

PSYCHOLOGY MAJOR

JOB OUTLOOK

A degree in psychology helps prepare you for a wide variety of careers. Many of these careers are accessible with a bachelor's degree. Other careers, for instance in therapy, require a specialized post-bachelor degree which your undergraduate degree in psychology will prepare you for.

Bachelor's Degree

Students who graduate with their bachelor's degree in psychology can enter the job market and work in a related field. Your B.A. or B.S. degree can be used for entry-level direct service jobs and entry-level positions across corporate, non-profit, and educational spaces.

A bachelor's degree in psychology also prepares students for graduate study in master's degree programs, doctoral programs (Ph.D., Psy.D., Ed.D.), medical school (M.D.) or law school (J.D.). If you are interested in graduate school, we suggest: doing research on the programs you are interested in, speaking with a faculty member, attending a graduate school workshop, visiting the Magner Center, and speaking with a Psychology Department Advisor.

Master's Degree

A master's degree (M.A., M.S., M.P.A., M.B.A., etc.) is the most common type of graduate degree. Master degree programs cover a wide array of specialties, and typically consist of one to two years of (full-time) study (more if part-time). A master's degree can be used to work in higher-level organizational or programmatic jobs, be a clinician or therapist, and to take on higher levels of leadership in a variety of jobs.

Doctoral Degree

Doctoral degree program also cover a wide array of specialties. They are designed to expand student's knowledge and understating of a specific subject area/field.

There are three types of doctoral degrees in psychology-related fields (Ph.D. or Psy.D., or Ed.D.). These degrees are needed if you would like to be a professor, work in a research institute, see clinical patients, or work in academia. Doctoral Graduates can also obtain employment in industries outside of academia.

Degrees in Psychology lead to a variety of careers in...



BROOKLYN COLLEGE: ON CAMUPS CAREER RESOURCES

There are a number of resources on campus that will help you learn more about the career options for your major by attending their events and keeping up to date on the resources available to you.

Magner Career Center

The [Magner Career Center](#)¹ (1303 James Hall; 718.951.5696) has a wealth of information on everything you need to get started in your career, help with resumes, an internships database, job fairs etc. They often host career events that may be of interest to you, which include Careers for Psychology Majors, Careers with Social Impact etc.



- Programs and Services
 - [Career Counseling & Mock Interviews](#)²
 - [Resume & Cover Letter Review](#)³
 - Company Visits
 - Finding Internships & Stipend Awards
 - [Career Workshops and Panels](#)⁴
- Students may contact the liaison to the School of Natural and Behavioral Sciences, **Miriam Loyd** (mloyd@brooklyn.cuny.edu) for more assistance.

Pre-Health Professions Office

The [Pre-health Professions](#)⁶ program is designed for students who wish to enter a professional school in the health sciences either upon graduation or once they complete the prerequisite requirements of the professional school. The Pre-health Professions Office (2231 Boylan Hall; 718.951.4706) provides a wide range of services, including advisement; pre-health program information; professional school application information; volunteer, research, and internship opportunities; and career resources. [Pre-health Professions Handbook](#)⁷.

Pre-law Professions

The [Pre-law Program](#)⁸ (3307 Boylan Hall; 718.951.5324) helps achievement-oriented students make informed decisions about pursuing a career in legal professions; assists them in assessing the academic, personal, and professional competencies and credentials they need to become successful applicants and students of the law schools they aspire to attend; and provides access to the academic and career advisement, resources, opportunities, and professional networks that will support them in clarifying and achieving their goals. Students interested in legal careers should contact Edwin Mathew, in the Magner Career Center, to have their name added to the list of pre-law students and to receive information about workshops and panels, LSAT preparation, and internships. [Brooklyn College Pre-law Handbook](#)⁹.

Study Abroad Programs



The Office of International Education & Global Engagement (1212 Boylan Hall; 718.951.5189; iege@brooklyn.cuny.edu) provides students with opportunities for studying abroad for a short term, semester, or year. Participating in a study abroad program helps strengthen your curriculum, provides global experience, expands your horizons and opportunities, allows you to learn or practice a foreign language, and earns credit towards your degree. Students may choose to participate in study abroad programs through Brooklyn College or other CUNY institutions. Visit the [CUNY Online Directory of Study Abroad Programs](#)¹⁰ for a full searchable database of CUNY programs that are available.

