Potential Careers

NMU’s Psychology-General Program prepares students for employment in the following careers:

Occupations

- Civil Service Fields
- Community Organization Advocate
- Consultant
- Court System
- Department of Defense
- Employment Counselor
- Hospitals
- Human Resources
- Independent Practice
- Management
- Marketing
- Mental Health Clinics
- Probation Officer
- Rehabilitation Centers
- Social Services
- Sports Psychologist
- State Health Departments
- State Employment Agencies

What To Do With A Major In….

Additional Resources and Info

For Career Planning and Opportunities:

Academic & Career Advisement Center
3302.1 C.B. Hedgcock
906-227-2971
www.nmu.edu/acac

Psychology Department
346 Gries
906-227-2935
www.nmu.edu/psychology

For Job Search, Resume and Career Information:

Career Services
3302.3 C.B. Hedgcock
906-227-2800
www.nmu.edu/careers

For Information about NMU Student Organizations Associated with this Major Contact:

Center for Student Enrichment
1206 University Center
906-227-2439
www.nmu.edu/cse

Student Psychological Association

Internet Resource Links:

www.careers.org
www.careerresource.net

For Career Information with National Organizations:

www.apa.org American Psychological Association
www.nasponline.org National Association of School Psychologists

Current as of Fall 2015
Provided by:

The Academic & Career Advisement Center
Do you enjoy working with people; improving environments? Or possibly researching and analyzing human behavior? Are you interested in finding out how the human mind works and working to develop cures/treatments for certain disorders? If you answered "yes" to either of these questions, then maybe a career in Psychology is for you.

The Psychology Department at NMU promotes discovery, communication, and application of the scientific principles in the field of Psychology within the University and community. As a Psychology major, you will learn the basic techniques related to the field, and then focus your knowledge on an area of emphasis.

The list of career opportunities as a Psychology major are vast, and depend strongly on the competencies and skills you acquire through your academic work and extracurricular activities.

Skills and Competencies

Specifically, your communication, analytical, social, and technical skills will be challenged and strengthened. Strong communication skills are, after all, necessary in every field. Psychology is no exception. You will need to develop effective writing, oral presentation, and persuasiveness skills. Leadership and public relations skills are very important in this field too. The ability to think critically and analytically are also beneficial. You can expect to be exposed to course work and experiences that challenge and develop these skills in you. The curriculum at NMU prepares students for the broad professional fields of teaching, lab work, or for graduate studies.

Course Work

This degree includes the following courses as part of the program requirements, and specific major requirements along with liberal studies and graduation requirements.

Core
PY 100 Psychology as a Social/Natural Science (4 cr.)
PY 205 Intro to Research Method in Psychology (4 cr.)

Physiological Course
PY 204 Physiological Psychology (4 cr.) or
PY 303 Human Neuropsychology (4 cr.)

Learning Course
PY 203 Applied Behavior Analysis (4 cr.) or
PY 211 Learning (4 cr.) or
PY 311 Thinking and Cognition (4 cr.)

Social/Development Course
PY 241 Child Psychology (4 cr.) or
PY 302 Causes and Control of Aggression (4 cr.) or
PY 304 Animal Behavior (4 cr.) or
PY 335 Social Psychology (4 cr.)

Senior 400-level Course
PY 441 Individual Differences in Development (4 cr.) or
PY 400 History and Systems (4 cr.) or
PY 455 Psychopathology (4 cr.)

Elective Courses (16 credits)
At least 8 credits must be at the 300-400 level.

Required Minor (20 cr.)

Detailed course descriptions can be found at www.nmu.edu/bulletin.

Career Development

You should begin the resume-building process as soon as you can. The Academic and Career Advisement Center can assist you with career planning, while Career Services will help you fine tune your resume and look for jobs related to your field. In the meantime, the more hands-on experience you have, the better the chances are that you will find a job. Becoming involved in a professional related internship is a way to develop your professional skills and gain experience. Your academic course work is important as well, so be sure to maintain a high grade point average.

Additional Considerations

The occupations listed offer great benefits, but some may require education beyond the baccalaureate level.

Strong communication skills, patience, understanding, and organization are beneficial to these occupations. Many of these occupations require further education and training in the field. With experience, many fields can lead to management level positions.

For most job opportunities in the education fields, one must be certified in the appropriate area. Completion of at least a master’s degree is a standard credential in this line of work. Seek advice of faculty in psychology department for graduate school preparation.

Job Outlook

Starting salaries are contingent upon geographic location and the individual applicants work experience and initiative, and usually range from $30,000 to $45,000. The Psychology field is expected to grow faster than average at a 15% rate.