Is psychology the career path for me?

Video Transcript

Why are you studying psychology? Perhaps you’re interested in helping others or want to learn more about yourself and why you act the way you do. Or maybe you’re taking a psychology course simply to fulfill a requirement for graduation. No matter what your reason is for learning more about psychology, you’re bound to learn a great deal of useful information that will be valuable to you in your academic career and even in your daily life.

The value of an education in psychology cannot be overstated. Psychology students hone critical thinking skills and are trained in the use of the scientific method. Learning to evaluate information by assessing its reliability and usefulness is an important skill in a world where we often have to sort through what is fact and what is misleading information.

In addition to these broad-based skills, psychology students come to understand the complex factors that shape one’s behavior. They appreciate the interaction of our biology, our environment, and our experiences in determining who we are and how we behave. Many psychologists believe that everything that happens in our mind is the product of three things: our biology, our social interactions, and our environment. Because of this, many psychologists study a bit of all three to better understand the mind.

An education in psychology can lead to a variety of careers, including case management, sales, human resources, and healthcare. While there are quite a few jobs in psychology that
you can get with a Bachelor’s degree, most high-paying careers in psychology require a graduate degree.

In general, to pursue teaching or conducting research at an institution of higher education, you will have to earn a graduate degree in psychology. A PhD could also qualify you to work in other settings, depending on your area of specialization. Someone trained as a biopsychologist might work in a pharmaceutical company to help test the efficacy of a new drug. Someone with a clinical background might become a forensic psychologist and serve as an expert in a court case.

What might you do with a psychology degree?

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