

College of Arts and Sciences Foundation Profile

Department of Psychology

I. General Description

- **Mission:** The Department of Psychology assists students to achieve their personal and professional potential through training in scientific methods and discipline-specific knowledge, promoting a spirit of active inquiry and critical thought, and fostering a sense of social responsibility.
- **Programs:** The Department offers undergraduate minors in Sociology and Psychology, an undergraduate major in Psychology, a research-oriented master's program in General/Experimental Psychology, and a practitioner-oriented doctoral training program leading to the Psy.D. degree. The Department also contributes to the University's Foundational Studies curriculum and programs in Women's Studies, Liberal Studies, and Social Science Education. Several of the department's courses fill requirements in Education, Nursing, and Social Work.
- **Faculty:** The Department has 16 faculty (13 psych; 3 soc), including three currently serving in administrative positions.
- **Resources:** The Department is home to the Psychology Clinic that provides reduced-fee services to the greater community; to the Survey Research Lab that provides telephone and web-survey assistance to campus and the community; and to the Center for Health, Religion, and Spirituality that promote an understanding of the interaction of religion/spirituality and health.

II. Points of Pride

- Psychology is one of the most popular undergraduate (approx 250) and graduate (approx 40) majors in Arts & Sciences.
- Psychology students provide thousand hours of community service each year. About 50% of our seniors complete internships in community-service organizations (e.g., Boys & Girls club, Chances of Indiana Youth, etc.). Undergraduates and master's students provide low-cost or free survey assistance to community agencies (e.g., Trees, Inc.; the United Way; etc), and clinical graduate students provide reduced-fee mental health assessments and treatment in our campus clinic and at other sites around the Wabash valley. Four students supported by faculty-supervised research projects in summer 2012
- The undergraduate major in Psychology has a strong scientific/methodology core and gives students the opportunity to work directly with faculty in labs; 25-50% of bachelor's-degree graduates enter graduate programs.
- Master's and clinical students also receive strong methodological and statistical training. Master's students frequently accept research-oriented positions in academic and business settings.
- PsyD students have very high rates of passing the licensure exam and placement upon graduation. Students most frequently accept positions in hospitals, VAs, the military, and prisons.

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III. Vision

To become known for bachelor's-level graduates who can apply scientific and discipline-specific knowledge to real-world settings; for master's level graduates who can utilize scientific and discipline-specific knowledge to address professional and social issues; and for doctoral-level graduates who are among the most well-prepared in the nation to accept their professional (and civic) roles.

IV. Opportunities for Philanthropic Support

- *Opportunities for Naming of Spaces:* Psychology Clinic, Survey Research Lab, Center for Health, Religion, & Spirituality. \$100,000 - \$10,000,000
- *Endowed Outstanding Chairs:* Scholars and teachers in specific disciplines in psychology. \$1,000,000
- *Endowed Lecture series:* to support visits by well-known scholars for public lectures and/or workshops. \$50,000-\$250,000.
- *Endowed Scholarships* – to provide tuition/assistance for undergraduate or graduate students in psychology. Minimum \$20,000 to endow a scholarship
- *Student research & travel support (on-going need):* to provide funds to assist with costs of student research projects (e.g., honor's theses, master's theses, and dissertations) and for presenting research at professional conferences. \$5000 per year.
- *Clinic or research operating support (on-going need):* to assist with unique costs associated with running psychology clinic (e.g., psychometric tests, equipment/software upgrades) or survey and research labs (e.g., long-distance phones, specialized software, etc) that are not separately budgeted by the university.
- One-time gifts to support any of the above needs are also welcome.