

A top-down view of a wooden desk. In the upper right, a white computer keyboard is partially visible. To its left is a small black pot containing a green plant. In the lower right, there is a black notebook with a white page, a black pen, and a white coffee cup. The background is a dark wood grain. The text is centered in a white, italicized serif font. A thin green horizontal line is positioned below the text. There are also some green decorative dots in the bottom right corner.

*Human Services and Community
Engagement Psychology*

What is Human Services/Community Engagement Psychology?

- Human Services and Community Engagement focuses on individuals who would like to work predominantly within their communities to improve mental health education and access to resources. More information can be found using the links provided below:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Eqwxife716M&ab_channel=WesternStudentServices

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PQooUzvHEZc&ab_channel=TEDxTalks

Potential Career Paths in Human Services/Community Engagement Psychology:

- Program Coordinator/Director for Community Mental Health Programs.
- Community Outreach Worker/Crisis Support Worker.
- Family Advocate.
- Rehabilitation Counselor.
 - This path requires receiving an M.A.
- Substance Use Counselor.
 - This path requires receiving an M.A.
- Social Worker.
 - This path requires receiving an MSW.
- Community Psychologist.
 - This path requires receiving a Ph.D.

Undergraduate Recommended Courses in Psychology:

- Social Psychology (**PSY 302**).
- Abnormal Psychology (**PSY 408**).
- Psychology of Learning (**PSY 416***).
- Cross Cultural Psychology (**PSY 426**)

* make sure to look at the pre-requisites for these courses, as there are more than just PSY 201! Ask an Advising Officer if you have any questions 😊

Undergraduate Recommended Courses Outside of Psychology:

- Introduction to Criminal Justice (**CJ 200**).
- Race, Ethnicity, Class, and Crime (**CJ 406***).
- Introduction to Communication Theory (**CMM 303***).
- Group Communication (**CMM 315***).
- Intercultural Communication (**CMM 322***).
- Introduction to the Health Profession (**HP 110**).
- Drug Wars (**HST 305**).
- Media Literacy (**JMC 101**).
- Public Administration (**PSC 333**).
- Nonprofit Management (**PSC 432**).
- Public Policy Development (**PSC 433**).
- Introductory Sociology (**SOC 200**).
- Introduction to Social Work (**SWK 203**).
- Substance Use and Social Work (**SWK 260**).

* make sure to look at the pre-requisites for these courses! Ask an Advising Officer if you have any questions 😊

Recommended Minors and Certificates:

- Social Work Minor (HIGHLY recommended!).
- Addiction Studies Minor.
- Business Communication Minor.
- Communication Studies Minor.
- Management Minor.
- Political Science Minor.
- Sociology Minor.

Accelerated Masters Students Recommended Courses:

- Advanced Social Psychology (**PSY 606** instead of PSY 302).
- Abnormal Psychology (**PSY 508** instead of PSY 408).

Is Graduate Training Required?

- Graduate-level training is not required for all pathways within Human Services and Community Engagement in Psychology. It is necessary if you wish to become a counselor or licensed social worker, so be sure to do your research!

Ways to Stand Out in Human Services/Community Engagement Psychology:

- Clinical Experience:
 - This is not as necessary for this subdiscipline of psychology, though it is a great opportunity to get involved in the community. If you decide to pursue post-secondary education to become a counselor or social worker, it may be beneficial to get involved with a community mental health center.
- Volunteer Work:
 - It is always a good idea to volunteer when considering graduate school or a career (it looks great on a resume)! In fact, volunteer work is CRUCIAL to this subdiscipline. Consider volunteering with many community organizations, including the City Mission, Branches, Harmony House, and CONTACT.
- Research:
 - It never hurts to get involved in community-focused research. Consider joining Dr. Marianna Linz's new research lab!