

# Psychology Behavior Analysis

Do you have an interest in behavior therapy? Would you like to get more involved with psychological human services? Would you like to learn about how to analyze the behavior of humans and other organisms? If any of these things sound interesting to you, a Psychology Behavior Analysis major might be just what you are looking for.

NMU's Psychology Behavior Analysis major is for students who wish either to enter graduate school in Behavior Analysis or work in applied settings with a bachelor's degree: e.g., applied behavior analysis clinics, programs for children with Autism, schools, and group homes.

This option particularly stresses Applied Behavior Analysis and Behavioral Assessment. This major requires two semesters of practicum, either at the department's on-campus center or at community practice sites.

## Skills and Competencies

As in most other fields, strong interpersonal communication and organizational skills are a must for any professional. Some other valuable skills and competencies specific to a profession in the behavior analysis include time management, persuasiveness, critical thinking and analytical capability.

## Course Work

This degree includes the following courses as part of the program requirements, and specific major requirements along with general education courses and graduation requirements.

### Core

- PSY100 Introduction to Psychology (4 cr.)
- PSY203 Applied Behavior Analysis (4 cr.)
- PSY204 Physiological Psychology (4 cr.) or PY 211 Learning (4 cr.)
- PSY241 Child Psychology (4 cr.)
- PSY302 Causes & Control of Aggression (4 cr.) or PY360 The Ethics & Practice of Clinical Psychology (4 cr.) or PY436 The Psyc. of Org. Behavior (4 cr.) or PY455 Psychopathology (4 cr.)
- PSY305 Psychological Statistics (4 cr.) or MA171 Intro to Prob. /Statistics (4 cr.)
- PSY320 Psychological Measurement (4 cr.)
- PSY355 Abnormal Psychology (4 cr.)
- PSY403 Behavior Assessment & Evaluation (4 cr.)
- PSY492A Practicum (1-4 cr.)
- PSY492B Advanced Practicum (1-4 cr.)

### Other Required Courses

- CIS110 Principles of CIS (4 cr.) or CS120 Computer Science (4 cr.)

### Human Services Group Minor (24 cr.)

Detailed course descriptions can be found at [www.nmu.edu/bulletin](http://www.nmu.edu/bulletin).

## Career Development

You should begin the resume-building process as soon as you can. The Academic and Career Advisement Center can assist you with career planning, while Career Services will help you fine tune your resume and look for jobs related to your field. In the meantime, the more hands-on experience you have, the better the chances are that you will find a job. Becoming involved in a professional related internship is a way to develop your professional skills and gain experience. Your academic course work is important as well, so be sure to maintain a high grade point average.

## Additional Considerations

The list of jobs cover a broad range of areas and therefore competencies and skills acquired through academic courses, internships, extra-curricular and work experience are extremely important. Strong communications skills, patience, understanding, and organization are beneficial qualities to these occupations. Many of these positions require at least a psychology master's degree. Clinical and counseling psychologists need a doctoral degree.

## Job Outlook

Starting salaries are contingent upon geographic location and the individual applicant's work experience and initiative, and usually range from \$30,000 to \$60,000. The psychology job market is expected to grow at a 15% rate. The Bureau of Labor and Statistics estimates a job growth rate of 28% over the next 10 years for Behavior Analysis.

# Potential Careers

NMU's Psychology Behavior Analysis Program prepares students for employment in the following careers:

- Applied Behavior Analyst
- Board Certified Behavior Analyst
- Board Certified Assistant Behavior Analyst
- Clinical Psychologist
- Community Organization Advocate
- Counseling Psychologist
- Developmental Psychologist
- Human Resources
- Industrial-Organizational Psychologist
- Mental Health Worker
- Registered Behavior Technician
- Rehabilitation Psychologist
- Researcher
- School Psychologist
- Social Psychologist
- Social Worker
- Sport Psychologist
- Vocational Rehabilitation Officer

\*Note some of these require graduate level education.

# Additional Resources and Information

For Career Planning and Opportunities:  
Academic & Career Advisement Center  
3302.1 C.B. Hedgcock  
906-227-2971  
[www.nmu.edu/acac](http://www.nmu.edu/acac)

Department of Psychological Science  
1001 New Science Facility  
906-227-2935  
[www.nmu.edu/psychology](http://www.nmu.edu/psychology)

For Job Search, Resume and Career Information:  
Career Services  
3302.3 C.B. Hedgcock  
906-227-2800  
[www.nmu.edu/careers](http://www.nmu.edu/careers)

For Information about NMU Student Organizations Associated with this Major Contact:  
Center for Student Enrichment  
1206 University Center  
906-227-2439  
[www.nmu.edu/cse](http://www.nmu.edu/cse)

Student Psychological Association

Internet Resource Links:  
[www.careers.org](http://www.careers.org)  
[www.bls.gov](http://www.bls.gov)

For Career Information with National Organizations:  
[www.apa.org](http://www.apa.org) -American Psychological Assoc.  
[www.nasponline.org](http://www.nasponline.org) -National Association of School Psychologists



**NORTHERN MICHIGAN  
UNIVERSITY**

MARQUETTE, MICHIGAN

The Academic & Career Advisement Center  
2019



What to do with  
a major in...

Psychology  
Behavior Analysis