¹ <http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/web/academics/centers/magner.php>

² <http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/web/academics/centers/magner/students/counseling.php>

³ <http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/web/academics/centers/magner/students/review.php>

⁴ <http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/web/academics/centers/magner/students/workshops.php>

⁵ <http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/web/academics/centers/magner/students/mentor.php>

⁶ <http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/web/academics/special-programs/prehealth.php>

⁷ http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/web/aca_honors/190408_Pre-health_Professions_Handbook.pdf

⁸ <http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/web/academics/special-programs/prelaw.php>

⁹ http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/web/aca_honors/2015-16_Pre-Law_Handbook.pdf

¹⁰ <https://www1.cuny.edu/sites/studyabroad/>

PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT RESOURCES

Psychology Department Research Opportunities

Visit the [Psychology Department Research Page¹¹](#) to learn about ongoing research in the Psychology Department. Reach out to faculty members, whose research interest you, to gain research experience. Students can participate in a research study, volunteer in a lab, or earn course credit while gaining research experience (PSYC 2001 – 4 or PSYC 5001-4).

Psychology Department Workshops Offered Every Semester:

- **Graduate Programs in Clinical Psychology**
Join Prof. Rona Miles to learn about various types of Clinical graduate programs including Phd & PsyD programs in Clinical Psychology, Social Work (MSW) and Mental Health Counseling (MHC), plus more.
- **How Can I Get Into Graduate School in Psychology?**
Find out how to make yourself a highly competitive candidate for graduate school admissions. Brooklyn College faculty and graduate students will discuss how you can best prepare for graduate study in psychology. Learn what steps you can take while completing your undergraduate studies to increase your chances of acceptance to graduate programs in various sub-disciplines of psychology (e.g. Clinical, Cognitive, Developmental, Health, Industrial/Organizational, Neuroscience, and Social/Personality).

Psychology Department social media pages:

- 🐦 **Twitter:** twitter.com/bkcollegepsych
- 🐦 **Undergraduate Advising Twitter:** twitter.com/BCPsychDept
- 📷 **Instagram:** [instagram.com/bkcollegepsych/](https://www.instagram.com/bkcollegepsych/)
- 📘 **Facebook:** [facebook.com/BrooklynCollegePsychologyDepartment/](https://www.facebook.com/BrooklynCollegePsychologyDepartment/)

Where do BC Students/Alumni with a degree in psychology get hired for internships and full time employment?

Some employers that hire psychology majors for internships and full time jobs include:

- | | |
|--|---|
| New York State Psychiatric Institute | NYC Administration for Children's Services |
| NYC Department of Corrections | NYC Department of Education |
| NYC Human Resources Administration | NYPD |
| New York Methodist Hospital | Kings County Hospital |
| Coney Island Hospital | Maimonides Medical Center |
| SUNY Downstate | CUNY Research Foundation |
| Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center | Johns Hopkins |
| National Eating Disorders Association | Mount Sinai |
| Arthur Ashe Institute for Urban Health | Good Shepherd |
| Young Adult Institute (YAI) | Jumpstart |
| New York City 311 | Brooklyn College Community Partnership (BCCP) |

¹¹ <http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/web/academics/schools/naturalsciences/undergraduate/psychology/research.php>

PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT GRADUATE PROGRAMS

Mental Health Counseling M.A. Program

The master's degree in [Mental Health Counseling \(MHC\)](#)¹² prepares students to work as mental health counselors within medical, community, and private practice settings. Through rigorous academic course work and clinical internship training, students learn to apply mental health approaches to contemporary practice, assessment, and treatment. In addition to the internship, students perform intake evaluations and psychotherapy at the college's counseling center. The program focuses primarily on clinical work with adults and families.

