

INFORMATION ABOUT PSYCHOLOGY

WHAT IS PSYCHOLOGY?

Psychologists are interested in understanding observable behavior and its underlying cognitive, affective, and physiological processes.

MORE ABOUT PSYCHOLOGY

- The major in Psychology includes courses in social interaction, perception, learning, development, behavioral disorders, cognition and cognitive neuroscience, and experimental methods.
- Psychology majors are well-prepared to apply to graduate school.
- Psychology graduates also go on to a wide range of other careers, including business, counseling, medicine, teaching, law, and public service.

PSYC 1: Introduction to Psychology

- A general introduction to the science of human behavior, with emphasis placed upon the basic psychological processes.
- Offered Fall and Spring at the 10-hour.
- Lecture-based course with objective exams, taught by two professors with different areas of expertise.

What if I took AP-Psyc in high school?

- All students enter the Psychology major or minor by taking PSYC 1 at Dartmouth. We do not offer a placement test.
- PSYC 1 (or in some cases PSYC 6) is a prerequisite to all upper-level Psychology courses.
- Most high school AP courses cover only part of the content of PSYC 1. Thus most students, even with a high score on the AP-Psyc test, will benefit from taking PSYC 1.
- More questions? See Prof. Clark

Intro Psyc or Intro Neuro?

[PSYC 1 or PSYC 6?]

- PSYC 1 and PSYC 6 are different courses with different content.

PSYC 1 is prerequisite to the Psychology major.

PSYC 6 is prerequisite to the Neuroscience major.

- Some upper-level courses accept either course as a prerequisite. Others accept only one or the other.
- Many students eventually take both courses.

I'm still not sure which to take...

- If you are unsure about your interests, PSYC 1 is likely the better place to start, as it is a broader survey of the discipline.
- PSYC 6 is a more interdisciplinary overview of the nervous system and its function, including biological, chemical, and computational approaches.
- Still not sure? Take a look at the syllabi and books, go to the first class of each, talk with a faculty member!

What's next after Intro Psyc?

- Our next level of courses are numbered in the 20s and are surveys of sub-areas within the discipline, such as Perception (PSYC 21), Social Psychology (PSYC 23), Abnormal Psychology (PSYC 24), or Cognition (PSYC 28).
- If you intend to become a Psychology major, you should try to fit in Statistics (PSYC 10) and Experimental Methods (PSYC 11) during your first couple years, but you don't need to do so before taking 20-level courses.

We look forward to talking
with you and to seeing you
in our classes!