

Student Learning Goals and Objectives

Goal 1: Knowledge Base in Psychology

Students should demonstrate fundamental knowledge and comprehension of the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, historical trends, and empirical findings to discuss how psychological principles apply to behavioral problems. Students completing Foundation courses should demonstrate breadth of their knowledge and application of psychological ideas to simple problems; students completing a baccalaureate degree should show depth in their knowledge and application of psychological concepts and frameworks to problems of greater complexity.

Objectives:

- 1.1 Describe key concepts, principles, and overarching themes in psychology
- 1.2 Develop a working knowledge of psychology's content domains
- 1.3 Demonstrate the ability to effectively apply psychological concepts & theories

Goal 2: Scientific Inquiry and Critical Thinking

The skills in this domain involve the development of scientific reasoning and problem solving, including effective research methods. Students completing Foundation courses should learn basic skills and concepts in interpreting behavior, studying research, and applying research design principles to drawing conclusions about psychological phenomena; students completing a baccalaureate degree should focus on theory use as well as designing and executing research plans and should demonstrate the ability to think critically about multiple paradigms.

Objectives:

- 2.1 Demonstrate an understanding of the different research methods used by psychologists.
- 2.2 Use scientific reasoning to interpret psychological phenomena
- 2.3 Demonstrate psychology information literacy
- 2.4 Interpret, design, and conduct basic psychological research
- 2.5 Exhibit quantitative literacy.
- 2.6 Demonstrate a basic understanding of the limitations of research methodology

Goal 3: Ethical and Social Responsibility in a Diverse World

The skills in this domain involve the development of ethically and socially responsible behaviors for professional and personal settings in a landscape that involves increasing diversity. Students completing Foundation courses should become familiar with the formal regulations that govern professional ethics in psychology and begin to embrace the values that will contribute to positive outcomes in work settings and in building a society responsive to multicultural and global concerns. Students completing a baccalaureate degree should have more direct opportunities to demonstrate adherence to professional values that will help them optimize their contributions and work effectively, even with those who don't share their heritage and traditions. This domain also promotes the adoption of personal and professional values that can strengthen community relationships and contributions.

Objectives:

- 3.1 Apply ethical standards to evaluate psychological science and practice
- 3.2 Demonstrate an understanding of the ways individual differences and sociocultural contexts influence behavior

Goal 4: Communication

Students should demonstrate competence in writing, oral, and interpersonal communication skills. Students completing Foundation courses should write a cogent scientific argument, present information using a scientific approach, engage in discussion of psychological concepts, explain the ideas of others, and express their own ideas with clarity. Students completing a baccalaureate degree should produce a research study or other psychological project, explain scientific results, and present information to a professional audience. They should also develop flexible interpersonal approaches that optimize information exchange and relationship development.

Objectives:

- 4.1 Demonstrate effective writing for different purposes within psychology
- 4.2 Exhibit effective presentation skills for different purposes within psychology