Upon completion of the program, students are prepared for practice in varied settings and with diverse populations. The program is approved by the New York State Education Department and meets all NYSED standards. Graduates of the Brooklyn College MHC Program have attained entry level counseling positions in various mental health clinics and other settings. After 3,000 hours of supervised, post-degree experience you would be eligible to take an exam for licensure permitting private and independent practice of counseling.

Experimental Psychology M.A. Program

Experimental psychology uses scientific methods to improve our understanding of the mind, brain, and behavior. The [Master's Program in Experimental Psychology](#)¹³ offers students an education in the foundations of psychological knowledge, the current state of the field, and training in research design and data analysis at an affordable cost. Students learn to ask and answer questions in the psychological sciences and have the opportunity for professional development and mentoring.

Industrial and Organizational Psychology M.A. Programs

[Industrial and organizational \(I/O\) psychology](#)¹⁴ is the scientific study of human cognition, motivation, emotion, behavior, and social interaction in work contexts, and the application of this research to help solve practical problems in organizations. The goal of industrial and organizational psychology is to promote the improvement of working conditions in organizations while at the same time ascertaining and improving organizational performance. I/O psychologists can improve hiring practices, develop training programs, and conduct such training, and they can conduct research to help solve organizational problems. They work in human resource departments and in research departments, or as internal or external consultants. The [U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics](#)¹⁵ has named I/O psychology one of the fastest-growing occupations in the nation for the years 2012–22. In 2015, President Obama issued an executive order in support of [applied psychology](#)¹⁶.

I/O Group Processes and Organizational Behavior M.A.

The [Group Processes and Organizational Behavior](#)¹⁷ program prepares the student for entry-level analyst and associate positions in firms or departments that offer services in areas such as organizational development, talent management, change management, organizational learning, or research and data analysis. It shares a common core of five courses with other concentrations in industrial and organizational psychology, but places additional emphasis on theory, research, and practice at the level of social structures within organizations, such as organizational development, organizational effectiveness, group processes, team performance, culture, and leadership.

I/O Personnel and Human Resources M.A.

The [Personnel and Human Resources](#)¹⁸ program prepares the student for entry-level analyst and associate positions in the areas of personnel and human resources in organizations. It shares a common core of five courses with other concentrations in industrial and organizational psychology, but places additional emphasis on theory, research, and practice in areas such as human resource management, job analysis, recruitment, selection, training, compensation, retention, and outplacement.

¹² http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/web/academics/schools/naturalsciences/graduate/psychology/mental_health_counseling.php

¹³ <http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/web/academics/schools/naturalsciences/graduate/psychology/experimental.php>

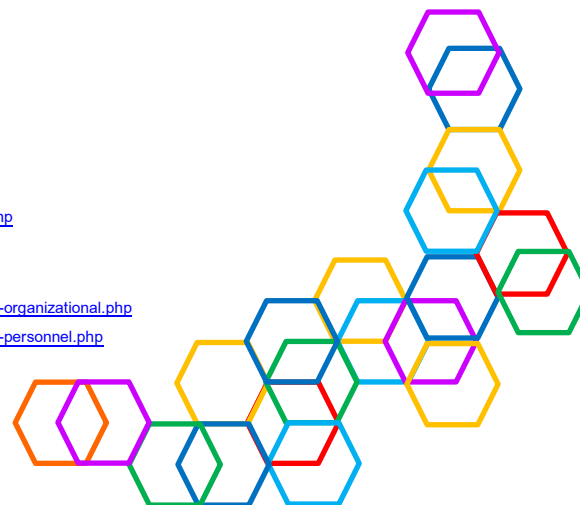
¹⁴ <http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/web/academics/schools/naturalsciences/graduate/psychology/industrial-and-organizational-psychology.php>

¹⁵ <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/fastest-growing.htm>

¹⁶ http://www.siop.org/article_view.aspx?article=1438

¹⁷ <http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/web/academics/schools/naturalsciences/graduate/psychology/industrial-and-organizational-psychology/io-organizational.php>

¹⁸ <http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/web/academics/schools/naturalsciences/graduate/psychology/industrial-and-organizational-psychology/io-personnel.php>



ONLINE CAREER EXPLORATION RESOURCES

To learn about all of the various possible careers for someone with a bachelor's degree in psychology or who plans to continue onto graduate school check, out these resources:

View the [LinkedIn profiles of over 5000 Brooklyn College¹⁹](#) alumni who graduated with a degree in Psychology. You can filter further based on employer, class year etc.

