Psychology is the scientific exploration of human behavior. The study of human behavior can prepare you for many different careers, including business, education, health-related professions, legal professions and any level of administration. Further education will open paths toward research and clinical practice.

Overview of skills developed

Our curriculum offers a broad introduction to this dynamic and diverse field, with an emphasis on critical thinking skills and on the science of studying human behavior. You’ll also explore psychology’s subfields through courses that consider:

- our biological heritage: physiological psychology, perception
- basic human functioning: development, cognition, personality, social processes
- applied fields: counseling, behavior modification, forensic psychology, community psychology

You’ll work with faculty who:

- study the theoretical, such as the relationship between emotions and words, the nature of social relationships, and successful aging.
- conduct applied research ranging from issues in legal system to factors that predict health outcomes to creativity in engineering design
- are leaders in the mental health community and bring their expertise to the classroom.

Curriculum outline

For the BA in psychology, you’ll complete at least 35 credit hours in courses related to your major and fulfill university and college-level requirements for a total of 120 credits overall.

The psychology curriculum is scaffolded in a programmatic fashion so that students increase their skills and expertise as they move through the program. Every student will be exposed to the breadth of psychology at the lower levels, have a research experience, and culminate their experience in our of specialized capstone courses.

In addition to the basic experience, there are a multitude of additional curricular options and to work directly with our motivated and friendly faculty.

Continue your education at UMass Dartmouth

The Department of Psychology offers a graduate program leading to a master’s degree in psychology with options in clinical psychology and applied behavior analysis, and research psychology.

Our BA/MA accelerated program enables qualified students to complete both the BA and MA in research psychology in five years rather than six.

Graduate school placements

Our graduates have attended:

- Bentley College, MBA
- UMass Dartmouth, Research MA, Clinical MA, ABA MA
- William James College, PsyD program
- UMass Law, University of Minnesota Law School
- UMass Medical School

Average salary for graduates with a bachelor's degree in psychology: $57,000 (According to Payscale)

Additional opportunities

Thesis Program – Take advanced courses, pursue research, and be part of a community of scholars.

Undergraduate research – Faculty work with students on cutting-edge research projects.

Counseling Sequence – Take a three-course sequence to expose yourself to counseling psychology and get your pre-certificate in licensed mental health.

Career/job placements

- ABA Intervention Tanja Haas (Germany)
- American Institutes for Research
- Beacon ABA Services
- Behavioral Health Network, Inc.
- Center for Life Management
- Comprehensive Mental Health Systems
- Northeast Behavioral Associates
- Southeastern Counseling Associates

Contact info: umassd.edu/programs/psychology/