

A  
GUIDE TO  
UNDERGRADUATE STUDY  
IN  
PSYCHOLOGY  
AT  
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY  
2008-2009  
EDITION  
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## **A Message From The Department of Psychology**

Psychology combines the social and natural sciences. Psychologists conduct both basic and applied research to better understand behavior, thoughts, and emotions. The Psychology Department has active research programs in animal and human learning, anxiety disorders, the brain, choice behavior, drugs and behavior, eating disorders, memory, motivation, perception, program evaluation, and psychotherapy processes. A complete list of the faculty and their interests is on page 12, and on the Psychology Department's website at: <http://www.american.edu/cas/departments/psychology.shtml> Psychology majors are also encouraged to consult the Psychology Majors Blackboard site. Please e-mail the psychology department staff at [psychology@american.edu](mailto:psychology@american.edu) in order to be added as a user to the Psychology Majors blackboard page.

Psychologists often work in clinical and applied settings. The Department has courses, as well as internships, and independent studies, which enable students to learn about and participate in the applications of psychology in mental health facilities, schools, shelters, laboratories, and policy-making settings. Psychology students may be found interning at the National Institutes of Mental Health, St. Elizabeth's Hospital, the American Psychological Association, the DC Public Defender's Office, DC Public Schools, Childrens Hospital, Community Services for Autistic Adults and Children, Psychiatric Institute of Washington, etc.

Psychology majors often use their B.A. as a foundation for graduate work or professional school as well as for employment in mental health programs, social services, development agencies, research laboratories, the courts, public administration, and other organizations throughout the private sector. Graduate study beyond the B.A. is necessary for the independent practice of psychology.

A psychology minor—combined with majors in the fields of business, government, history, biology, chemistry, justice, communication, economics, languages, or the arts—has proved rewarding for many students.

This booklet describes requirements of the Psychology Department.

## **Requirements for Graduating with a B.A. in Psychology**

### How to Become a Major

To become a Psychology major, simply come to the Psychology Department (Asbury 321) and fill out a major declaration form and the Questionnaire for Undergraduate Majors. You will be assigned an advisor

The major in psychology may be completed in one of two tracks, the Core and the Core-Plus tracks. The Core track is intended for those students who do not plan to pursue graduate study in Psychology. The Core-Plus track is designed to prepare students for post-graduate work, particularly in Psychology and related disciplines. It provides both greater breadth and depth of training plus experience with psychological research and practical applications of psychology. The Core track will fulfill the admission requirements of many excellent graduate programs. However, the Core-Plus track should enhance a student's attractiveness to various graduate programs while better preparing them for a successful transition to graduate study. Students are encouraged to work closely with their advisor in their preparation for graduate school.

Psychology majors may choose to fulfill the requirements of **either** the Core or Core-Plus programs, and may switch from one to the other at any time during their undergraduate studies. When selecting or changing tracks, a student should consult with his or her advisor.

### **Course Requirements for the Major (Core Program)**

A total of forty-one (41) credit hours with a grade of C or better, at least 15 of which must be at the 300 level or above with the PSYC- prefix at American University.

### **Required Foundations Courses (take all 4 courses)**

**PSYC-105. \_\_ Psychology Understanding Human Behavior**

**PSYC-115. \_\_ Psychology as a Natural Science**

(Must be taken concurrently with PSYC-116)

**PSYC-116. \_\_ Psychology as a Natural Science Lab**

(Must be taken concurrently with PSYC-115)

**STAT-202. \_\_ Basic Statistics**

**(\*Statistics must be taken at American University for a Grade [A-F] NOT Pass/Fail)**

### **Biopsychology Courses (take at least 1 course)**

**PSYC-325. \_\_ Neurobiological Bases of Behavior**

**PSYC-240. \_\_ Drugs and Behavior**

**PSYC-318. \_\_ Fundamentals of Human Neuropsychology**

**PSYC-360. \_\_ The Evolution of Behavior**

### **Learning and Cognition Courses (take at least 1 course)**

**PSYC-220. \_\_ The Senses**

**PSYC-200. \_\_ Behavior Principles**

**PSYC-300. \_\_ Memory and Cognition**

**PSYC-370. \_\_ Learning and Behavior**

### **The Individual, the Situation, and Psychological Health Courses (take at least 2 courses)**

**PSYC-205. \_\_ Social Psychology**

**PSYC-215. \_\_ Abnormal Psychology and Society**

**PSYC-235. \_\_ Theories of Personality**

**PSYC-333. \_\_ Health Psychology**

**PSYC-350. \_\_ Child Psychology**

**Research Methods Courses (take 1 course) Required. (For students who entered the University as of Fall semester 2007)**

