

Department of Psychology Messiah College

<http://www.messiah.edu/departments/psychology>

What is Psychology?

- Psychology is “the study of the behavior and mental processes of humans.”
- Draws students who want to work with people or who want to have a sophisticated understanding of others.

Why Study Psychology?

“A human being is a microcosm of the universe, ‘a rare example of God’s power, goodness, and wisdom, and contains within...enough miracles to occupy our minds’.” - John Calvin

*“I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
your works are wonderful,
I know that full well.” Psalm 139:14 (NIV)*

“But Jesus did not trust Himself to them, because he knew all men and needed no one to bear witness of man; for he himself knew what was in man.” John 2: 24, 25 (RSV)

Distinctives of Psychology at Messiah College

- Students
- Faculty
- Facilities
- Faith Integration
- Enrollment has consistently been one of the highest for all the departments at Messiah College.

Psychology Curriculum at Messiah College

- Comparable to Psychology programs at other schools
- Students will take courses that are theoretical, clinical, and experimental nature
- Many courses combine academic theory with hands on experience
- Students consider connections between subject matter and a Christian world view

Psychology at Messiah College: Degrees offered

- **Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Psychology**
 - with optional Clinical Concentration
- **Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Psychology**
- **B.S. in Biopsychology**
- **Psychology Minors**
 - Psychology
 - Pre-Counseling and Therapy (interdepartmental with HDFS)
 - Community Psychology

Psychology at Messiah College:

B.A. vs. B.S.—

What's the Difference???

a B.A. in Psychology:

- Prepares students for placements in entry-level positions in the **helping professions** or for graduate school in many **sub-fields of psychology**.

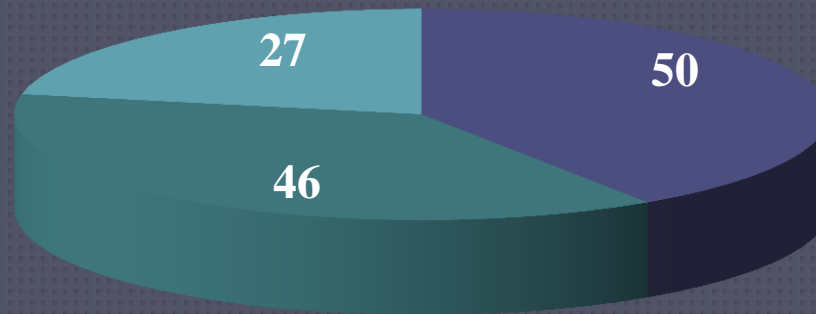
a B.S. in Psychology:

- Designed for students who intend to work in a field that has a **stronger emphasis on science or math** or for those who wish to pursue graduate studies that lean more towards **research and the sciences**.

Psychology at Messiah College:

Division of Credits for the B.A. & B.S. in Psychology

123 Required Credits



- General Education Requirements (50)
- Psychology Major Requirements (46)
- Free Electives (27)

Psychology at Messiah College:

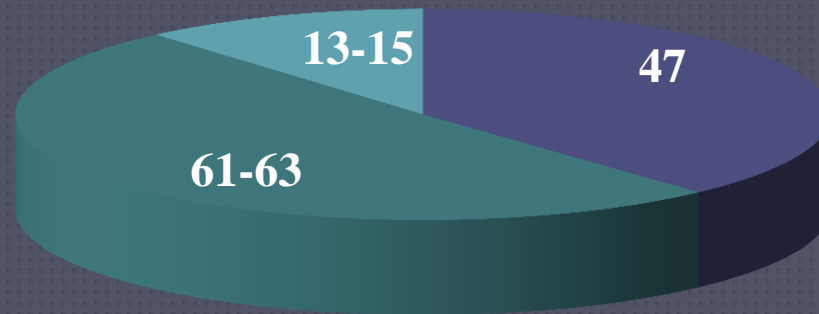
B.S. in BIOPSYCHOLOGY

- Biopsychology is the scientific study of the biology of behavior and mental processes (such as learning, memory, perception, attention, motivation, emotion, and cognition).
- Our B.S. in Biopsychology is a collaborative effort with the Department of Biological Sciences.
- Prepares students who are interested in fields such as:
 - Medicine
 - Psychiatry
 - Cognitive neuroscience
 - Occupational therapy
 - Psychopharmacology
 - Neuropsychology
 - Behavioral genetics
 - Comparative Psychology

