

DEPAUL UNIVERSITY
UNDERGRADUATE CONCENTRATION IN COMMUNITY PSYCHOLOGY
Byrne Hall, Room 420
(773) 325-7887

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PROGRAM GOALS

- Providing unique training in community psychology, emphasizing collaboration and change strategies to promote well-being.
- Understanding people within their social, cultural, economic, geographic, and historical contexts.
- Promoting health and empowerment and preventing problems in communities, groups, and individuals.
- Providing students with knowledge and practical skills to work effectively in the community.
- Facilitating the development of students as community advocates of social justice and empowerment.
- Actively illustrating the relevance of academic work in applied settings.
- Providing opportunities to apply concepts and ideas learned in community settings.
- Enhancing students' employability by providing them with community-based skills and work experiences.

COMMUNITY CONCENTRATION REQUIREMENTS

Common Core courses:

Psy 105 – Introductory Psychology I
Psy 106 – Introductory Psychology II
Psy 240 – Introductory Statistics I
Psy 241 – Research Methods I
Psy 242 – Research Methods II
Psy 361 – History & Systems in Psychology

Community Concentration Courses:

Psy 354 – Community Psychology
Psy 356 – Principles of Field Research & Action
Psy 359 – Field Work in Community Research and Action

Four (4) Psychology Electives:

These are the general areas that Community Psychology covers: social bases of behavior, social justice, diversity, human development, and public policy. We encourage you to keep these in mind when selecting the final four electives. Make sure to reach out to your advisor as soon as possible to help you plan your curriculum.

THE FIELDWORK EXPERIENCE

The fieldwork experience is an integral component of the Community Psychology Concentration for psychology majors. Students can earn course credit for fieldwork done outside the classroom and gain practical experience in psychology. This experience can also be helpful in guiding decisions regarding career and graduate school choices.

Upon graduation, psychology majors will be entering a competitive job market or applying to graduate school. Fieldwork in community psychology is one way to help prepare for this transition. This 2-quarter applied experience (PSY 359) will build upon training and skills obtained in previous community courses [Community Psychology (PSY 354) and Principles of Field Research and Action (Psy 356)], as well as the other core psychology courses in this concentration (e.g., diversity courses, research methods, statistics).

TRANSFER STUDENTS

Transfer students must attend DePaul for at least one quarter before applying to the Community Psychology Field Work experience.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Those students interested in the Undergraduate Concentration in Community Psychology program need to apply in February of their junior year. In order to participate in the Undergraduate Concentration in Community Psychology program students must have junior standing and should expect to complete the common core courses by the end of junior year, except for Psy 361 (History & Systems in Psychology), which is the senior capstone course. The fieldwork applications are available (in a bin next to the bulletin board) across the hall from the Psychology Department (Byrne Hall, Room 420).

The application process requires a summary of psychology courses taken, a list of community psychology related volunteer or employment activities, a brief description of future career plans, and one letter of recommendation from a faculty member in the Psychology Department.

COURSEWORK AND REGISTRATION

Students who are accepted into the Undergraduate Concentration in Community Psychology must register for Psy 356 – Principles of Field Research and Action during Spring Quarter of their junior year. Please go ahead and register for 356 if you plan to have a community concentration, even if you have not heard the final status of your submitted application.

Principles of Field Research and Action explores community issues and provides an overview of the Community Psychology values and principles, a review of applied strategies aimed at changing environments and individuals, and the impact of the interaction of the system level forces, organizations, communities, and individuals.

Students must receive a grade of “B-” or better in 356 and the approval of the instructor in order to register for Psy 359. When scheduling senior classes and other activities it is important to keep in mind that an appropriate block of time must be reserved for fieldwork.

During the fall and winter quarters of the senior year, students will register for Fieldwork (PSY 359) and do part-time fieldwork in an area related to community psychology, earning 4 hours of credit per quarter for a total of 8 credit hours. Students generally spend 6 – 8 hours per week at the fieldwork setting.

FIELDWORK SITE SELECTION

A wide range of settings are available, including those which involve working in schools, rehabilitation settings, independent research institutions, and assisting in various community agencies. Working with faculty on community-based research (at DePaul or other institutions) can also serve as a fieldwork experience. During spring quarter of the Junior year, students select their fieldwork agency. Students may have an opportunity to meet some agency supervisors to learn more about the nature of the agencies and the actual internship responsibilities. Most undergraduate fieldwork experiences are unpaid.

FIELDWORK EVALUATION PROCESS

During the fieldwork experience (Psy 359) students will:

- Write a quarterly paper on a topic related to their field work
- Record their weekly internship experience in a journal which is periodically submitted to the Fieldwork instructor
- Evaluate their experiences at the agency at which they are working
- Have their performance evaluated each quarter by their Fieldwork supervisor
- Meet once every week with the Fieldwork instructor and other interns to discuss their experiences

Grades are based on the quality of the journals and papers, the internship supervisor evaluations, and participation at weekly meetings of Psy 359.

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APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS
(see reverse side for application)

APPLICATION DEADLINE – February 18th.

Application must be submitted to the Department of Psychology/Byrne Hall/Room 420 by February 18th.

RECOMMENDATION LETTER

One letter of reference from a faculty member in the Department of Psychology is required.

INTERVIEW

An interview is not required before the application is submitted although it may be requested after your application has been reviewed.

SPRING QUARTER REGISTRATION

Those students applying for fieldwork should register for Psy 356 –Principles of Field Research and Action for Spring Quarter.

QUESTIONS?

Questions about the internship should be directed to your advisor or Olya Glantsman at OGLANTSM@depaul.edu.

UNDERGRADUATE FIELD WORK IN COMMUNITY RESEARCH AND ACTION PROGRAM

APPLICATION (see reverse side for instructions)

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email address _____ Phone _____

Overall GPA _____ Psychology GPA _____

Psychology faculty member submitting reference letter _____

Indicate Psychology courses taken and grades received below

Course #	Course Title	Grade
Psy 105	Introductory Psychology I	_____
Psy 106	Introductory Psychology II	_____
Psy 240	Introductory Statistics I	_____
Psy 241	Research Methods I	_____
Psy 242	Research Methods II	_____
Psy 354	Community Psychology	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

List any volunteer or employment in community action related activities: _____

What are your occupational plans after finishing college?

