

Psychologists sort through the pieces of life's greatest puzzle—human behavior. Their goal is two-fold: to understand, explain and predict behavior and to apply this knowledge in solving practical human problems.

In addition to providing a strong foundation for graduate studies in the field, a degree in psychology prepares you for a number of related career and graduate study fields such as child development, biology, communications, criminal justice, health care (including medical school), law, philosophy, theology and more.

## The Program

### Major

- Psychology
  - Bachelor of Arts (B.A.)
  - Bachelor of Science (B.S.)

### Minor

- Psychology
- Disaster Response

### Graduate

- Psychology
  - Master of Arts (M.A.)
  - Master of Science (M.S.)
  - Doctorate (Ph.D.) — Human Factors or Clinical Psychology (Clinical Ph.D. can also include a specialty in Disaster Psychology)

## Beyond the Classroom

- Participate in The U's Disaster Mental Health Institute (DMHI), an international humanitarian program for the research and practice of disaster mental health.
- Join Psi Chi, The U's local chapter of the National Honor Society for Psychology that promotes student involvement in research and sponsors psychology-related events.
- Become active in The U's Psychology Club.
- Join The U's Advocacy Coordinating Team (ACT), an organization that promotes the highest standards in psychology teaching and education.
- Join The U's student chapter of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (HFES).

## Careers

Many of The U's psychology graduates are excelling in graduate programs, while others are building successful careers in a

variety of industries. Here are some of the places you'll find USD graduates making a difference:

- Minnesota Mutual Insurance Corporate Headquarters
- Girls Inc. of Sioux City, Iowa
- Federal Express (management)
- Enterprise Rent-A-Car (management)
- University of Georgia
- Duke University

## Just the Facts

- The U offers the most complete psychology program in South Dakota.
- The department has a history of excellence including a "Department of the Year" honor as presented by the American Psychological Association division of Graduate Students.
- All faculty members hold doctorate degrees in their fields and regularly contribute to new knowledge.
- Psychology faculty members have won prestigious teaching awards, including the Belbas-Larson Award for Teaching Excellence.
- The department is housed in the South Dakota Union Building and includes the Disaster Mental Health Institute (DMHI), the Psychological Services Center (PSC) and the Heimstra Psychological Laboratories.
  - DMHI is a world renowned center for teaching service and research in disaster psychology.
  - PSC provides psychological services for The U students, their families and members of the community and state.
  - Heimstra Lab focuses on applying the methods of experimental psychology to solving practical problems of everyday human behavior in the home, workplace and in institutional settings.

## Scholarship Opportunities

The U awards numerous scholarships each year. Please contact the Admissions Office for more information.

## Contact Information

To visit campus and the Psychology Department, call Admissions at 1-877-COYOTES. For more information on psychology studies at The U, contact:

**Department of Psychology**  
**College of Arts & Sciences**

phone: 605-677-5351

fax: 605-677-3195

[askpsyc@usd.edu](mailto:askpsyc@usd.edu)

[www.usd.edu/psyc](http://www.usd.edu/psyc)



The University of South Dakota