

PSYCHOLOGY

Psychology is a broad field that encompasses the biological influences, social pressures, and environmental factors that affect how people think, act, and feel. It includes the study of human thought, behavior, development, personality, emotion, and more. It's common to think of psychologists interviewing people in clinical settings, but they also research and investigate thoughts and behaviors to answer questions across a wide variety of fields and settings. Psychologists apply their skills and methods to help support positive change within individuals, communities and society.

STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Learn and Do More at RWU

With a focus on experiential learning at RWU, Psychology majors can:

- Collaborate on research with faculty members who are experts in their field. Research areas that regularly involve students include: balancing the responsibilities of work and family life; learning differences between the genders; teenagers' decisions on health-related issues (substance use, sexual behavior), and multicultural aspects of sexual aggression.
- Partner with community organizations and businesses to solve problems that matter to them. Examples include: promoting mental health well-being with youth in Jamaica, working with the Bristol Health Equity Zone to study the impact of community cooking demonstrations, and analyzing policies and programs at an elementary school in Providence and at Head Start in Fall River.
- Sharpen their research presentation skills at regional, national, and international conferences like the Association for Psychological Sciences, the Eastern Psychological Association, the Society for Research in Child Development, and the American Psychology-Law Society, and participate in Brain Week RI! Be a part of the brand new Brain Club, founded by psychology students, which brings interactive neuroscience lessons to local grade schools (K-12).



- + **Do you find yourself analyzing what drives people's actions?**
- + **Are you interested in concepts like the relationship between stress and illness or how drugs affect behavior?**

CAREER OUTLOOK

RWU **Psychology** grads are working in the following fields:

- Forensic Psychology
- Counseling and clinical therapy
- Human resources
- Public relations
- Institutional research
- Marketing

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Mary Dinnean, MPH Class of 2018 B.A. Psychology

*National Strategy and Business
Development Associate, Boston
Children's Hospital*

Alison Slaughter, MS Class of 2015 B.A. Psychology

*Researcher and Statistician, Miami
University's Discovery Center for Evaluation,
Research, and Professional Learning*

CURRICULUM

During your first two years, you will learn the major psychological theories, and understand what psychologists do and the methods they use to conduct their research. You'll also learn how to use software-based statistical techniques to answer psychological questions in research projects.

Your third and fourth years focus on research methodology and dive deep into specialized areas of Psychology. You'll learn descriptive and experimental methodology, how to conduct observations and surveys, examine case studies, and develop a research proposal. Through group research or an individual thesis project, you will take a research question through the scientific process including sample development, data collection, and analysis. You will then present your findings to peers and faculty members.

Special Courses

You'll also choose from many electives, including:

- Health Psychology
- Brain and Behavior
- Child Development
- Art Therapy

Internship Opportunities

Psychology majors complete a guaranteed internship. RWU students have worked as:

- Behavior Specialist at Perspectives Corporation
- Direct Professional Support at L.I.F.E., Inc.
- Antenatal Care Unit
- Helpline Advocate at Day One

Earn a Graduate Degree

RWU offers two graduate degrees that complement the bachelor's degree in Psychology: The Master of Arts in Forensic and Legal Psychology, which prepares students for Ph.D. programs in forensic or legal psychology, and the Master of Arts in Forensic Mental Health Counseling, which prepares students for clinical work or for a Psy.D. program.

**OVER 80% OF
RWU STUDENTS
GRADUATE WITH
MORE THAN JUST
A SINGLE MAJOR**

RWU students have
paired **Psychology** with:

- Criminal Justice
- Legal Studies
- Education
- Marketing