Career guides and articles that share information on the various career options:

- [American Psychological Association²⁰](#)
 - ✓ [Own Your Psychology Major! 10 pointers for psychology students.²¹](#)
 - ✓ [Career Paths in Psychology²²: Where Your Degree Can Take You –Robert Sternberg, ISBN: 978-1-4338-2310-7](#)
 - ✓ [Careers in Psychology Guide²³](#)
 - ✓ [What can you do with a bachelor's degree in psychology?²⁴](#)
 - ✓ [Individual Development Plan²⁵ –map out how to get the proper experience and training for your career.](#)
 - ✓ [How to find a job with an undergraduate degree in psychology?²⁶](#)
 - ✓ [Own Your Psychology Major²⁷ –Glenn Geher, ISBN 978-1-4338-3066-2](#)
- Psychology Degrees: [Psychology Career Guide²⁸](#)
- Learn Psychology: [A guide to Careers in Psychology²⁹](#)
- [Careers In Psychology³⁰](#)
 - ✓ [Learn Everything You Need to Know About Psychology Careers³¹](#)
 - ✓ [The 50+ Best Jobs For Psychologists³²](#)
- [Vault³³](#) provides advice on interviews, resumes, cover letters, and more. [Vault Guides³⁴](#) allows you to explore careers in various industries.
- [O*NET³⁵](#) provides job specific information, including job descriptions, detailed work activities and tasks, required knowledge, skills, and abilities, and more.
- [Mynextmove.org³⁶](#) provides a tool to seek out careers that match with your fundamental skills and interests, as well as specific job information, educational requirements, and more.
- [Career One Stop³⁷](#) and [My Skills My Future³⁸](#) provide helpful career-related information from the American Job Center.

¹⁹ <https://www.linkedin.com/school/city-university-of-new-york-brooklyn-college/people/?facetFieldOfStudy=100912>

²⁰ <https://www.apa.org/careers/index>

²¹ <https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/darwins-subterranean-world/201903/own-your-psychology-major>

