

# PSYCHOLOGY

**Psychology** is a basic science that studies human behavior and mental processes and a profession that promotes human welfare by applying psychological knowledge to solve practical problems. Understanding human behavior is increasingly important in a wide variety of professions and in everyday life. Psychology contributes to the development of students' critical thinking skills in the tradition of the liberal arts and sciences, which lie at the heart of Siena's mission. The balanced background that a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology provides gives all psychology majors an excellent background to pursue their career and life goals.

## **CURRICULUM**

### **Courses:**

General Psychology  
General Biology for Social Sciences  
Statistics for Social Sciences  
A total of five Intermediate courses are required, one from each of the following areas:

#### Development:

Either Child Psychology or  
Adolescent Psychology

#### Clinical:

Either Theories of Personality or Abnormal Psychology

#### Mental Processes:

Either Learning or  
Human Cognition

#### Social Interaction:

Social Psychology

#### Biological Bases:

Either Physiological Psychology or  
Sensation and Perception

#### Methodology:

Research Methods I with lab

#### Upper level experience:

Choose either Advanced Research Methods, Tests & Measurements, or a seminar

### **Additional courses:**

Forensic Psychology  
Industrial and Organizational Psychology  
Drugs and Human Behavior  
Intimate Relationships  
Counseling Theories and Techniques  
Childhood and Adolescent Psychopathology  
Psychology of Women  
Group Psychology

Health Psychology  
Sexual Behavior  
Human Intelligence  
Comparative Psychology  
Advanced Research Methods  
Topic in Psychology

## **FACULTY CREDENTIALS AND AREAS OF ACADEMIC INTEREST**

Unlike psychology programs at large universities, Siena's program is strongly student-centered. Small classes promote discussions with faculty and students; laboratory experiences provide "hands on" learning in the conception and implementation of research ideas. Internships allow students to experience psychology first-hand as it is practiced in the field.

The psychology faculty's commitment to teaching excellence is reflected in their active participation in national and regional conferences on the teaching of psychology, support for student research activities, and responsiveness to student interests and needs in curriculum design.

- Dean Amadio, Ph.D., Georgia State University; *internalized homophobia and substance abuse among lesbians and gay men*
- Betty A. Bachman, Ph.D., The University of Delaware; *trust in interpersonal & organizational relationships, group dynamics, stereotyping, and organizational behavior*
- Karen J. Boswell, Ph.D., Vanderbilt

University; *psychobiology of drug addiction, hormonal effects on ingestion, social climate of public schools, adolescent romantic relationships*

- Dmitry Burshteyn, Ph.D., C.U.N.Y The Graduate School and University Center; *self-regulation, cognitive neuroscience, psychophysiology and biofeedback*
- Patricia A. Cameron, Ph.D., The University at Albany; *child development, adult development and aging, psychology of women*
- Maureen T. Hannah, Ph.D., The University of Arizona; *couples therapy, relationship theories, emotional intelligence*
- Joseph G. Marrone, Ph.D., Fordham University; *relationships, adolescent development, forensic psychology, emotional intelligence*
- Daniel Nelson, O.F.M., Ph.D., California School of Professional Psychology; *psychology of religion, Jungian theory and psychotherapy, sand play theory and practice, psychology of fairy tales and myths*
- Thomas Swan, Ph.D., Boston University; *psychoanalytic theory, personality disorders, relationships, evolutionary psychology*
- Robert J. Woll, Ph.D., Rutgers University; *learning and development, animal behavior, comparative psychology*

### **INDEPENDENT RESEARCH**

Students who demonstrate high levels of academic achievement are eligible to receive academic credit for independent research projects.

Responding to national trends in psychology education, the psychology program at Siena provides for each psychology major to have an individual research experience as part of the regular curriculum. Siena psychology majors are actively engaged in the research process from the conception of the research idea to the development of a final written research report. In addition, each year psychology majors participate in a poster session for the entire campus community to showcase student projects. Students are encouraged to submit their research for presentation at undergraduate and/or professional conferences.

