Careers in Psychology

What can I do with my degree?
What are your career concerns?

- I won’t get a job after I graduate.
- I won’t make much money.
- I won’t get in to graduate school.
- I don’t know what I want to do.
- I know I want to go to graduate school, but I don’t know what degree I want to pursue.
A Liberal Arts Education

Emphasizes:

- Critical Thinking
- Life–Long Learning
- Logic and Reasoning
- Self Management
- Self Empowerment
- Social Responsibility
- Communication Skills
- Analytical Thinking

- A Sense of Values & Ethics
- Global Awareness
- Teamwork
- Leadership Skills
- Computer and Other Technology Skills
- Time Management
A Liberal Arts Education

- Transferable Skills
  - Skills that are valued by the majority of employers
  - Skills that you can take from one career to the next
The Major–Career Connection

- Most students believe in the one-to-one ratio:
  - One major matches up with one career
    - Accounting ➔ Accountant
    - Education ➔ Teacher
    - Electrical Engineering ➔ Electrical Engineer

- This does not apply to most majors.
The Major–Career Connection

- Most majors can lead to a number of different careers.

- Psychology
  - Mental Health Counselor
  - Grant Writer
  - Health & Wellness Coordinator
One career can be held by individuals with a variety of different majors.
In Summary

- You are pursuing a Liberal Arts Education in psychology.
- You are developing a set of Transferable Skills.
- Your Education and Skills can be applied to a wide variety of different careers.
Bachelor’s Degree

- Human Services
- Government
- Business
- Education
Human Services

- Academic advisor
- Alcohol/ drug abuse counselor
- Career counselor
- Case worker
- Counselor’s assistant
- Child care worker
- Director of volunteer services

- Gerontology aide
- Group home coordinator
- Mental health program manager
- Outreach worker
- Rehabilitation advisor
- Residential youth counselor
- Student life coordinator
Government

- Case worker
- Child protection worker
- Family services worker
- Veteran’s advisor
- Mental health paraprofessional
- Juvenile intake worker
- Law enforcement officer
- Corrections officer
- Parole officer
- Probation officer
- Program development
- Rehabilitation advisor
- Residential youth counselor
- Research assistant
- Foreign Service Officer
Business

- Advertising agent
- Human resources
  - Employee development
  - Training coordinator
  - Recruiter
  - Affirmative action
- Manager
  - Sales
  - Benefits
- Public affairs coordinator
- Public relations specialist
  - Research
  - Programming
  - Fundraising
  - Public Speaking
- Publisher/Editor
- Radio/TV research assistant
- Retail and Sales specialist
Education

- Administrator
- Child care provider
- Preschool teacher
- Teacher
- Public opinion surveyor
- Community health educator
Careers with a Bachelor’s Degree

- Experience, Experience, Experience!!!
  - Part-time job
  - Internship
  - Volunteering

- Professional References
  - Faculty
  - Supervisors

- Networking is important.
Master’s Degree

- Counseling
- Marriage and Family Therapy
- Social Work
- School Psychology
- Industrial/Organizational Psychology

- A Master’s degree will expand your career options and increase your salary.
PhD and PsyD

- PhD
  - Behavioral, Biological, Child & Adolescent, Clinical, Cognitive, Community, Consulting, Counseling, Developmental, Educational, Environmental, Experimental, Industrial/Organizational, Law/Psychology, Multicultural, Neuropsychology, Personality, Physiological, Psychoanalytic, Psycholinguistics, Psychopharmacology, Quantitative, Rehabilitation, School, Social, and Sport

- PsyD
  - Clinical, Counseling, and School
Bachelors / Masters / PhD

PhD
Less Jobs
Most $$$

Masters
Fewer Jobs, More $$

Bachelors
Lots of Jobs, Less $
Remember...

- An interest in Psychology and a desire to “help people” doesn’t always equal therapist.
- There are hundreds of other careers paths to choose from.
Master’s Degree

- Other Master’s programs to consider:
  - Student Affairs
  - Health Promotion / Public Health
  - MBA (Master’s in Business Administration)
  - Communication Studies
  - Youth Development
  - Leadership Development
  - Public Relations
  - Community and Regional Planning
  - Public Administration
  - Legal Studies
Career Decision-Making

- Evaluate your:
  - Interests
  - Abilities
  - Values
  - Personality
  - Goals

- Experience, Experience, Experience!!!
  - Volunteering, Internships, Job Shadowing, Part-Time Jobs, Career Interviews
Exploring Careers

- Experience
  - Part-time jobs, internships, volunteering

- Career Interviews
  - Talk to people in careers that interest you
Exploring Careers

- Visit “Graduate Programs” websites of different colleges
  - There are probably programs you’ve never heard of or thought about

- Pretend you’re done with your Psychology degree and start looking for a job
  - There are probably jobs you’ve never heard of or thought about
Remember...

- You don’t have to decide what you’re going to do for the rest of your life right now.

- You do need to start doing things to figure it out.

- Schedule an appointment with me if you don’t know where to start.
  - Internships, Part-time Jobs, and Volunteering
  - Preparing for a Career with a Bachelor’s Degree in Psychology
  - Is Graduate School Right for You?
  - Preparing for Graduate School in Psychology