**PSYC-301. \_\_Research Methods in Psychology (3)**

**PSYC-433. \_\_Research Design and Methods: Social Science Psychology Research (4)**

**PSYC-480. \_\_Research Design and Methods: Experimental Psychology (4)**

**New Research Methods Course Requirement for Psychology Majors**

In order to better prepare students on the principles and practice of Psychology, as a discipline, individuals entering the University at or after Fall semester 2007 will be required to take one research methods class as part of the major's new curriculum. The department has provided the following course descriptions to assist students in deciding which research class is most appropriate for their course of study. All research methods courses have a prerequisite of PSYC 105 or 115 and STAT 202.

**PSYC 301: General Research Methods in Psychology (Foundation Level) -- 3 credits**

This course is an introduction to the basic tools of research used by psychologists. Topics will include principles of the scientific method, experimental and correlational research, single-subject research, validity and reliability of measurement, ethical issues, and research reporting. The course is in lecture format with extensive class participation and research-related assignments. Students wishing to gain a basic understanding of research methods are encouraged to enroll in this class. This class was formerly listed as PSYC 396: General Research Methods in Psychology. Students who had successfully completed this course during a previous semester have met their research methods course requirement.

**PSYC 433: Research Design and Methods: Social Science Psychological Research (Advanced level) - 4 credits**

This course covers advanced research topics relating to clinical and social psychology. Lectures and assignments explain the methods of identifying and developing reliable and valid psychological tests and behavioral observation systems. Additionally, this course will require the student to design, implement, analyze, interpret and write an individual research project over the course of the semester. For this reason, this course is usually taken by students with a strong research interest and/or interest in pursuing graduate work in the social or clinical arenas of Psychology.

**PSYC 480: Research Design and Methods: Experimental Psychology (Advanced level) -- 4 Credits**

This course is concerned with research design and strategies of experimental control that permit the causes of behavior to be identified and manipulated. Research covered comes from the core areas of experimental psychology and may include learning, memory, perception, decision making, operant/classical conditioning, biopsychology and forensic-related studies. In addition to in-class experiments, each student has the opportunity to perform his/her own independent research project. Students wishing to pursue advanced degrees with an emphasis in psychological research (particularly in experimental psychology or the neurosciences) are encouraged to enroll in this class.

**Psychology Electives (take 14 or 15 (depending on the research courses taken) Psychology credits)**

Take 14 or 15 (depending on the research courses taken) additional Psychology credits to complete the major. Additional psychology courses are listed in the University Catalog and may be used as electives.

Students may include among these electives one of the following non-Psychology courses:

EDU 320 Psychology of Education  
JLS 333 Law, Psychology and Justice  
JLS 352 Psychiatry and the Law

Your electives may also include Independent Reading (PSYC-390), Internship (PSYC-491), and Independent Study (PSYC-490): **however, these courses can contribute, at most, a total of six credits towards fulfilling your 41-credit major requirement. Additional credits from these courses however can contribute to your 120 credit graduation requirement.**

## B. The Core-Plus Program

Students must fulfill the same Course requirement as the Core Program. Additionally, in the Core-Plus program the student also takes at least 6 hours at the 500 level, with at least one course from the Advanced Biopsychology/Learning and one from Advanced Individual, Situation and Psychological Health offerings listed below. These courses would be taken after the student has fulfilled the prerequisite indicated. (POI=Permission of Instructor).

### *Advanced Biopsychology/Learning Courses*

	Course	Prerequisite
PSYC 501	Physiological Psychology	Neurobiological. Bases of Behavior (NEUROLOGICAL BASES OF BEHAVIOR), Drugs and Behavior (DRUGS AND BEHAVIOR) <b>or</b> Fundamentals Of Human Neuropsychology (FUNDAMENTAL OF HUMAN NEUROPSYCHOLOGY)
PSYC 513	Neuropharmacology	NEUROLOGICAL BASES OF BEHAVIOR, DRUGS AND BEHAVIOR <b>or</b> FUNDAMENTAL OF HUMAN NEUROPSYCHOLOGY
PSYC 518	Advanced Human Neuropsychology	NEUROLOGICAL BASES OF BEHAVIOR, DRUGS AND BEHAVIOR <b>or</b> FUNDAMENTAL OF HUMAN NEUROPSYCHOLOGY
PSYC 530 PSYC 575	Conditioning and Learning Advanced Memory and Cognition	Behavior Principles <b>or</b> Learning and Behavior FUNDAMENTAL OF HUMAN NEUROPSYCHOLOGY, Behavior Principles, Learning and Behavior <b>or</b> The Senses

