



BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

Behavioral Science involves the careful analysis of human behavior and includes a number of diverse disciplines, including anthropology, psychology, and sociology. Those who wish to pursue a career in the behavioral sciences have the opportunity to work in fields like education, law enforcement, business, and more.



BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

Career Pathway: Psychologist



Job Summary

Psychologists study cognitive, emotional, and social processes and behavior by observing, interpreting, and recording how individuals relate to one another and to their environments. They use their findings to help improve mental processes and behaviors.



Colleges & Universities to Consider

Brandeis University | Colgate University | Duke University | Northwestern University | Pitzer College
Reed College | University of Colorado Boulder | University of Virginia | Vassar College
Yale University

\$77,030

MEDIAN ANNUAL SALARY

\$66,000

AVERAGE STARTING SALARY

+14%

GROWTH BY 2026



Salary & Industry Growth Sources: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics 2018 | [Payscale.com](https://www.payscale.com)

College & University Sources: U.S. News & World Report | [CollegeXpress.com](https://www.collegeXpress.com) | [BestValueSchools.com](https://www.BestValueSchools.com)



BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

Career Pathway: Sociologist



Job Summary

Sociologists study society and social behavior by examining the groups, cultures, organizations, social institutions, and processes that develop when people interact and work together. Sociologists study how these dynamics influence people and individual attitudes.



Colleges & Universities to Consider

Connecticut College | Dickinson College | Haverford College | Pomona College | Skidmore College
Trinity University | Tulane University | University of Arizona | University of San Diego
Whitman College

\$79,650

MEDIAN ANNUAL SALARY

\$52,000

AVERAGE STARTING SALARY

+1%

GROWTH BY 2026

Salary & Industry Growth Sources: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics 2018 | Payscale.com
College & University Sources: Niche.com (2020) | BestValueSchools.com



BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

Career Pathway: Political Scientist



Job Summary

Political scientists study the origin, development, and operation of political systems. They research political ideas and analyze governments, policies, political trends, and related issues.



Colleges & Universities to Consider

American University | Columbia University | Claremont McKenna College | Davidson College
Georgetown University | Suffolk University | SUNY Albany | University of California - Berkeley
University of Chicago | University of Florida

\$115,110

MEDIAN ANNUAL SALARY

\$49,000

AVERAGE STARTING SALARY

+3%

GROWTH BY 2026

Salary & Industry Growth Sources: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics 2018 | Payscale.com
College & University Sources: Niche.com (2020) | U.S. News & World Report | CollegeFactual.com



BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

Laurel Springs Core Course Offerings

AP Human Geography

The AP Human Geography course is designed to provide college level instruction on the patterns and processes that impact the way humans understand, use, and change Earth's surface. Students use geographic models, methods, and tools to examine human social organization and its effect on the world in which we live. Students are challenged to use maps and geographical data to examine spatial patterns and analyze the changing interconnections among people and places.

AP Psychology

Advanced Placement Psychology is a college level course providing students with an overview of the development of human behaviors and thoughts. Along with preparation for the AP Psychology exam, the goals of this course are to immerse students in modern psychological investigation techniques, to accentuate the ethics and morality of human and animal research, and to emphasize scientific critical thinking skills in application to the social sciences. This college level course will expand your knowledge, challenge your mind and, at times, actually be entertaining! It will help you to better understand yourself and those around you.

AP Statistics

AP Statistics provides students with hands-on experience collecting, analyzing, graphing, and interpreting data. This course draws connections between all aspects of the statistical process including design, analysis, and drawing conclusions. Students will use the vocabulary of statistics to communicate statistical methods, results and interpretations. They will also use graphing calculators and read computer output to further the development of their statistical skills. Students will learn to effectively design and analyze research studies by reviewing and evaluating real-world examples taken from an array of professional disciplines including meteorology, medicine, politics, and athletics.

