

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

General Information

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The Department of Psychology prepares students with an innovative blend of theory, research, and application to support the mental health and well-being of individuals and the broader community. Students will also be prepared to attend graduate school.

The Mission of the Department of Psychology is to empower students to utilize the major concepts, findings, and rich theoretical perspectives of psychology to identify and address complex challenges faced by individuals and the broader community. We prepare students to use the tools of psychology to promote well-being in a pluralistic society.

The Department of Psychology views civil discourse and acceptance as critical to the intellectual growth and well-being of students. We are dedicated to supporting the development of professionals able to competently address the needs of communities. Graduates of our program are prepared to implement a multifaceted framework for promoting personal and community well-being. Students are equipped with the skills to recognize complex societal challenges and innovate creative solutions that empower and transform individuals and communities.

As a department, we are committed and accountable to increasing the number of professionals, practitioners, and healers from our communities. Our faculty recognize that we now exist in a global community and therefore it is important that graduates are culturally competent.

Undergraduate Program: Bachelor of Science in Psychology and Human Services

- Two options: traditional (in-person and online) and fully online programs
- Seven Concentrations: Gender Studies, Advanced Behavioral Health, Health and Wellness, Social Justice, Human Development, Cognitive and Physiological Influences on Behavior, and Advanced Studies in Psychology
- A Minor in Psychology is also offered for students from other majors

Graduates of our B.S. in Psychology and Human Services will be able to:

- Apply the major concepts, findings, and theoretical perspectives of psychology.
- Evaluate research critically and apply research methodologies used in psychology.
- Demonstrate effective, professional written communication skills both individually and with groups.
- Demonstrate effective, professional oral communication skills both individually and with groups.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the roles, responsibilities, and career opportunities for those with psychology-related degrees.
- Apply the ethical standards set forth by the American Psychological Association.

- Demonstrate knowledge of individual and cultural differences and their influences on beliefs, values, and interactions with others.
- Interact effectively with people of diverse abilities, backgrounds, and cultural perspectives.

Graduate Program: Master of Science in Clinical/Counseling Psychology (MPCAC Accredited)

- Two year (60 Credit Hour) program that prepares graduates to pursue licensure as Professional Counselors (LAPC/LPC) in the State of Georgia and to pursue careers as mental health professionals (therapists/counselors).
- Graduates may also be eligible for licensure in other states (Students are responsible for knowing and meeting the licensing requirements in other jurisdictions).
- Graduates are also prepared to pursue Doctoral level study in Psychology and other related fields.

Graduates of our M.S. in Clinical/Counseling Psychology will be able to:

- Use critical thinking skills to assess mental health and implement effective interventions using a variety of therapeutic modalities and theoretical approaches (e.g., cognitive, behavioral, psychodynamic, humanistic).
- Understand and apply ethical standards to the provision of psychological services in the community.
- Demonstrate knowledge and skills to intervene effectively with individuals from varying cultural backgrounds.
- Interpret and apply research methods and statistical techniques to advance the study and practice of clinical psychology.
- Use interpersonal and written communication effectively and professionally.

Programs

The Department of Psychology offers the following undergraduate options. Graduate degree programs can be found under the School of Graduate Studies (<https://catalog.clayton.edu/academic-catalog/graduate-studies/>).

Baccalaureate Program

- Psychology and Human Services, BS (<https://catalog.clayton.edu/academic-catalog/arts-sciences/psychology/psychology-human-services-bs/>)

Minor Program

- Psychology, Minor (<https://catalog.clayton.edu/academic-catalog/arts-sciences/psychology/psychology-minor/>)

Faculty

Cephas Archie

Eric M. Bridges

Mark Daddona (Emeritus)

Deborah F. Deckner-Davis

Catherine G. Deering

Erica J. Gannon

Nichelle Gause

Brian M. Goldman

Christina M. Grange

Pinar Gurkas
Charlie L. Harris
Chizara A. Jones
Samuel J. Maddox
Donna W. McCarty (Emeritus)
Antoinette Miller
J. Celeste Walley-Jean
Eckart Werther