Psychology at Messiah College:

Division of Credits for the B.S. in Biopsychology

123 Required Credits



- General Education Requirements (47)
- Biospsychology Major (61-63)
- Free Electives (13-15)

Psychology at Messiah College: State-of-the-Art Equipment

- An academic building that includes:
 - Interview rooms with recording capability
 - Group observation/counseling area with recording capability
- Physiological recording equipment for Biopsychology:
 - **Biopac Student Lab Equipment**
 - EEG (electroencephalogram - brain waves)
 - EOG (electrooculogram - eye movement)
 - EMG (electromyogram - muscle contraction)
 - EKG (electrocardiogram-- heart)
 - Reaction time measurement.



Psychology at Messiah College:

Opportunities in Psychology

- Join [Minds Matter](#), which educates students on mental illness by reaching out through service to the local community
- Become a member of [Psi Chi](#), the national honor society for Psychology
- Connect faith and academics through the completion of [service learning](#) projects related to psychology
- [Research, write, and present](#) with faculty members
- Complete a [Senior Major Honors Project](#)
- Gain additional experience through an [internship or practicum](#) related to Psychology

Psychology at Messiah College: The Faculty

Research & Professional Interests:

- Fathering & Divorce
- Cross-Cultural Studies
- Technology & Its Psychological Effects
- Communication technology and European Youth

Frequently Taught Courses:

- Opportunities in Psychology
- Cognition
- Experimental Psychology
- Cross-cultural Psychology
- Statistical Methods in Psychology



John Bechtold, Chair
Ph.D. Kansas State
1988

Psychology at Messiah College: The Faculty

Research & Professional Interests:

- Immigration Attitudes
- Intelligence Test Performance
- Reconciliation

Frequently Taught Courses:

- Social Psychology
- Lifespan Development
- Topics: Research



Henry A. Danso
Ph.D. University of Western
Ontario
2009

Psychology at Messiah College: The Faculty



Rhonda Jacobsen
Ed.D. Temple University
1984

Research & Professional Interests:

- Integration of Psych & Theology
- Christian Higher Education
- Faculty Development in Classroom

Frequently Taught Courses:

- Psychology Seminar
- Women and Men in American Society

Psychology at Messiah College: The Faculty



Charles D. Jantzi
Psy.D. Wright State
2004

Research & Professional Interests:

- Impact of Technology on Families
- Impact of Work on Adolescent Development
- Body Image and Sanctification of the Body

Frequently Taught Courses:

- Counseling Theories
- Abnormal Psychology
- History and Systems of Psychology
- Adolescent Development

Psychology at Messiah College

The Faculty

Research & Professional Interests:

- Body Image and Religiosity
- Forgiveness
- Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

Frequently Taught Courses:

- Counseling Techniques
- Psychological Testing
- Abnormal Psychology
- Group Dynamics



Valerie A. Lemmon
Psy.D. Philadelphia College
of Osteopathic Medicine
2007

Psychology at Messiah College: The Faculty



Jennifer Thomson
Ph.D. University of North
Carolina- Chapel Hill
2012

Research & Professional Interests:

- Posttraumatic Stress Disorder
- Stress & Health
- Addiction

Frequently Taught Courses:

- Biological Basis of Behavior
- Drug & Alcohol Addiction
- Stress & Health
- Sensation & Perception

Psychology at Messiah College

Year	Professional Employment	Advanced Degree	Other *
2012 - Psychology	31%	37%	31%
2011 - Psychology	15%	20%	65%
2010 - Psychology	33%	42%	24%
2009 - Psychology	28%	56%	16%
2008 - Psychology	43%	43%	14%

* "Other" includes volunteer opportunities, missions work, and employment unrelated to the degree earned.

