PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCE

Illinois Tech is a small, private university that educates students to go on to do big things. Founded in 1927, our Department of Psychology has earned an excellent international reputation. Our position within a tech-focused university allows you to study behavior while taking advantage of Illinois Tech’s technological, scientific, and innovative environment.

Our psychology program utilizes the scientist-practitioner model of teaching. Here, you’ll receive a strong background in scientific thinking and be able to apply psychological research and principles to the study of contemporary problems in a variety of fields. At the end of your program, the capstone experience allows you to apply these skills to research projects of your own design. Students receive individualized mentorship to prepare them for a wide range of career paths, including entering the workforce immediately after earning their degrees or pursuing more advanced graduate-level training.

PSYCHOLOGY DEGREES AT ILLINOIS TECH

Receive your bachelor of science degree in one of five areas:

- Applied Analytics
- Behavioral Health and Wellness
- Psychological Science
- Psychological Science/Biochemistry (dual degree)
- Psychological Science/Biology (dual degree)

As a B.S. in Psychological Science major, you can specialize in an area of interest to you:

- Clinical/Behavioral Health
- Culture and Diversity
- Industrial-Organizational Psychology
- Rehabilitation Psychology
- Nutrition

B.S. in Behavioral Health and Wellness specializations:

- Health Psychology
- Public Health
- PathPass: Opening doors for people with disabilities

Pre-Professional Options:

- Pre-Law
- Pre-Medicine

RESEARCH—EVEN AS AN UNDERGRAD!

Psychology undergraduates at Illinois Tech get the opportunity to work on major research right from the start. In addition to your capstone project, you can get involved with national research projects, make presentations at conferences, and publish scientific papers. In 2015, three undergraduate psychology students received an award from Psi Chi (the International Honor Society in Psychology) and the Center for Open Science for a project that began as part of their Research Methods in Behavioral Sciences course.

LEARN TO INNOVATE IN IPROS

In Illinois Tech’s signature Interprofessional Projects (IPRO) Program, you’ll work with students from various majors to solve real-world problems. Recent psychology-oriented IPROs include:

- Applying mobile technology to enhance psychological research on depressive symptoms
- Obesity control and community outreach
- Social innovation for community wealth building
- Creating a reliable sports player’s statistical performance evaluation methodology
- PathPass: Opening doors for people with disabilities

RESEARCH ON THE EDGE

Our faculty are pushing the boundaries of what we know in many areas, including:

- Impact of technology in children: An Illinois Tech team designed an app to help children from low-income communities learn language skills.
- Gamification of learning: How does adding game elements (e.g., leaderboards or badges) to training impact learning?
- Honest Open Proud on College Campuses: The goal of this initiative is to reduce the self-stigma associated with mental illness in college students. The program empowers students by walking them through decisions related to disclosure and telling their stories, a process that helps students reach their personal goals.
- Psychological costs of excluding others: While most research looks at the costs of being excluded, an Illinois Tech project found that excluding others in a game—even when it was justified—had psychological costs.

“In just three semesters I was getting published as a co-author in a peer-reviewed journal article.”

—Melanie Standish (Psychological Science ’17), Orland Park, Illinois

Former Research Assistant to Associate Professor Arlen Moller, currently pursuing a Ph.D. at Illinois Tech
Illinois Tech’s special degree programs allow you to take graduate courses and apply for advanced standing in a master’s degree program after receiving the B.S. in Psychological Science. While studying for your Bachelor of Science in Psychological Science, get ahead by taking graduate coursework in Industrial-Organizational Psychology or Mental Health and Rehabilitation Counseling. You can also apply for a special program that allows you to complete your B.S. in Psychological Science and receive your J.D. from Chicago-Kent College of Law in six years.

Maximize Your Education

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Prepare for Your Future

BIOLOGY/PSYCHOLOGY DOUBLE MAJOR

B.S. in Biology/B.S. in Psychological Science

Earn two degrees simultaneously in this challenging program geared toward pre-health students. Neuroscience, brain science, and cognitive science all are at the intersection of biology and psychology. Our program helps set pre-med students and others apart for medical school or graduate school. The medical school acceptance rate for Illinois Tech students is 75 percent—well above the national average of 42 percent. Additionally, Illinois Tech students typically receive multiple offers.

STAND OUT.

Our graduates are far from ordinary. But we expect them to be extraordinary.

Our graduates are finding success in such diverse fields as survey research, market research, nonprofits, social work, law, public policy, academic or health administration, and much more.

Wudasse Berke (Psychological Science ‘15)—Working as a user experience specialist for Everbridge

Robin Chaurasiya (Psychological Science ‘06)—Finalist for the 2016 Global Teacher Prize, known as the Nobel Prize for teaching, and co-founder of the nonprofit Kranti

Kaysha Henry (Psychological Science ‘15)—Currently a student at the University of Illinois College of Medicine

Peter Mathes (Psychological Science ‘10)—Fulbright Scholar who studied the experience of parents of children with Autism Spectrum Disorder in India

Catalina Suarez Rivera (Psychological Science ‘14)—Ph.D. candidate studying developmental psychology at Indiana University

“I’m optimistic about getting into and succeeding in graduate school because of all the research experience I have from Illinois Tech. Working as a student researcher under Professor Patrick Corrigan for three years has given me many publications and conference presentations that make me a more prepared student than most.”

—Maya Al-Khouja (Psychological Science ‘16), Chicago, Illinois

Maya created the Honest Open Proud (HOP) college program with Distinguished Professor of Psychology Patrick Corrigan. HOP is a peer-led program that aims to replace the stigma of mental illness with beliefs of recovery, empowerment, and hope for college students with mental illness. HOP has grown beyond Illinois Tech and is now being tested at other universities across the United States. Maya is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in social psychology at Cardiff University.