Psychology majors learn how biological, cognitive, social and cultural factors interact to determine humans’ amazing capacities for complex behavior, emotions and thinking. Courses examine a wide array of topics, including brain mechanisms, memory and reasoning processes, child development, social interactions and mental health problems and their treatment.

The psychology program in the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences approaches the field from both scientific and practical perspectives. Students learn valuable skills in critical thinking, writing, research design and data analysis. Students also gain hands-on experience through field placements, research in professors' labs and individualized study with faculty in specialized topics.

**Careers in Psychology**

Majors in psychology have a broad number of career options. The major prepares students for graduate study to become psychologists, counselors, professors, researchers, physicians, lawyers, social workers and business professionals. Graduates directly entering the work force find careers in social services, education and business.

The University's Career Center is an important resource for students pursuing their careers. Professional career counselors are available to help clarify career goals, provide strategies for mastering job interviews and writing professional cover letters and resumes and help students connect with campus recruiters.

**Psychology at UT Dallas**

- The Bachelor of Science in psychology requires 120 hours to graduate: 42 from the University's core curriculum, 36 hours of psychology courses and 42 hours of electives.

- The psychology minor requires 18 credit hours. The minor is well suited for students pursuing careers in social services, business, law, medicine and education.

- Junior and senior psychology majors with at least a 2.5 GPA are eligible to receive college credit for a volunteer internship in the community.

**Marketable Skills**

Upon successful completion of the BS in Psychology degree program, UT Dallas students will develop a knowledge base in psychology that can be applied to the scientific study of Psychology or application of Psychology with the following skills:

- Students will demonstrate scientific literacy, especially as it pertains to research in psychology.
- Students will apply ethical standards, psychological concepts, and/or research findings to inform applied issues in psychology.
- Students will demonstrate effective writing and oral skills to communicate information about the scientific study of psychology.
The School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences is focused on the intersection of mind, brain and behavior. Through the school’s research-intensive culture, our professors and students work together to unravel mysteries that will improve human lives. A large number of BBS undergraduates participate in hands-on research in our many scientific laboratories. Our research teams translate the latest research into treatments and share this knowledge through community outreach. The School provides innovative training and research, offering an array of programs to develop creative thinkers. Undergraduate training in BBS prepares students to enter graduate schools or the workplace, leading to successful careers in health, science, education, child and social services, innovation, and/or the business world.

BBS undergraduates enter many career pathways. In health, they study medicine, dentistry, physical therapy, speech-language pathology, audiology, clinical psychology, optometry, and many others. In science, they develop careers as investigators, technicians, clinical trial coordinators, and educators. Besides clinical and scientific careers, many other BBS alumni are leaders in social services, child interventions, technology development, human factors, software design, and many other fields.

Academic Departments

**Neuroscience:** This program focuses primarily on cell and circuit plasticity in the nervous system and how this influences behavior. Major research strengths are in learning and memory; targeted plasticity for therapeutic intervention; and sensory neurobiology and pain.

**Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences:** Based at the Callier Center for Communication Disorders, this program provides students with hands-on scientific training and emphasizes clinically applied research training in speech, language, and hearing and in all disorders that affect the ability of children and adults to communicate.

**Psychology:** This department focuses on all aspects of cognitive, developmental, and social psychology, and cognitive neuroscience. Areas of expertise include brain imaging and measurement; learning and memory; reasoning; perception; modeling; lifespan development (from early childhood through the oldest old); and brain disease (e.g., autism, schizophrenia, traumatic injury, neurodegeneration, addiction).

Fast Tracks

The Fast-Track program enables undergraduate students to take up to 15 hours of graduate courses that will count toward both a bachelor’s degree and a master’s degree in applied cognition and neuroscience, speech-language pathology, or human development and early childhood disorders. Students must have at least 90 credit hours and meet the graduate admission requirements to qualify.

Undergraduate Programs

**Neuroscience: Multiple Tracks in the Undergraduate Major**

**Medical Neuroscience:** This track meets the overwhelming demand for advanced training in this growing department for students who wish to go on to professional education in health fields, such as medicine. This track has an emphasis on opportunities for disease-oriented course work and clinical translational research.

**Neuroscience Research:** This track emphasizes research in neuroscience with enhanced laboratory experiences to prepare students for a future as neuroscience researchers, such as through PhD programs.

**Industrial Track:** This track is focused on students whose goal is to advance neuroscience through business, entrepreneurial and/or therapeutic discoveries.
Psychology. Undergraduate Psychology Majors

**Psychology:** Training in psychology provides students with invaluable knowledge about human behavior, research methods, and data analysis that has applicability not only to careers and further study in psychology per se, but also to a wide variety of other occupations, including law, management, and medicine. Further advanced study can lead to professional careers in clinical areas, such as clinical psychology, counseling, or social work; industrial psychology; human factors engineering; and myriad other fields.

**Child Learning and Development:** This major prepares students for a wide range of careers in education, psychology, social work, family medicine, public health, family law, and public policy, among other areas. The major is especially well suited for students seeking elementary teacher certification. Students will develop a strong foundation in child development and accumulate teaching skills by combining a degree in child learning and development with an elementary teacher certification.

Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences: Undergraduate Major

**Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology:** Education in communication sciences and disorders prepares students for advanced training and/or employment in this exciting field. Professions in speech-language pathology (SLP) and audiology are consistently rated among the best careers for the changing job landscape. SLPs and audiologists are employed in a variety of school and healthcare settings, such as schools, clinics, and hospitals.

**Additional Facts about BBS**

- Our Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology programs are ranked #2 and #10 in the nation respectively, according to *U.S. News and World Report.*

- The School is home to leading experts in Psychology, Neuroscience, and Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences.

- In fiscal year 2019, BBS faculty members were responsible for nearly $13 million in total research funding, including roughly $12 million from the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, and the Department of Defense.

- BBS has more than 2,300 undergraduate students and nearly 600 graduate students, including two of the top 10 undergraduate majors at UTD (Neuroscience, Psychology).