²² <https://www.apa.org/pubs/books/4313041>

²³ <https://www.apa.org/careers/resources/guides/careers>

²⁴ <https://www.apa.org/ed/precollege/psn/2018/01/bachelors-degree>

²⁵ <https://www.apa.org/education/grad/individual-development-plan>

²⁶ <https://www.apa.org/gradpsych/features/2009/first-job>

²⁷ <https://www.apa.org/pubs/books/4313053>

²⁸ <https://www.psychologydegrees.org/careers>

²⁹ <https://www.learnpsychology.org/psychology/>

³⁰ <https://careersinpsychology.org/>

³¹ <https://careersinpsychology.org/psychology-careers/>

³² <https://careersinpsychology.org/50-best-jobs-psychologists/>

³³ <http://access.vault.com/>

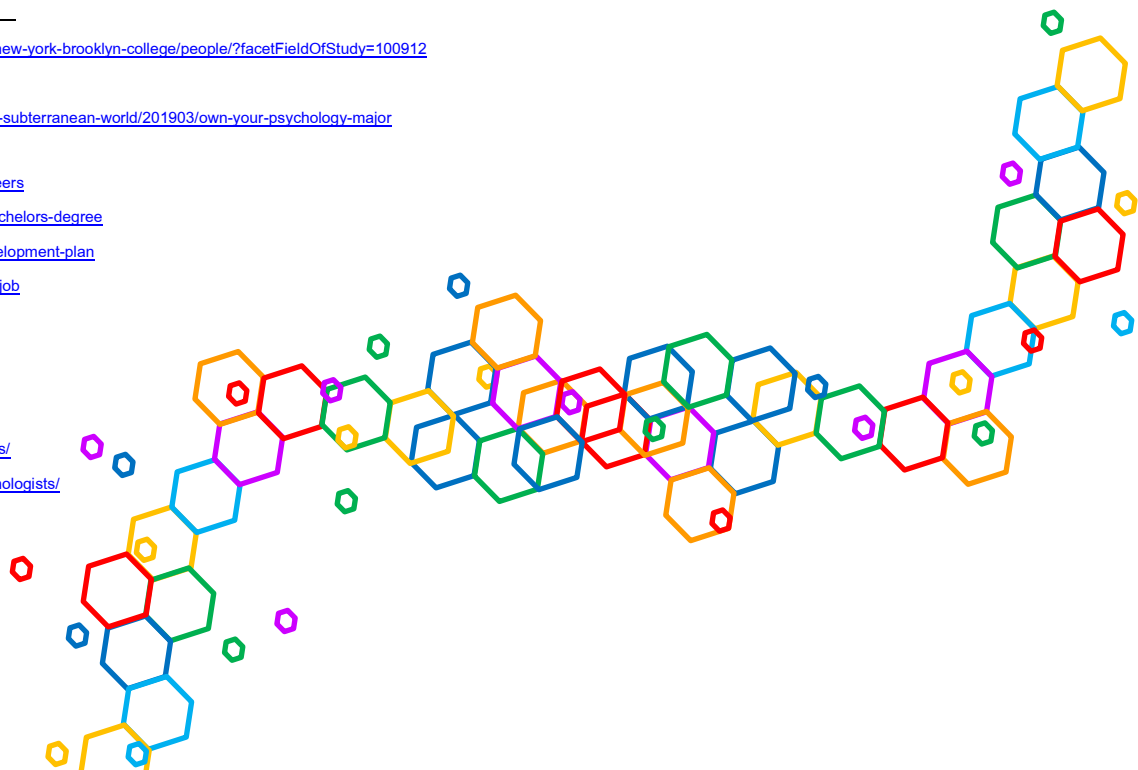
³⁴ <http://access.vault.com/vault-guide.aspx>

³⁵ <https://www.onetonline.org/>

³⁶ <https://www.mynextmove.org/>

³⁷ <https://www.careeronestop.org/>

³⁸ <https://www.myskillsmyfuture.org/>



STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

Research Opportunities



Visit the [Psychology Department Research Page](#)³⁹ to learn about our faculty and their areas of expertise and research.

- Ψ Attend conferences, such as Science Day.
- Ψ Volunteer or receive credit for doing research in psychology (PSYC 2001-4).
- Ψ Work with faculty members on various research projects.
- Ψ Complete an undergraduate honors thesis (PSYC 5001-4).

Fieldwork Opportunities

Great for students interested in exploring and preparing for jobs and graduate study in clinical psychology, school psychology, education, social work, and medical professions.

- Ψ Participate in fieldwork and internships for credit (PSYC 2091/4210/4800/5011-14)
- Ψ Learn and serve in a wide range of settings working with a variety of populations.
- Ψ Engage in trainings, seminars, reading, and journal keeping.

Scholarships and Awards Office

Brooklyn College offers more than 600 [scholarships, awards, and prizes](#)⁴⁰ each year to undergraduate and graduate students. Well over \$1 million is available to support the education of qualified students. If you wish to apply for undergraduate scholarships and awards, fill out the [online application](#)⁴¹ and file a FAFSA by February 14. For more information visit the Scholarship and Awards Office (213 West Quad Center; 718.951.4796; scholarship@brooklyn.cuny.edu).

Psychology Club



The Psychology Club informs students about the different fields of psychology, and about different aspects of graduate school in psychology.

- twitter.com/BCPsychClub
- [instagram.com/bcpsychologyclub](https://www.instagram.com/bcpsychologyclub)
- [facebook.com/BrooklynPsychologyClub](https://www.facebook.com/BrooklynPsychologyClub)

Brooklyn College Community Partnership (BCCP)



[BCCP](#)⁴² offers afterschool programs to engage young people in Brooklyn through arts, STEM, and recreational activities and technology to and support their academic and personal development. BCCP connects Brooklyn youth to college

students and faculty who serve as educators and mentors.