AP U.S. Government & Politics

"Lights, Camera, Action" ...Prepare to study the intricacies of the American Political Culture. The script is written and the actors participate daily in the drama of American politics. You will be "on location" to delve into primary source documents. You will go behind the scenes with stars such as the President, Congress people, and Supreme Court Justices. You will research the roles of the media, political parties, interest groups, states, candidates, bureaucracy, and the public in the governmental process. Finally, you will witness the large-scale production of policy building in the areas of economic/social policy, foreign policy and public administration.

Pre-Calculus

Pre-Calculus teaches students the concepts and skills necessary to succeed in college-level mathematics courses and in mathematics-based disciplines such as chemistry and physics. The course contains in-depth coverage of trigonometry, logarithms, analytical geometry, and upper-level algebraic concepts. There is also emphasis on multiphase calculations, translations and applied mathematics, problem solving, and the development of productive thought patterns. Topics include linear, quadratic, exponential, logarithmic, radical, polynomial, and rational functions; systems of equations; trigonometric ratios and functions; inverse trigonometric functions; vectors; laws of cosine and sine; polar functions; and notation and arithmetic of complex numbers.

Psychology

Psychology is everywhere, affecting every second of life. Learning about psychology can positively affect life in three main ways. First, while studying psychology, the course will provide a solid foundation for success in later psychology courses. Second, this course can influence your personal life. The concepts discussed here will help you know yourself better; understand your family members, friends, and people you encounter; and improve your relationships. Third, taking this course will help you develop academic skills. Many topics in psychology directly translate into skills that you can use to improve your studying. Students will learn how psychologists develop and validate theories and will examine how hereditary, social, and cultural factors help form an individual's behavior and attitudes. Students will also evaluate the effectiveness of different types of psychological counseling and therapy. Highly interactive content includes online discussions that help develop critical thinking skills.

Sociology

The Sociology course takes a fresh and accessible theoretical approach appropriate to our contemporary world. While the course emphasizes the interactionist perspective, students learn a range of theoretical thought, including postmodernism. Students will put into practice what they are learning through innovative methodological exercises in each chapter. Material is presented that is familiar and relevant to the students in a way that allows them to make profound analytic connections between their individual lives and the structure of their society.

Contact Your College Counselor to Learn More



BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

Laurel Springs Elective Course Offerings

Anthropology I

The aim of anthropology is to use a broad approach to gain an understanding of our past, present, and future, and in addition address the problems humans face in biological, social and cultural life. Explore the similarity and diversity of humankind through time as you examine how we have evolved from a biologically and culturally weak species to one that has the ability to cause catastrophic change.

Anthropology 2

Continue the study of global cultures and the ways that humans have made sense of their world. Examine the ways cultures have understood and gave meaning to different stages of life and death, the creation of art within cultures, and how cultures evolve and change over time. Apply the concepts and insights learned from the study of anthropology to several cultures found in the world today.

Criminology

Why do some individuals commit crimes while others do not? What aspects of our culture and society promote crime and deviance? Look at possible explanations for crime from the standpoint of psychological, biological and sociological perspectives, explore the categories and social consequences of crime, and investigate how the criminal justice system handles not only criminals but also their misdeeds.

Health Careers

In Health Careers 1, students explore a variety of career options related to the health care field, including medicine, nursing, physical therapy, pharmacy, dental careers, sports medicine, personal training, social work, psychology, and more. Students will learn about various options within each field, what each of these jobs entails, and the education and knowledge required to be successful. In addition, they will focus on basic job skills and information that would aid them in health care and other career paths.

Human Geography

How do language, religion, and landscape affect the physical environment? How do geography, weather, and location affect customs and lifestyle? Explore the diverse ways in which people affect the world around them and how they are affected by their surroundings. Discover how ideas spread and cultures form, and learn how beliefs and architecture are part of a larger culture complex.

Peer Counseling

Explore the role of a peer counselor, learning the observation, listening, and emphatic communication skills counselors require, and receive basic training in conflict resolution and group leadership. These valuable skills will enhance your ability to communicate effectively in your personal and work relationships.