### **Student Papers and Research Interests**

Recent student work has included such topics

as:

- *Advertising Effectiveness and Body Image Satisfaction*
- *Evaluating In-Group Biases of Siena College Students*
- *Battle of the Sexes: Are Men and Women Speaking the Same Language?*
- *Problem Solving and Creativity*
- *The Effects of Verbal Encouragement on Spatial Task Performance*
- *The Imago Development Adaptation Profile: Preliminary Scale Development*
- *Myths, Misperceptions and Stereotypes About Adolescents*

### **INTERNSHIPS**

Students with at least 15 credits of psychology courses completed and evidence of academic excellence may choose to pursue field experience in a setting specializing in research and/or clinical activities in professional psychology. Siena students are placed in local hospitals, community mental health centers, schools, and various other social agencies providing psychological services throughout the Capital Region. Working in residential treatment programs for youth offenders, developing skills in assessment of cognitive abilities, assisting in identifying alternative career paths for outplaced executives illustrate some of the recent experiences open to our psychology interns. Specific internship sites include:

Parson's Child and Family Center  
McKenna and Associates Outplacement International  
Residential Support Services-Continuing Day Treatment  
North Colonie Central School District  
Hope House  
Northeast Parent and Child

### **EQ – THE SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN**

This program, developed by Dr. Maureen Hannah and Dr. Joseph Marrone, provides opportunities for Siena students each year to teach elementary and middle school students lessons in social and emotional intelligence. The EQ program consists of 12 character-builder and 12 social skills lessons that address critical concepts (e.g., integrity, taking responsibility, empathy, conformity, and dealing with peer pressure) that are important building blocks for psychological health and positive social relationships. Becoming part of the EQ team is one way that psychology students can get

involved outside of the classroom and experience psychology in action.

### **STUDY ABROAD**

The Study Abroad Program enables students to study abroad for one or two semesters at many universities. This program provides a valuable opportunity for those who wish to immerse themselves in another culture as a prelude to a career. Siena students travel all over the world for study, but particularly popular countries are: England, Ireland, France, Italy, Spain and Australia. Students can also gain international work experience through an internship program in London and Ireland.

### **PSYCHOLOGY HONORS**

Siena has a Chapter of *Psi Chi*, the National Honor Society in Psychology, to which qualified students may be elected. Psi Chi is an affiliate of the American Psychological Association and a member of the Association of College Honor Societies. Psi Chi recognizes academic excellence and provides chapter, regional, and national activities and programs that foster professional growth and creative development.

### **PSYCHOLOGY CLUB**

All psychology majors and other students with a special interest in psychology have the opportunity to meet and interact with fellow psychology students through the Psychology Club. The Psychology Club initiates service projects, sponsors programs of interest to psychology majors (e.g., Preparing for Graduate School in Psychology), and plans social events where students and faculty have the opportunity to get together informally outside of the classroom.

### **GRADUATE SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES**

The psychology program at Siena is designed to prepare students for entry to graduate and professional schools leading to careers in academic and professional psychology, law, business, and medicine. Many psychology students go on to graduate school to obtain their master's or doctorate degree. Students in the past have concentrated in areas of general, clinical, counseling, and school psychology, as well as art therapy and elementary or secondary education. Students have attended schools such as: Adelphi University, Albany Law School, Boston College, California School of Professional Psychology, Clark University,

Columbia University, Fordham University, Pace University, SUNY at Albany, University of North Carolina, University of Pittsburgh.

### **CAREER OPPORTUNITIES**

Students who choose not to enter graduate school immediately after college seek entry-level positions in human service settings such as residence counselors for developmentally disabled adults or adults with mental illness. Other graduates seek positions in a wide range of business settings such as human resources or management. Students may also choose to work with youths in a variety of settings involving academic or probation counseling.

### **SIENA COLLEGE AT A GLANCE**

*Founded by the Franciscan Friars, Siena provides a liberal arts education, one student at a time.*

**Location:** Loudonville, New York; two miles north of Albany.

**Campus:** Suburban; 164 acres.

**Enrollment:** 2900 undergraduates; 57% women, 43% men.

**Student/Faculty Ratio:** 14:1

**Class size:** 15 to 35

**Avg. class size:** 20

**Lab size:** 10 to 19

**Student Housing:** 93% of freshmen live on campus. 70% of all students live on campus.

**Computer Access:** All residence halls are wired for net access; 24 hour lab availability for all students; Internet, e-mail and software packages.

**Academics:** 29 majors in Science, Business and Liberal Arts; 42 minor and certificate programs. All students take a Liberal Arts Core Curriculum.

**Campus Life:** 70+ organizations, featuring intramural and club sports, volunteer activities, campus ministry, student government, and academic and professional clubs.

**Athletics:** 18 NCAA Division I sports for men and women; athletic complex with indoor pool, exercise and sport facilities available to all students.

**Costs for 2005-2006:** Tuition: \$20,100 Fees: \$175 Room & Board: \$7,985.

For more information contact the Admissions Office at 1-888-AT-SIENA or see us on the web at [www.siena.edu](http://www.siena.edu).