### *Advanced Individual, Situation and Psychological Health Courses*

	Course	Prerequisite
PSYC 505 PSYC 533 PSYC 560 PSYC 551	Advanced Theories of Personality Cognitive Behavior Therapy Advanced Child Psychology Psychopathology	Theories of Personality Abnormal Psychology or Introduction to Clinical Psychology Child Psychology Abnormal Psychology or Introduction to Clinical Psychology

1. Psychological Research and Practical Experience

Students must take a minimum of 7 hours of the following courses that include PSYC 433 and/or PSYC 480. No more than 3 total credit hours of Independent Study, Co-Op or Internship can be used to fulfill this requirement.

PSYC 392	Cooperative Education Field Experience
PSYC 480	Research Design & Methods: Experimental Psychology (4)
PSYC 433	Research Design & Methods: Social Science Psychology (4)
PSYC 490	Independent Research (1-3)
PSYC 491	Internship (1-3)
PSYC 498	Honors Thesis and Seminar (3)

2. **Electives**

Five additional credit hours (No more than 6 credits total of Internship, Co-op, Independent Study or Independent Reading Courses may be used to fulfill the major requirements.)

## The Minor in Psychology

To become a Psychology Minor, come to the Psychology Department (Asbury 321) and fill out a minor declaration form.

A total of **22** psychology credits, at least nine of which must be at the 300-level or higher, is required to graduate with a minor in Psychology (These courses can be through the Consortium with the approval of the Psychology Department Chair). All courses counting toward the minor in Psychology must be taken for a grade and passed with a grade of C or better. The 22 credits must include:

### Required Foundation Courses

1. **PSYC-105 -- Psychology: Understanding Human Behavior**
2. **PSYC-115 --Psychology as a Natural Science**  
(Must be taken concurrently with PSYC-116)  
**PSYC-116 --Psychology as a Natural Science Lab**  
(Must be taken concurrently with PSYC-115)
3. **Natural Sciences Courses (take at least one course)**  
  
**PSYC-200 -- Behavior Principles**  
**PSYC-220 -- The Senses**  
**PSYC-240 -- Drugs and Behavior**  
**PSYC-300 -- Memory and Cognition**  
**PSYC-318 -- Fundamentals of Neuropsychology**  
**PSYC-325 -- Neurobiological Bases of Behavior**  
**PSYC-360 -- The Evolution of Behavior**  
**PSYC-370 -- Learning and Behavior**
4. **Social Sciences Courses (take at least one course)**  
  
**PSYC-205 -- Social Psychology**  
**PSYC-215 -- Abnormal Psychology and Society**  
**PSYC-235 -- Theories of Personality**  
**PSYC-333 -- Health Psychology**  
**PSYC-350 -- Child Psychology**
5. **Psychology Electives**

You are required to take 9 additional credits in the psychology department.

Also note that a maximum of 3 credits can be used from the following courses to fulfill the minor requirements: Independent study, Independent reading and Internship. Additional credits from these courses may contribute to your graduation requirements, but will not count towards the minor requirements.

Note: Basic Statistics (STAT-202) is not required for the minor in Psychology.

Note: Transfer students can apply no more than nine credits from other universities to the minor in Psychology.

## **Combined B.A./M.A. Program in General Psychology**

This program gives full-time students the opportunity to complete both the B.A. and M.A. in Psychology in as little as five years.

The BA/MA Program is designed for students who want a terminal master's degree or want experience at the graduate level before applying to a doctoral (Ph.D.) program. These experiences permit students to test their interest in pursuing a career in psychology while potentially strengthening their applications to doctoral programs. Students in the BA/MA program can earn graduate credits while gaining experience in research and applied areas of psychology through Directed Research courses, Internships and volunteer opportunities. Up to six of these graduate credits can count toward the students' BA as well as their MA.

