



# BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES PSYCHOLOGY AND SOCIOLOGY

The Behavioral Sciences major is designed to develop a critical understanding of human beings and their society. The major is interdisciplinary and may incorporate elements from the fields of anthropology, biology, philosophy, psychology, religion, and sociology. Additional courses in statistics and computer science help the student to master the research methods used in the behavioral sciences.

Within the broad framework of the Behavioral Sciences major, the student has the option of concentrating in either psychology or sociology. Study in psychology is designed: (1) to develop an increased understanding of the factors influencing human behavior; (2) to familiarize the student with essential scientific methods and concepts as applied to the analysis of psychological research; (3) to develop the ability to think critically and clearly; (4) to provide the basic background for students intending to do graduate work in any of the fields of psychology or to enter other professions in which knowledge of the principles of human behavior is essential.

Study in sociology is directed toward the discovery of general principles that help to explain the order, meaning, and coherence of human social life. To that end, the courses in sociology emphasize the principles of social organization and disorganization, the comparative analysis of societies and social institutions, and principles of social interaction. The student develops a basic understanding of theory, substantive areas, and research methods of sociology.

The student concentrating in psychology or sociology has the opportunity to participate in laboratory and/or field work, because human behavior often can be studied best outside of the classroom and because research projects, internships, and other types of practical experience are important preparation for a career.

A Behavioral Sciences major prepares the student for a career in: teaching, research, social work, health sciences, advertising, marketing, personnel management, conflict mediation, and counseling. Some careers require baccalaureate degrees, others require graduate or professional training. In both, Wilson students have an excellent record in obtaining placements. Faculty assist in designing a program of study that meets admissions requirements for graduate school and can often suggest institutions based on the students' career objectives. In addition to the Behavioral Sciences major, minors are available in psychology and sociology for students wishing to supplement their education within these areas.

## Required Courses for all Behavioral Sciences

### Majors:

PSY 110	Introduction to Psychology
PSY 115	Understanding Statistics
PSY 217	Social Psychology
PSY 218	Biological Foundations of Behavior
SOC 120	Introduction to Sociology
SOC 225	Social Problems and Inequalities
<b>Or</b>	
SOC 235	Race, Class, and Gender
PHI/RLS	One course in philosophy or religion studies
BS 399	Senior Thesis

In addition to the required courses listed above, choose either a concentration in psychology or sociology.

## Concentration in Psychology Required Courses:

PSY 331	Experimental Methods in Psychology
PSY 368	History and Systems in Psychology

Four additional courses, at least two at the 300 level, selected in consultation with the advisor.

## Concentration in Sociology Required Courses:

SOC 232	Qualitative Methods and Feminist Research
SOC 314	Research Design
SOC 315	Sociological Theory
SOC 355	Internship

Three additional courses selected in consultation with the advisor, at least one at the 300 level.

## **Minors**

### **Minor in Psychology**

PSY 110 Introduction to Psychology

Five additional courses in psychology, at least one at the 300 level.

### **Minor in Sociology**

SOC 120 Introduction to Sociology

Five additional courses in sociology, at least one at the 300 level.

## **Distinctive Opportunities**

- The opportunity to work closely with experienced faculty who will encourage the development of your ability to think critically and help you achieve your goals for future success
- A senior independent research project on a topic of your own choosing. Recent student projects have included:
  - The Relationship Between Conformity and Extraversion
  - The Effects of the Open studio Process of Art Therapy with Older Adults
  - The Influence of Humidity on the Reproductive behavior of Zebra Finches
  - Effects of Caffeine on Memory Retention
  - Identification and Implications of Relational Aggression
  - Gender Role Concept and Gender Constancy in Relation to Gender-Typed Toy Preference
  - Brain Lateralization in Mice: Effects of Age, Environment and Practice
  - Effect of Pornographic Film Consumption on Male Attitudes & Behaviors Toward Women

## **Graduate Success**

A recent national study has identified Wilson College as one of the leading producers of doctoral degree recipients in the nation. The National Science Foundation and the National Center for Education Statistics compared the number of graduates of each college and university within a ten-year period with the number who earned Ph.D.'s. Eleven percent of Wilson's graduates earned doctoral-level degrees. Nationally, Wilson placed 18<sup>th</sup> out of approximately 2,000 U.S. baccalaureate degree-granting institutions, just behind Harvard University and Yale University.

## **Graduate Schools** (Recent graduates are currently enrolled at)

- Nova Southeastern University
- Chicago School of Professional Psychology
- Temple University
- Bucknell University
- CUNY – John Jay College of Criminal Justice
- Syracuse University

## **Internships**

- Independent senior research project on topic of choice
- Domestic violence & sexual abuse centers
- Alternative Rehabilitation Communities, Inc.
- English as a Second Language
- County child & youth organizations
  - AIDS Education
  - Public Leadership Education Network (PLEN)

## **Employment** (Recent graduates are currently employed as)

- Coordinator of Big Brother/Big Sister Programs
- Marketing Researcher
- Counselor at Residential Adolescent Care Facility
- Executive Director of Health Care Corporation
- Therapeutic Support Staff
- Applied Personnel Researcher
- Researcher, Juvenile Detention Center
- Adm. Asst., Research & Software Development Co.

For more ideas about entry level jobs go to [www.psywww.com/careers/entry.htm](http://www.psywww.com/careers/entry.htm) or <http://www.asanet.org/student/career/homepage.html>