

## Major in Psychological Sciences = Employable Skills

According to *The National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) Job Outlook 2019 Survey*, here are the Top 10 Competencies that employers want in job candidates and how psychology helps you build them:

### Top 10 Competencies Employers Want

### Psychology Builds Employable Competencies

1. Communication Skills (Written), including ability to create and edit reports	The Psychological Sciences place a strong emphasis on building writing skills, with attention placed on technical writing in required courses such as <i>Psych2219 Research Methods</i> . Writing competencies are emphasized in many psychology courses, including <i>Psych3500 Health Psychology</i> , <i>Psych 4250 Stereotyping</i> and <i>Psych4340 Human Neuroanatomy</i> .
2. Problem Solving Skills	Students receive hands-on experience in problem solving and thinking critically to identify solutions. Examples include <i>Psych2211 Biological Psychology</i> and <i>Psych2268 Lifespan Development</i> . Problem Based Learning Simulations (PBL-S) are in all Children's Advocacy (CAST) courses.
3. Ability to Work in a Team	Psychology courses emphasize group projects, interactive classrooms, and networking with fellow majors. Courses with group projects include <i>Psych2219 Research Methods</i> , <i>Psych4374 Clinical Neuropsychology</i> , most Child Advocacy courses, and coursework in Industrial/Organizational Psychology.
4. Initiative	The Psychological Sciences include many areas - students are required in <i>Psych1000 Careers in Psychology</i> to use advising and other assignments to proactively develop a program of study that fits their interests and career plans. Other courses such as <i>Psych3346 Intro to Clinical Psychology</i> help students explore different professional paths.
5. Quantitative Skills - Analyze Quantitative Data	Psychology is a science that emphasizes numerical data. Students all take two required courses ( <i>Psych2001 Psychological Statistics</i> , <i>Psych2219 Research Methods</i> ) that focus on statistics, interpretation/creation of graphs/tables, and developing numerical literacy. Students develop skills in common software packages such as SPSS Statistics and others needed for research.
6. Strong Work Ethic - Ability to Plan, Organize and Prioritize Work	With demanding courses and opportunities to become involved as research assistants, peer tutors, teaching assistants and student leaders, psychology majors develop and refine their time and project management abilities.
7. Communication Skills (Verbal) -with people inside & outside an organization	Students develop presentation skills in classes such as <i>Psych2040 Attraction: An Evolutionary Approach</i> and <i>Psych4372 Social Neuroscience</i> and can present their research projects at the UMSL Undergraduate Research Symposium and regional conferences.
8. Leadership	Courses such as <i>Psych2219 Research Methods</i> and <i>CAST4598: Child Abuse Assess &amp; Intervention</i> involve group projects/labs that afford opportunities for leadership development. Psych majors can become leaders in UMSL's Psi Chi National Honor Society chapter and as peer tutors and teaching assistants.
9. Detail Oriented	The many subfields with the psychological sciences all involve attention to empirical data and the nuances of research findings. Coursework and research labs require precision and a focus on details.
10. Technical Knowledge	With 35-50 credit hours in psychology, students explore a variety of specific subject areas such as: <i>Human Sexuality</i> , <i>Industrial/Organizational Psychology</i> , <i>Clinical Problems of Childhood</i> , <i>Emotions &amp; The Brain</i> , <i>Psychological Tests &amp; Measurement</i> and <i>Psychopharmacology: Drugs &amp; Mental Illness</i> .