### **Admission to the Program**

Students should apply for this program no later than the first semester of their senior year and no earlier than the first semester of their junior year. Before applying to the BA/M.A. program in General Psychology a student must have (1) completed at least half the credit hours required for the B.A. in Psychology for the B.A, (2) a 3.00 grade point average (on a 4.00 scale) in Psychology, and (3) the required Statistics course. To apply to the BA/MA program, a student should submit a completed application for Graduate Admission (through the Office of Admissions) that includes scores from General (Verbal, Quantitative, and Analytic sections) of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE), two letters of recommendation, and copies of all college transcripts.

### **Degree and Major Requirements**

- All requirements for the B.A. degree with a major in psychology
- All requirements for the M.A. degree in any of the Department's three Master's Degree tracks, General Psychology, Personality/Social Psychology or Experimental/Biobehavioral Psychology. These requirements can be found in the Graduate Student Handbook.
- Students may apply two 500-level Psychology courses toward meeting the requirements of both degrees.

## Psychology Credits at Other Universities

Some students choose to take courses during the summer at another university and/ or become involved in exchange programs for a semester. **The only way you can ensure that such courses will apply to your major in Psychology at American University is to receive approval to do this before beginning your classes. There is a limit of 6 credits in the major that can taken at another university.** The procedure is reasonably simple. Pick up the University form (Undergraduate Permit to Study at Another Institution) requesting permission to study at another institution and take it to your advisor with the catalog copy of the course description. Once your advisor has signed off on your request, you will then need to get final approval from the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

## Study Abroad

### AU Abroad Program

There are courses at Universities in foreign countries which are approved by the American University Study Abroad Program. These courses are as if taken at American University. They can count for major or minor requirements. You must get approval prior to taking the course. Get a copy of the course description and a syllabus if possible. (See Dr. Riley, the Chair of the Department of Psychology for details).

### Partnered Universities

Other foreign universities are only partnered with American University and courses taken at partnered institutions are not automatically accepted by American University. These courses have to be approved individually. There is no limit to the number of courses taken in a foreign university for AU credit. Fill out the Partner Course Approval Form, have your advisor sign it. Make a copy for yourself and submit the original to American University, AU Abroad (See Dr. Riley for details). Note that unless the course is taken at an institution that is part of the AU Study Abroad Program, only credits (and not grades) will be transferred.

**AU Abroad 202-885-1320**  
**Rockwood Building -8039**  
[AUAbroad@american.edu](mailto:AUAbroad@american.edu)

## The Psychology Transfer Student

Some special rules apply to the transfer of courses into the Psychology Department in fulfilling the requirements for the major and the minor. These rules are:

- 1) Psychology Major: The major in Psychology requires the completion of a total of 41 credits (37 in Psychology and 4 in Statistics). No more than 18 of these credits can be transferred from another university.
- 2) Psychology Minor: The minor in Psychology requires the completion of a total of 22 credits in Psychology. No more than 9 of these credits can be transferred from another university .

It is important to note that although only 18 transfer credits can apply to the major and 9 transfer credits can apply to the minor, this does not mean that you lose credit if you transfer more than this number of Psychology credits. If American University accepts your courses, they will apply to your overall University credits as electives for graduation even if they can't be applied towards your major.

Only courses from another university with a grade of "C" or better can be applied to your Psychology Major or Minor.

If you are a transfer student and have any questions about the transfer of your credits, contact the Department Administrative Assistant, Sara Holland (202-885-1717, [holland@american.edu](mailto:holland@american.edu)) who will refer you to the transfer student advisor.

## Research and Clinical Training Opportunities within the Department

The Psychology Department offers a variety of research and clinical training opportunities. Because of the experience that you can gain from participation in these projects, we encourage you to become actively involved. Your participation can take many forms, ranging from research in Independent Study projects, scholarly analysis through Independent Readings and direct clinical experience through Internships. These projects and experiences are coordinated by individual faculty in the department. Each requires special permission. Consult your advisor for details. Academic credit for these activities may be obtained by registering in any of the following courses.

1. Independent Study Project in Psychology (PSYC-490)
2. Independent Reading Course in Psychology (PSYC-390)
3. Internship (PSYC-491).
4. Work in Faculty Laboratories or on Other Research Projects under faculty member supervision (PSYC-390 or PSYC-490)

The Psychology Department is committed to supporting undergraduates in animal and human research and in clinical training and evaluation. On the following page, the Psychology Department faculty are listed with their areas of interest and expertise. Feel free to contact them to discuss their work, inquire whether they would be available to supervise you or simply to talk about shared interest.