The Bulldog Connection



The [Bulldog Connection](#)⁴³ is a place to discover unique opportunities at Brooklyn College. Find and join organizations and view event

CUNY Meetups



[CUNY Meetups](#)⁴⁴ host various events throughout the semester open to all CUNY students and alumni. Meet up groups that may be of interest include LifeSci, Civic to name a few.

³⁹ <http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/web/academics/schools/naturalsciences/undergraduate/psychology/research.php>

⁴⁰ <http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/web/about/offices/scholarships.php>

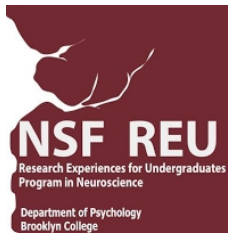
⁴¹ <http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/web/about/offices/scholarships/apply.php>

⁴² <http://welcometobccp.org/>

⁴³ <https://cunybrooklyn.campuslabs.com/engage/>

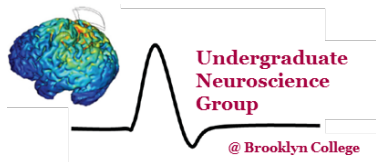
⁴⁴ <https://www.meetup.com/pro/cuny-meetup>

National Science Foundation (NSF) Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU)



The Brooklyn College [NSF REU⁴⁵](#) Program provides students the opportunity to immerse in rich and innovative mentored research experiences in psychology and neuroscience. bcreu.tumblr.com

Neuroscience Group



The [Undergraduate Neuroscience Group⁴⁶](#) provides opportunities for involvement in neuroscience education, research,

and experience, including seminars and colloquiums through course offerings in the Psychology and Biology Departments.

Maximizing Access to Research Careers (MARC)

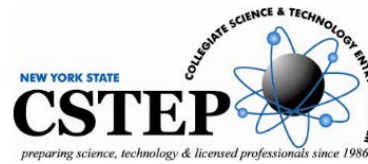
[MARC⁴⁷](#) is an honors program that offers faculty mentoring, research experience, and an annual stipend of \$12,000 to academically gifted undergraduate students from underrepresented groups who are interested in entering graduate programs leading to research careers in the biomedical sciences.

Peer Assisted Team Research (PATR)

[PATR⁴⁸](#) provides undergraduate students the opportunity to participate in a rotation of interdisciplinary research modules at Brooklyn College. Students gain experience in designing and carrying out research plans, analyzing data and drawing conclusions, while exposing themselves to new fields of science. The seminars offer students wider parameters and more freedom in experiment design.

Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program (CSTEP)

[CSTEP⁴⁹](#) aims to increase the number of historically underrepresented students who enroll in and complete undergraduate programs that lead to professional license in accounting, law, medicine, and nutrition, and other careers in mathematics, science, technology, and health-related fields.



New York City Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (NYC-LSAMP)



[NYC-LSAMP⁵⁰](#) is a CUNY-wide initiative that aims to ensure a long-term capacity to produce a greater number of underrepresented groups in STEM careers.

Honors Academy

The [Honors Academy⁵¹](#) is a group of distinct advanced-level programs: Coordinated B.A.-M.D. Program, Coordinated Engineering Honors Program, Macaulay Honors College, Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship, and the Scholars Program. The MARC program, mentioned above, is also part of the Honors Academy.

Psi Chi

Psi Chi is the International Honor Society for psychology majors. Psi Chi offers career guidance, grants and awards, research and networking opportunities, and more.

Eligible undergraduate students majoring or minoring in Psychology may [apply⁵²](#) to become a lifetime member. The Brooklyn College chapter application form can be found in the Psychology Department office.