Psychology at Messiah College:

Examples of Student Entry-Level Positions

- **Case Manager**
 - Organizes and coordinates services and supports for patients, such as children with mental health problems and their families; oversees the overall medical, personal, and social service needs of the patients
- **Psychiatric Assistant**
 - Assists counselors in non-therapeutic therapy. Monitors and assesses patient progress to ensure that patient treatment objectives are met. Records and reports patient information. Implements patient treatment plans and selects patient activities
- **Therapeutic Staff Support**
 - Provides one-to-one behavioral health interventions to a child or adolescent with a serious emotional disturbance in order to prevent more restrictive services or out-of-home placement and to promote age-appropriate psychosocial growth

Psychology at Messiah College:

Examples of Student Entry-Level Positions

- **Crime Victim Advocate**
 - Counsels victims and their families; accompanies and supports victims through the criminal justice process; provides community education, training and consultation
- **Social Worker**
 - Provides social services and assistance to improve the social and psychological functioning of children and their families and to maximize the family well-being and academic functioning of children
- **Home Care Aide**
 - Helps elderly, disabled, and ill persons live in their own homes or in residential care facilities instead of in a health facility

Psychology at Messiah College:

Examples of Student Entry-Level Positions

- **Rehab Specialist**
 - Manage the components important in the rehabilitation process of individuals with physical and mental disabilities. They help prevent fragmentation and gaps in services to people seeking to move from psychological and economic dependence to independence
- **Residential Counselors**
 - In charge of group homes. The residents of these homes include emotionally disturbed, developmentally disabled, and mentally ill youth and adults. People in homes supervised by residential counselors may also have physical problems, but the problems that keep them from being self-sufficient are primarily mental or emotional

Psychology at Messiah College: Graduate Schools of Recent Grads

University of Delaware
Denver University
Drexel University
Duke Divinity School
Duquesne University
Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary
Eastern University
Evangelical Theological Seminary
Fairfield University
Fuller Theological Seminary
Geneva College
George Fox University
George Washington University
Georgia State University
University of Hartford
University of Illinois
Immaculata University
Indiana State University
Indiana University of Pennsylvania
James Madison University
Jerusalem University College
John Jay College of Criminal Justice
Lancaster Bible College
Lancaster Theological Seminary

Lehigh University
Liberty University
Long Island University
Loyola University
Loyola University Chicago
Marshall University
University of Maryland - Baltimore
University of Maryland - College Park
Marymount University
Marywood University
McDaniel College
Messiah College
Millersville University
Misericordia University
Monash University
Montclair State University
College of New Jersey
University of New Mexico
College of New Rochester
New York University
Ohio State University
Oxford Brookes University
University of Pennsylvania
University of Oklahoma

Psychology at Messiah College: Graduate Schools of Recent Grads

Palmer College of Chiropractic
Pennsylvania State University
Pepperdine University
Philadelphia College
Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine
Purdue University
Regent University
Rutgers University
Sacred Heart University
Seattle Pacific University
Seton Hall University
Shippensburg University
South Connecticut State University
Southern Methodist University
St. Joseph College
St. Thomas University
SUNY Albany
SUNY Brockport
University of Sussex
Syracuse University
Teachers College Columbia University

Temple University
Tennessee Technical University
University of Texas at Austin
Thomas Jefferson University
Towson University
Vanguard University of Costa Mesa
Villanova University
University of Virginia
Virginia Commonwealth University
Virginia Polytechnic University
Walden University
Wesley Theological Seminary
West Chester University
West Virginia University
Western Michigan University
Wheaton College
Widener University
Winebrenner Theological Seminary
Yale University Divinity School

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