Personal Psychology I

Self-knowledge is the key to self-improvement! Sample topics include the study of infancy, childhood, adolescence, perception, and states of consciousness. Amazing online psychology experiments dealing with our own personal behavior are featured in this course.

Personal Psychology II

Personal Psychology II continues the study of self-improvement initiated in Personal Psychology I. Topics include memory, intelligence, emotion, health, stress, and personality. This course features virtual psychology experiments that give students insight into human behavior.

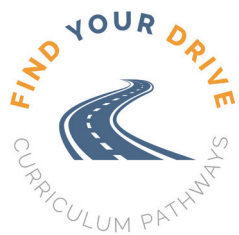
Philosophy: The Big Picture

Read about a man who hung out on street corners, pestering everyone he met with questions. Learn about an eccentric who climbed inside a stove to think about whether he existed. These and other philosophers of the Western world are among the most brilliant and influential thinkers of all time and will inform you of the fundamental ideas of Western Civilization. By the time you've "closed the book" on this course, you will better understand yourself and the world around you - from atoms to outer space - and everything in between.

Real World Parenting

Learn what to prepare for, what to expect, and what vital steps parents can take to create the best environment for their children. Parenting roles and responsibilities, nurturing and protective environments for children, positive parenting strategies, and effective communication in parent/child relationships are some of the topics covered in this course.

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BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

Laurel Springs Elective Course Offerings

Social Problems I

Explore the challenges faced by social groups, as well as the complex relationships that exist among societies, governments, and the individual. Each unit focuses on a particular area of concern, often within a global context, and explores possible solutions at the structural level as well as that of the individual. You will develop the skills necessary to help make a difference in your own life, in your community, and globally.

Social Problems II

Learn about the overall structure of the social problem and how it impacts their lives. Each unit focuses on social problems like racial discrimination, drug abuse, the loss of community, and urban sprawl, then discusses possible solutions at individual and structural levels. For each issue, students examine the connections in the global arena involving societies, governments, and the individual.

Sociology I

Students will examine social problems in our increasingly connected world and learn how human relationships can strongly influence and impact their lives. Exciting online video journeys to an array of areas in the sociological world are an important component of this relevant and engaging course.

Sociology II

Develop your "sociological imagination" and examine how society shapes human action and beliefs, and how in turn these factors re-shape society! Fascinating online videos journeys not inform students, but motivate them to still seek more knowledge on their own.

Women's Studies: A Personal Journey Through Film

Maybe you grew up watching movies with female characters like Cinderella, Belle, Snow White, or Ariel. Maybe you've wondered why there are stereotypes about women being bad drivers or ignorant about sports. Maybe you want to know about feminism and the women's movement. The Introduction to Women's Studies: A Personal Journey Through Film can help you answer these questions. Though it focuses on the experience of women, it's appropriate for anyone who wants to learn to critically examine films while learning about the history of the women's movement and how gender, race, and social class influence us. Women have earned their right to stand up and be recognized as equal partners and reap the benefits of their hard work. As the anonymous quote goes, "History is Herstory too.."

World Religions

Throughout the ages, religions from around the world have shaped the political, social, and cultural aspects of societies. Explore major religions that have played a role in human history, including Buddhism, Christianity, Confucianism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, Shintoism, and Taoism. Trace major developments in these religions and explore their relationships with social institutions and culture. Discover the similarities and differences among the major religions and examine the connections and influences they have.

Model United Nations

CLUB | Imagine preparing for the global experience as a member of the United Nations who strives for peace and balance among cultures around the world. This club engages in an authentic simulation of the United Nations (UN) by learning about the UN system, skills of debate, compromise, conflict resolution, and negotiation. Model UN team members meet twice a month to explore and reveal the workings of world diplomacy through the lens of current events.

Contact Your College Counselor to Learn More