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<http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/web/academics/schools/naturalsciences/undergraduate/psychology/research/reu.php>

⁴⁶ <http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/web/academics/schools/naturalsciences/undergraduate/psychology/students/neuroscience.php>

⁴⁷ <http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/web/academics/centers/case/programs/marc.php>

⁴⁸ <http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/web/academics/centers/case/patr.php>

⁴⁹ <http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/web/academics/centers/case/programs/cstep.php>

⁵⁰ <http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/web/academics/centers/case/programs/lsamp.php>

⁵¹ <http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/web/academics/centers/case/programs/academy.php>

⁵² https://www.psiichi.org/page/become_member

PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT SUGGESTIONS

1ST YEAR

2ND YEAR

3RD YEAR

4TH OR FINAL YEAR

GET EXPERIENCE

- Take a variety of introductory courses to keep your options as open as possible.
- **Consider taking PSYC 2090/2091/4210.**
- **Consider getting research experience with PSYC 2001/2002/2003/2004.**
- Meet with an academic advisor to ensure that you are on track for meeting the college requirements.
- **Consider taking part in the Psychology Club, BCCP, Undergraduate Neuroscience Group, NYC LSAMP, MARC, Honors Academy, and CSTEP (see page 6 & 7).**

- **Meet with a Psychology Department Advisor to talk about the Psychology Major requirements in relation to your student record and future career goals.**
- Volunteer in a PSYC Research Lab.
- **Consider taking two PSYC 5000- level Independent Research/Fieldwork courses to become eligible to graduate with Departmental Honors in Psychology.**
- Consider applying for NSF REU, Psi Chi, and/or other programs (see page 6 & 7).

**SEEK FUNDING SUPPORT

****Most scholarships and fellowships are very competitive. Multiple applications are encouraged.**

- **Look for Scholarships to help fund your degree:**
 - Scholarships available from Brooklyn College and CUNY: <http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/web/about/offices/scholarships.php>
 - Scholarship available nationally: <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search>
 - National psychology scholarships and fellowships: <https://www.apa.org/about/awards/>

- **Thinking about graduate school?** *Look for ways to fund your graduate degree:*
 - APA Fellowships for future clinicians intending to serve underserved communities: <https://www.apa.org/pi/mfp/psychology>
 - Fully-funded Ph.D. programs (tuition and living stipend provided to accepted students): <https://www.profellow.com/>
 - National psychology scholarships and fellowships <https://www.apa.org/about/awards/>
 - In your final year, apply to the MA and Ph.D. Fellowships you researched.

GET READY FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

- Research educational requirements for careers that may interest you.
- Visit the Magner Center to learn more about their services.
- **Thinking about graduate school?**
 - Know the GPA requirements and join a lab as a research assistant.
 - Consider contributing enough to a research project that you can be a co-author on a research article.

- Start focusing on areas of interest: Visit the Magner Center
- **Thinking about graduate school?**
 - Research graduate programs and their educational requirements.
 - Which have faculty doing research or clinical work that interests you?
 - Research and practice the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). Consider a test preparation strategy: <https://www.prepscholar.com/gre/blog/khan-academy-gre/>
- **Attend Information sessions held by the Psychology Department on applying to graduate school programs in psychology.**
- Apply to graduate programs:
 - <https://www.apa.org/education/grad/applying>
 - <http://mitch.web.unc.edu/files/2017/02/MitchGradSchoolAdvice.pdf>

GET CONNECTED

- **LinkedIn to Your Career: The Magner Career Center** can help you build your LinkedIn Account.
- Join and take part in clubs and organizations on campus such as the Psychology Club. See the Bulldog Connection for a complete list of clubs and organizations.
- Network with professors as you will need letters of recommendation for graduate school.
- Attend workshops and training sessions offered to through:
 - **Personal Counseling** -> Academic Achievement, Assertiveness, Families of Alcoholics, Procrastination, Self-Growth, Stress Reduction, Test Anxiety and Time Management.
 - **Library** -> Weekday Computer Workshops, and other Technology and Software Workshops (including Excel, Adobe Photoshop. etc.)
 - **Magner Center** -> Job Search 101 (resume, job search, and interview skills), Building Professional Relationships: Mentors and Networking.
- Volunteer on or off campus with different community organizations.
- Learn about and apply for internships and/or **Study Abroad Programs.**