



Study the relationship between individuals and society from an interdisciplinary perspective.

The only program of its kind in Canada.

Social Psychology

Our students study the relationship between individuals and society from an interdisciplinary perspective. Courses allow students to understand how people develop over time and behave in different situations.

Social Psychology provides an understanding of:

- How individuals are influenced by their relationships and social networks
- How small groups and communities interact
- How social interactions influence identities, attitudes, and mental health
- Students learn how to situate themselves in their cultures, geographies and in relation to others



2019
Capstone Event
Social Psychology
fourth year poster
session

Degree options

To apply to Social Psychology, including the Research Specialist Option, students must successfully complete a Social Sciences Level I program, including SOCPSY 1Z03 and one of PSYCH 1F03, PSYCH 1X03, SOCIOL 1Z03.

Honours Social Psychology B.A.

**Enrolment in these programs is limited and possession of the published minimum requirements does not guarantee admission.*

Grade Point Average of 5.0 (C) including a grade of at least C in SOCPSY 1Z03 and successful completion of one of PSYCH 1F03, PSYCH 1X03, SOCIOL 1Z03.

Honours Social Psychology (Research Option) B.A.

**Enrolment in these programs is limited and possession of the published minimum requirements does not guarantee admission.*

Grade Point Average of 5.0 (C) including a grade of at least C in SOCPSY 1Z03 and successful completion of one of PSYCH 1F03, PSYCH 1X03, or SOCIOL 1Z03.

For students interested in pursuing the Honours Social Psychology B.A., including the Research Specialist Option, please refer to the Undergraduate Calendar. Honours Social Psychology (Research Specialist Option) is intended for students who are considering research-based graduate programs.

Skills development

- Solve problems using critical, reasoned thought
- Excellent writing skills
- Communication skills gained through verbal presentations, discussions and informed debates
- Hands-on experience designing quantitative studies and analyzing data with statistical software
- Qualitative analysis of interview data
- Teamwork skills and an ability to work collaboratively and constructively in groups
- Experience writing research reports, literature reviews and analytical papers
- Analyze root causes of social problems, and work towards solutions with diverse groups of people

Level I courses

Social Psychology 1Z03

An Introduction to Social Psychology

Explore the various ways people think about, affect and relate to one another.

Sociology 1Z03

An Introduction to Sociology

Examine concepts which help us understand our social world and place in it. Topics include: deviance and crime, social movements, gender relations, political organizations, race and racism.

Psychology 1X03

Introduction to Psychology, Neuroscience and Behaviour

An introduction to scientific methods used to study psychology and interpersonal behaviour.

Psychology 1F03

Survey of Psychology (online course, accepted as equivalent to PSYCH 1X03)

Discover the scientific methods, research questions and major areas of psychology.

Beyond first year

Since the social psychology degree is multidisciplinary in nature, students will take courses in social psychology, psychology, sociology and from multidisciplinary elective courses.

Below are a list of possible choices:

Social Psychology courses

- Psychology of Close Relationships
- Psychology of Well-Being
- Counselling and Psychotherapy
- Mental Health
- Child Clinical Psychology
- Making and Breaking Rules
- Regimes of Social Control
- Psychology of Intergroup Relations
- Small Worlds: Children and Childhood
- Who am I? Self and Identity

Psychology/Sociology courses

- Adolescent Psychology
- Attitudes and Persuasion
- Forensic Psychology
- Gender and Sexualities
- Race and Ethnic Relations

Careers & Experiential Education

- Through Careers & Experiential Education programs, you can participate in paid internships, a tuition-free career planning course, academic placements and job shadowing
- Take advantage of upper year research courses to gain valuable technical skills
- Take an independent study course to work one-on-one with an supervising professor and conduct original research
- Conduct original research in groups with a supervising professor in your fourth year

Potential careers

- Counselling/Psychotherapy
- Law
- Human Resources
- Occupational Therapy
- Journalism
- Public Health
- Education
- Research
- Public Relations
- Marketing
- Business

A social psychology degree also provides the foundation for graduate studies in psychology, sociology, social work, and MBA programs.

MEET A
FACULTY
MEMBER

"I'm fascinated by human and social behaviour. What motivates, inspires or influences how humans think, behave, feel, develop a sense of self or interact with others?"

I strive to make the classroom an inclusive and diverse learning space where students think critically.

I love teaching at McMaster because my students constantly inspire me and enhance my experience as an educator." – Sarah Clancy



MEET A
FACULTY
MEMBER



"My research and teaching focuses on the ways that close relationships, social media, and culture influence our psychological well-being and mental health. For example, how does the initiation, maintenance, and breakup of romantic relationships affect well-being? Is social media good or bad for mental health? How do immigrants navigate the psychological, social, and behavioural challenges of adapting to a new culture?"

I am proud to be a part of the Social Psychology Program and to work with such dynamic students and colleagues. We strive to cultivate strong foundational knowledge in social psychology from multidisciplinary perspectives and transferable skills to enhance student success after graduation." – Tara Marshall