Psychology

Gain a thorough grounding in the scientific discipline of psychology.

Discover how psychological knowledge informs your faith—and how your faith informs your understanding of psychology. Apply your knowledge through research with professors and present your work at academic conferences. Participate in local internships to investigate possible careers. Psychology alumni attend nationally known graduate schools, and local employers recruit them. Graduates have received honors such as a clinical post-doctoral internship at Harvard Medical School and a Ford Foundation Pre-doctoral Minority Fellowship. In 2015, Best Psychology Degrees named our program one of the top 10 Up-and-Coming Undergraduate Psychology Programs in the West.

SELECTED COURSES

• Lifespan Development
• Clinical Neuropsychology
• Social Psychology
• Abnormal Psychology
• Fundamentals of Clinical and Counseling Psychology
• Behavioral Neuroscience

CAREER PATHS

Our graduates hold a wide variety of positions in areas of psychology and related fields. Many work in clinical or counseling, school, health, rehabilitation, and educational psychology. Some serve in industrial/organizational settings, marketing, and neuropsychology. Still others specialize in social, media, military, or forensic psychology. Our department works hard to ensure the success of our graduates.
ANDREA GURNEY, PH.D.
Helps children by strengthening families through her counseling practice

STEVE ROGERS, PH.D.
Studies the neuropsychology of aging, dementia and spirituality

CARMEL SAAD, PH.D.
Explains how implicit bias unknowingly affects your thinking and actions

RONALD E. SEE, PH.D., DEPARTMENT CHAIR
Examines the neurobiology of drug addiction and biomarkers of treatment for major depression

BRENDA SMITH, PH.D.
Considers the role of persuasion in the relationship between pharmaceutical representatives and doctors

OPPORTUNITIES ABROAD
- Westmont’s Global Health Uganda
- Westmont in Cairo
- Westmont’s England Semester
- Westmont in Asia

Katie Mukai ’14 graduated with a degree in psychology and worked as the laboratory coordinator for the Westmont Psychology Department for three years before starting a clinical psychology doctoral program on the neuropsychology track at Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena. In addition to working toward her doctorate in clinical psychology, she is doing her clinical training at Vanguard University’s Counseling Center and works as a psychometrist at UCLA’s Longevity Center and for a private neuropsychology practice.

Megan Fuller ’15 graduated from Westmont with a degree in psychology and enrolled in California Lutheran University’s Master of Science in Counseling program. Since completing her master’s in 2018, Megan has worked for the Department of Surgery and manages the UCLA Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery residency training program. She is passionate about collaborating with her colleagues to develop and improve wellness programs and opportunities for trainees in graduate medical education.

Kaitlin Kinney ’17 graduated from Westmont with a degree in psychology on the behavioral neuroscience track. She earned a Master of Science from the University of Southern California in neuroimaging and informatics. She then worked at the Semel Institute for Neuroscience at UCLA as a research associate in the Laboratory of Molecular Neuroimaging, using brain imaging techniques to investigate drug addiction and its effects on neurocognitive functioning and neural circuits. She has recently started in the Neuroscience PhD program at Wake Forest University in North Carolina.