphlets, DVDs and recommended Internet sites. It is located in the Hall Building, H-440, at 1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. West. The following titles are just a few of the titles available in the CRC.

- Academic Paths: Career Decisions and Experiences of
- Psychologists
- Applied Psychology: New Frontiers and Rewarding Careers
- Applying to Graduate School in Psychology
- Career Paths in Psychology
- Careers in Psychology: Opportunities for a Changing World
- Employment in Community Psychology
- Exploring Sport and Exercise Psychology
- Finding Jobs With a Psychology Bachelor's Degree
- Getting In: A Step-By-Step Plan for Gaining Admission to
- Graduate School in Psychology
- Getting Mentored in Graduate School
- Graduate Study in Psychology
- Insider's Guide to Graduate Programs in Clinical and Counseling
- Psychology
- Insider's Guide to the Psychology Major
- Internships in Psychology
- Life After Graduate School in Psychology
- Majoring in Psych? Career Options for Psychology
- Undergraduates
- 101 Careers in Counseling
- Opportunities in Psychology Careers
- The Portable Mentor: Expert Guide to a Successful Career in
- Psychology
- Psychology Major's Handbook
- Public Speaking for Psychologists
- Studying Psychology in the United States: Expert Guidance for
- International Students
- Succeeding in Graduate School: The Career Guide for Psychology
- Students
- Surviving Graduate School in Psychology
- Undergraduate Writing in Psychology
- What to Do With Your Psychology Degree
- You Have Earned Your Doctorate in Psychology...Now What?
- Your Career in Psychology: Clinical and Counseling Psychology
- Your Career in Psychology: Industrial/Organizational Psychology
- Your Career in Psychology: Putting Your Graduate Degree to
- Work
- Your Graduate Training in Psychology: Effective Strategies for
- Success
- Your Undergraduate Degree in Psychology from College to Career