



"The psychology professors at Centre are dedicated and invested in their students' lives both inside and outside the classroom. I couldn't have asked for a more supportive and rigorous program. The professors are eager to teach and they continue to spark your interest while also preparing you for life after college."

**HUDSON SMITH**  
Centre Class of 2019  
Psychology Major

THE PSYCHOLOGY MAJOR AT CENTRE IS DESIGNED TO PROVIDE A THOROUGH BACKGROUND IN THE BASIC CONCEPTS, THEORIES, AND INVESTIGATIONAL TECHNIQUES THAT WILL PREPARE OUR STUDENTS FOR A WIDE VARIETY OF FUTURE CAREERS. STUDENTS IN THESE PROGRAMS ALSO DEVELOP THEIR CREATIVE AND CRITICAL THINKING ABILITIES BY ENGAGING IN COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH, INTERNSHIPS, AND SENIOR SEMINAR COURSES THAT PROVIDE THEM WITH MEANINGFUL EXPERIENCES IN AREAS RELATED TO POTENTIAL CAREERS AND GRADUATE STUDY.

### PSYCHOLOGY

Our psychology program has a long tradition of preparing students for careers in a variety of fields. Psychology majors start out by learning the fundamentals in courses such as Introduction to Psychology and Introduction to Research Methods. Students then choose from traditional offerings in developmental, social, and abnormal psychology, as well as cognition, learning, and behavioral neuroscience. As their education progresses, students are allowed some flexibility in tailoring their major by selecting from a menu of upper-level courses that emphasize breadth of knowledge. Some of the broad range of courses students are allowed to select from include Personality, Motivation & Emotion, Psychology of Women, Cultural Psychology, Race & Ethnicity, and Health Psychology. Completion of the major also includes participation in a capstone experience, by taking either a senior seminar course or collaborating with a faculty member to complete an advanced research project.

### RESEARCH

Research experience has always been highly valued in applicants to graduate schools and is also valuable for most jobs. At the junior and senior level, students are ready to make meaningful scientific contributions in collaboration with faculty. Our advanced research courses provide students with assistance on their projects in two ways: 1) through a regular group meeting in which students and faculty discuss their projects, provide feedback and ideas, and share solutions to problems, and 2) through close, individual attention from a faculty member in the development of the research design, collection and analysis of data, and reporting of findings. Student projects have been presented at professional meetings and/or published in professional journals, and many have won undergraduate research awards. Psychology students have also participated in primate research in Barbados, and studied the roots of mindfulness in Japan. These projects and abroad experiences have provided students with useful research backgrounds for a wide variety of careers.

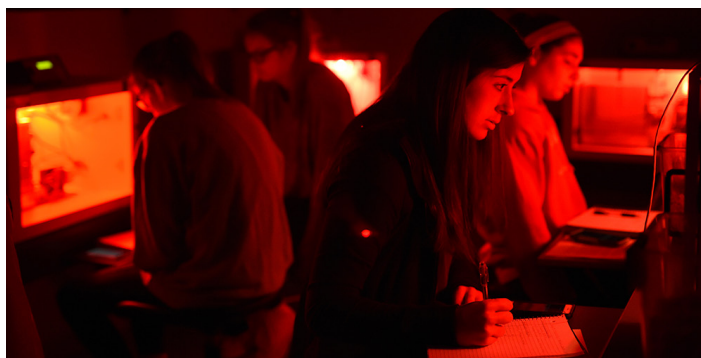
### INTERNSHIPS

In addition to offering numerous research opportunities, Centre has an extensive internship program in which many psychology students participate. Students have arranged internships at Bluegrass Comprehensive Service (a community mental health center), Sunrise Children's Services (a residential facility for children and adolescents), Boyle County Detention Center's substance treatment program, Thoroughbred Research Group, as well as with regional physical therapists, dentists, and area hospitals. Students have also interned at the Louisville Zoo, the Primate Rescue Center, the Vanderbilt Center for Mental Health Policy, and the Miller Limb Motor Control Laboratory at Northwestern University. On several occasions, the internship

experience has been a stepping stone to employment after graduation.

## WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH A PSYCHOLOGY DEGREE?

Recent psychology majors have pursued a wide variety of careers including clinical psychology, industrial/organizational psychology, occupational therapy, nursing, speech therapy, human-computer interaction, business, and law. The psychology major gives students excellent preparation for graduate school. Our students have studied at Columbia University, Duke University, London School of Economics, Emory University, Vanderbilt University, University of Alabama, University of Cambridge, University of Kentucky, University of Nevada, University of Virginia, Xavier University, and others. The qualifications of our graduates is reflected in the high number who gain entrance into these programs.



## PSYCHOLOGY FACULTY

**BRIAN CUSATO** (Ph.D., The University of Texas at Austin), current research interests: behavioral mechanisms and adaptive specializations in learning, the role of species-typical cues in sexual conditioning, sex differences in learned behavior, and learning in ecologically relevant social interactions.

**AARON GODLASKI** (Ph.D., University of Kentucky), current research interests: cognitive and physiological effects of contemplative practices, effects of natural environment on human health, and positive emotions such as gratitude and humility.

**JENNIFER GOETZ** (Ph.D., University of California-Berkeley), current research interests: race and prejudice, the influence of culture on social and emotional behavior, and the role of emotion in our everyday lives.

**MARY R. GULLEY** (Ph.D., University of Louisville), serves as the Assistant Dean of Advising in Academic Affairs; teaching and research interests: social and personality development, interpersonal relationships and communication, and gender issues.

**MYKOL HAMILTON** (Ph.D., U.C.L.A.), current research interests: legal psychology (jury selection, juror bias in high pretrial publicity cases, eyewitness testimony, trial consultants' and academic researchers' roles in improving the court system);

and psychology of women/gender (representation of women and girls in books and movies, sex bias in language).

**MATTHEW KASSNER** (Ph.D., Purdue University), current research interests: personality traits and individual differences related to social exchange, reciprocity and revenge, social influence and compliance tactics, and ostracism.

**AIN SIMPSON** (Ph.D., University of Melbourne), current research interests: psychology of moral behavior, social identity, religion and how religiosity and science come into conflict, and intergroup relations.

**JAN J. WERTZ** (Ph.D., University of Kentucky), current research interests: marketing social behavior change, specifically understanding the use of media to increase the spaying and neutering of pets; how stress and coping relate to burnout; understanding clinical disorders such as mood, anxiety, and eating disorders.

## VISIT CENTRE

The best way to judge Centre is to tour the campus, talk to the professors and students, attend a class, and spend the night in a residence hall. We invite you to visit and encourage you to contact the Admission Office if you have any questions.



## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE PSYCHOLOGY PROGRAM AT CENTRE, CONTACT:

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## TO COMMUNICATE DIRECTLY WITH A CENTRE STUDENT MAJORING IN PSYCHOLOGY, CONTACT:

- Sahr Asif — [sahr.asif@centre.edu](mailto:sahr.asif@centre.edu)
- Lindsey Ruth — [lindsey.ruth@centre.edu](mailto:lindsey.ruth@centre.edu)

## PSYCHOLOGY WEB PAGE

[www.centre.edu/academics/majors-minors/psychology](http://www.centre.edu/academics/majors-minors/psychology)