The Psychology major examines the scientific study of the brain and behavior. Students have the opportunity to take coursework in many subfields of psychology including biological, clinical, cognitive, developmental, and social psychology. Additionally, many students choose to incorporate a minor in either Childhood Studies, Mental Health Services, or Gerontology to complement their interests in the major.

The Psychology program provides students with a strong foundation for various careers and graduate programs. Students take core courses in psychology to build an interdisciplinary background over the first two to three years. In their junior and senior years, students have the opportunity to explore other areas of interest.

**Graduate Degree Option**
Holy Family University is proud to offer multiple graduate degree programs to our psychology students. Two such programs afford students the opportunity to apply to a Master of Science in Counseling Psychology (4+2) or Master of Arts in Criminal Justice (4+1) in their junior year. These programs allow students to begin taking graduate level courses as undergraduates and then complete their graduate degree with just one additional year for the Master of Arts in Criminal Justice program or 2 additional years in the Master of Science in Counseling program, following the completion of their 4-year degree.

**Childhood Studies Minor**
This minor is designed to provide an opportunity for specialization for those students who wish to work in fields related to child development following graduation. This minor may be an optimal choice for those students who wish to pursue jobs and graduate programs in school psychology, therapeutic support staff positions, applied behavior analysis, and other jobs and programs that integrate mental health and development.

**Mental Health Services Minor**
This minor is designed to provide an opportunity for specialization for those students who wish to work in hands-on mental health positions following graduation. Students may work with children or adults in inpatient, outpatient, or residential treatment settings. Students who enroll in this minor have additional courses that have clinical components, such as Introduction to Clinical Applications, Developmental Psychopathology, Addictions, Loss and Grief, Psychology of Health and Illness, Internship and Psychological Assessment.

**Gerontology Minor**
The Gerontology minor provides an opportunity for the multidisciplinary study of the biological, psychological, and social/policy aspects of aging over the life course. The minor helps prepare students from any major to work with older adults in a number of professional settings, including human service, counseling, health care and business settings. Students who complete this minor take courses in psychology, sociology and criminal justice, including courses such as Aging in America, Adult Development and Aging, Loss and Grief, and Psychology of Health and Illness, among others.
Internships provide students with valuable hands-on experience outside of the classroom. Sites that students have completed or will complete internships include:

- Livengrin Counseling Center
- ESF Summer Camp
- Compassionate Care
- Better Homes of American Heritage Realtors
- Milestone Behavioral Health
- Center for Families and Relationships
- No Longer Bound Prevention Services
- ARC
- Libertae
- Northeast Treatment Centers
- John Hancock School
- SPIN
- PATH
- Young Achievers Learning Center
- FMV (Families of Murder Victims)
- Penn Vet Working Dog Center
- Trevose Day School

Required Courses

Students in the Psychology program are required to take the following in addition to 6 psychology electives:

- Introduction to Psychology (PSYC 110)
- Child & Adolescent Development (PSYC 206)
- Scientific Writing (PSYC 211)
- Statistics for the Social and Behavioral Sciences (PSYC 311)
- Behavior Modification (PSYC 333)
- Abnormal Psychology (PSYC 345)
- Research Methods (PSYC 322)
- Physiological Psychology (PSYC 305)
- Social Psychology (PSYC 343)
- Internship in Psychology (PSYC 350/351)
- Bioethics (PHIL 205)
- Junior Seminar in Psychology (PSYC 352)
- Senior Seminar: Contemporary Issues in Psychology (PSYC 431)

Psychology Electives (6 required*)

*A maximum of 3 courses at the 200 level

- Adult Development and Aging (PSYC 207)
- Gender Issues (PSYC 210)
- Psychology of Health and Illness (PSYC 212)
- Industrial & Organizational Psychology (PSYC 215)
- Addictions (PSYC 220)
- Globalization (PSYC 318)
- Sensation and Perception (PSYC 331)
- Cognitive Psychology (PSYC 332)
- Theories of Personality (PSYC 346)
- Internship II (PSYC 351)
- Introduction to Autism Spectrum Disorders (PSYC 354)
- Behavioral Applications in Autism Spectrum Disorders (PSYC 355)
- Introduction to Clinical Applications (PSYC 356)
- Developmental Psychopathology (PSYC 357)
- Family Violence (PSYC 341)
- Loss and Grief (PSYC 342)
- Psychological Assessment (PSYC 425)
- Advanced Research Methods in Social and Behavioral Science (PSYC 433)
- Research Practicum I & II (PSYC 450/451)