### Internships

Students interested in taking part in an internship should do the following:

- Find an internship that is clearly in Psychology. You may consult with faculty for ideas or talk to the faculty member who teaches the internship course (PSYC-491 001). A current list is available from Dr. Gray (x1716) as well as a list of parents of autistic children who need college students to work with their children. Also, on the landing as you come up the stairs from the second to the third floor in the Asbury building (South Wing), you will see an undergraduate bulletin board with lists of internship placements and families looking for students to work with their autistic children.
- You should spend at least fifteen hours per week at the placement if your internship is for three credits. You should be supervised by a licensed mental health worker.
- You should plan to meet regularly once a week in a group with the faculty member in charge of the Internship course. You will be asked to keep a journal and read books and articles that relate to your placement.

#### Forms to Be Completed

- American University internship agreement.
- Internship/cooperative education consent and release form.
- Internship Registration Form.

## Full-Time Faculty Research Interests

<b>Anthony H. Ahrens, Ph.D.</b>	Gratitude, mindfulness and fear of emotion.
<b>Michele M. Carter, Ph.D.</b>	Anxiety disorders, African-American issues, cognitive therapy, depression.
<b>Clara M. Cheng, Ph.D.</b>	Effects of nonconscious processes on mood, cognition, judgment, and behavior, The role of the self in nonconscious processes, Nonconscious behavioral mimicry. Mindfulness and self-esteem
<b>Bryan D. Fantie, Ph.D.</b>	Human neuropsychology, behavioral & cognitive neuroscience, brain dysfunction, cognition, emotion, head injury, behavioral genetics.
<b>Maria Gomez-Serrano, Ph.D.</b>	Neuroscience, basic physiology, immunoreactivity, epigenetic factors in drug abuse, maternal behavior in drug use and abuse.
<b>James J. Gray, Ph.D.</b>	Eating disorders, OCD, trichotillomania, cognitive behavior therapy, psychology of religion.
<b>Kathleen C. Gunthert, Ph.D.</b>	Stress and coping, depression, cognitive therapy, body image, anxiety.
<b>David A.F. Haaga, Ph.D.</b>	Cognitive assessment, depression, cigarette smoking.
<b>Laura M. Juliano, Ph.D.</b>	Smoking, caffeine, drug expectancies, placebo effects, anxiety
<b>David N. Kearns, Ph.D.</b>	Learning. Conditioned inhibition. Stimulus control. Drug self-administration.
<b>GiShawn Mance, Ph.D.</b>	Prevention; depression; African American youth; mental health disparities; stress and coping. Primary research interests are understanding how context and culture influence symptom presentation in communities of color, with a particular interest in youth residing in low-income environments. Goals include developing, implementing, and evaluating cultural and contextual interventions for youth who have witnessed or experienced multiple traumas that create vulnerability to depression. Additionally, interested in determining if community networks such as familial relationships and community prevention and intervention programs act as protective factors, how these protective factors change over time, and how to maintain the protective nature of these networks.
<b>Scott Parker</b>	Psychophysics and related areas.
<b>Zehra Peynircioğlu, Ph.D.</b>	Human memory and metamemory and cognition in general
<b>Anthony L. Riley, Ph.D.</b>	Psychopharmacology, prenatal drug effects, drug addiction and abuse, drug interactions, taste aversions.
<b>Alan M. Silberberg, Ph.D.</b>	Learning theory and choice behavior, behavioral economics

**Stanley J. Weiss, Ph.D.**

Classical and operant conditioning, motivation, stimulus control, behavior and pharmacology.

**Carol S. Weissbrod, Ph.D.**

Developmental-social, emotional behavior, child clinical issues, sports psychology.

**Brian T. Yates, Ph.D.**

Program evaluation (cost-effectiveness and cost-benefit analyses) applied to almost any human service system (e.g., substance abuse treatment, supported housing, paraprofessional and consumer operated services).

## UNIVERSITY HONORS IN PSYCHOLOGY

Students must opt for University Honors or Honors in Psychology, but not both. Dr. James Gray is currently the Honors coordinator for the Psychology Department. Psychology majors are encouraged to do honors in psychology.

