Areas of interest in psychology, and many of these are reflected in the similarly-titled concentrations that are available within the major:

- Clinical psychologists are interested in the application of psychological knowledge and techniques for the alleviation of these problems. Clinical psychology is the study of problems encountered by individuals, groups, and families—especially problems involving psychopathology.
- Developmental psychology is the study of behavior and mental processes from conception through the life span. Developmental psychologists are interested in the processes by which individuals change or grow throughout their lifetimes. This enterprise, designed to better understand the human condition, accumulates knowledge that can help solve problems faced by individuals and by communities.
- Personality psychology is the study of individual differences in behavior and mental life. Personality psychologists are interested in identifying and understanding the factors that influence individual differences in behavior and mental life.
- Organizational psychology is the study of behavior in work organizations. Organizational psychologists are interested in understanding the psychological processes that influence behavior in work organizations.
- Behavioral neuroscience is the study of the biological mechanisms underlying behavior. Behavioral neuroscientists are interested in the brain and the nervous system, in the endocrine system, and in other organismic processes.
• Community psychology is the study of the social processes and problems of groups, organizations, and neighborhoods, and the development and evaluation of progress for social change and social policy based on psychological understanding.
• Cognitive neuroscience is concerned with understanding the neuroscientific bases of cognition. Various methods are employed to assess the roles of different brain systems in psychological functions such as memory, attention, language, executive control, decision making, response processing, and emotion.
• Cognitive psychology is the study of basic behavioral and cognitive processes, including learning, memory, problem-solving, motivation, and language.
• Developmental psychology is the study of intellectual development, emerging personality, and the acquisition of language, as well as psychophysiological and social development processes as individuals develop from birth through old age.
• Engineering psychology is the study of human behavior in the context of interactions between humans and machines.
• Organizational psychology is the application of techniques of assessment, prediction, and intervention to areas of human resources in organizations, including, but not limited to, standard personnel selection and training, attitude assessments and interventions, and program evaluations.
• Personality psychology focuses on individual behavior. It is the study of ways to understand and describe an individual's behavior and to predict an individual's future behavior.
• Quantitative psychology specialists develop mathematical models of psychological processes and devise methods for quantitative representation and analysis of data about behavior. These are used in the study of differences between individuals in ability, personality, preferences, and other psychological phenomena.
• Social psychology is the study of attitudes, social perception and cognition, interpersonal relations, interpersonal interactions, and social and cultural factors affecting human behavior.
• Visual cognition and human performance is the study of attention, visual perception, visual memory, and human performance. Visual cognition research uses tools drawn from cognitive psychology and cognitive neuroscience to better understand how visual information is perceived and remembered.

**Prescribing Psychologists**

The states of Illinois, New Mexico and Louisiana now allow appropriately qualified psychologists to write prescriptions for psychotropic medications, if they have the necessary training. There are many other states that currently have pending prescriptive authority legislative initiatives. One component of becoming a prescribing psychologist is completion of the following undergraduate courses:

• 2-semester course sequence in chemistry or biochemistry with lab
• 1 semester microbiology with lab
• 1 semester general biology for science majors
• 1 semester physiology
• 1 semester human anatomy
• 1 semester physiology and anatomy
• Medical terminology (class or proficiency)

For more information on becoming a prescribing psychologist and a detailed list of which courses meet these requirements, please consult with one of the academic advisors in psychology.