### Requirements

Fill out the application for the Honors program available at the University Honors program at Hurst Hall 206. Students must complete thirty credits of honors classes (This can be reduced in special circumstances, e.g. transfer students)

Level I – 100-200 level Honors Classes – no minimum

At least twelve of the thirty credits must be at Level II and Level III.

Level II – Six credits of classes fulfilled by the following:

- a. Honors Colloquia courses approved for Psychology major credit.
- b. Psychology classes at the 300 level or above with an additional honors supplement added by the professor (e.g. an additional paper).
- c. Courses at the 500 level (with Honors Graduate Supplement Form)
- d. Independent studies approved for honors credit.

Level III Capstone)

The student must find a Psychology Department faculty member to supervise her/his capstone (thesis) experience. The student must register for PSYC-498 Senior Thesis Seminar in Psychology (3 credits) for two successive semesters. Download and fill out the capstone application form (from [http://www.american.edu/academic.depts/honors/Honors%20Requirements/Honors%20Forms/Capstone%20Form%20Update%208-28-08\\_.pdf](http://www.american.edu/academic.depts/honors/Honors%20Requirements/Honors%20Forms/Capstone%20Form%20Update%208-28-08_.pdf)) and get the appropriate signatures. Honors should appear in the second line title on the course registration. During the semester the student meets individually with the Honors advisor. Any faculty member can supervise an Honors Thesis. The Honors thesis is synonymous with the capstone. A psychology research course (PSYC-480 or PSYC-433 or PSYC-301) is a prerequisite for the Senior Thesis Seminar (PSYC-498) and should be taken during the junior year. The Honors project can be an addition or extension of a project done in one of these courses. Students should start their research as early as possible, for example during the summer before the senior year.

## APA RESOURCES

You can become an American Psychological Association Affiliate as an undergraduate Psychology major. Membership is \$27.00 per year. You get reduced rates on APA journals and books. You will receive the *APA Monitor*, a monthly magazine, which contains news about the discipline of Psychology. You will also receive the *American Psychologist*, a monthly magazine with scholarly articles pertaining to important issues in Psychology. You will get a discounted reservation at the APA convention and discounts on a variety of consumer services.

Visit the APA website at [www.apa.org](http://www.apa.org)

### Books

Is Psychology the Major for You: Planning for Your Undergraduate Years—\$9.95

Getting In: A Step-by-Step Plan for Gaining Admission to Graduate School in Psychology (Second Edition). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association, 2007. —\$14.95

Graduate Study in Psychology. Washington, DC: American Psychology Association, 2008. —\$24.95

Kracen, A.C. & Wallace, I. J. (2008). Applying to Graduate School in Psychology. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

Landrum, Eric R., Stephen F. Davis. The Psychology Major: Career Options and Strategies for Success (Third Edition). New Jersey: Pearson, 2007.

Norcross, John C., Michael A. Sayette, Tracy J. Mayne. Insider's Guide to Graduate Programs in Clinical and Counseling Psychology (2008/2009 Edition). New York: The Guildford Press, 2008.

Psychology: Careers for the Twenty-First Century. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association, 1996.

Sternberg, Robert J. Career Paths in Psychology: Where your Degree Can Take You (Second Edition). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association, 2007. —\$19.95

## **Charles B. Ferster Award for Excellence in Psychology**

Each year, early in the Spring semester, the Chair of the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee will ask the registrar to supply the transcripts for all psychology majors graduating in January, May or August of that year. Then, all Psychology Department faculty will be given the names of graduating seniors with a GPA over 3.5 in the major and a list of all other graduating Psychology majors as well. The faculty will be asked to nominate any senior for the Ferster award and to give whatever supporting materials they have (research experience, conference presentations, publications, etc.). Students may present supporting materials as well. The UCC will review all materials including the difficulty level of courses taken, comparison with others who took the same course and are graduating, graduate courses taken, clinical work, community services, etc. The faculty members of the UCC will then nominate one senior to receive the award.

### **Psychology Department Events**

- a) A welcoming party for majors early in the Fall semester.
- b) A “graduate school” night in the mid-Fall to prepare students for applying to Ph.D., Psy.D., M.S.W., and other graduate programs.
- c) An “employment” night in the mid-Spring to prepare students for jobs with the BA in Psychology
- d) A Psychology Department gathering and award ceremony in the Saturday or Sunday of graduation weekend in May.