

BEHAVIOUR, COGNITION AND NEUROSCIENCE

# Experience Map

**PROMISE**  
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University  
of Windsor

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# BEHAVIOUR, COGNITION AND NEUROSCIENCE

## SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE OF BEHAVIOUR, COGNITION AND NEUROSCIENCE GRADUATES

### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

If you're interested in life/behavioural sciences research, this is the program for you. It combines the biological aspects of psychology and biology relating to the brain and behaviour, and directed research-based undergraduate courses. A pathway towards a career in neurobiology, psychology or medicine (with additional studies.)

### FUNCTIONAL KNOWLEDGE

- Understanding and analyzing how the brain works from the cellular level all the way up to human and animal behaviour
- Operating advanced scientific laboratory equipment and instruments
- Formulating, organizing, and maintaining detailed data records; performing statistical analyses
- Designing experimental studies to accomplish targeted goals or test specific hypotheses
- Taking careful measurements and recording precise observations using best practices/field techniques
- Understanding relevant topics in the medical and health sciences with depth and nuance

#### CURRICULUM . . . .

Courses of study specific to each program



#### . . . . CO-CURRICULAR

Activities and experiences that complement coursework  
(Outstanding Scholars, STEPS workshops, peer mentoring, VIP)

#### EXTRACURRICULAR

Activities falling outside of the scope of set curriculum  
(Part-time job, clubs, volunteering, athletics)

### BUILD YOUR SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

Your UWindsor experience is more than attending classes. It is a combination of academics, co-curricular activities, and extracurricular involvement. By making the most of all three elements of your university experience, you will maximize your opportunities to build your skills, broaden your personal network, and clarify your long term academic and career goals.

### CAREER PLANNING GUIDE

Intentional career planning will help you prepare for your next step after graduation. It is a fluid, dynamic, and continuous process, meaning you can move on or return to an earlier stage at any time. You can even work through simultaneous cycles, like one for your long-term dream job and another for a summer job.



# Experience Map

## HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

This guide is meant to help you explore various opportunities throughout the course of your UWindsor experience. It is intended to help you link academics, co-curricular, extra-curricular and career planning activities by suggesting some of the options available to you. This is to help you see what you can do, rather than what you are required to do!

## Academics



### First Year

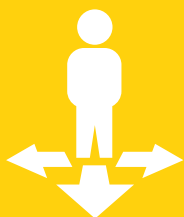
- Take required courses including Cell Biology, Biological Diversity and Introduction to Psychology I and II
- Review degree course requirements for all years of study
- Participate in our PASS program during Welcome Week to be provided with the skills necessary to be successful as a Faculty of Science student
- Meet with BCN specific academic advisors in Biology or Psychology
- Receive peer mentorship from an upper-year MySci advisor

## Experience



- Begin the process of becoming a LEAD Medallion Scholar and participate in credit and volunteer activities that provide you skills in **Leadership, Engagement, Application and Discovery**\*
- Apply for a co-curricular experience such as the Volunteer Internship Program (VIP)\*
- Be **Engaged** by volunteering in a lab to help with research for professors and graduate students\*
- Attend biweekly BCN seminars to hear about world-renowned neuroscience research
- **Discover** through research opportunities as part of the Outstanding Scholars program\*
- Research student exchange and study abroad opportunities for middle years to gain a Global Perspective of Science (GPS)\*
- Join such clubs as the BCN Students' Association, Science Society or Psychology Student Association

## Career



- Create a list of activities that you enjoy, areas in which you excel, and skills you have
- Meet with Career & Employment Services (CES) to develop a plan for your future years
- Consider taking an interest assessment to help you identify possible career paths
- Attend a CES workshop to learn how to find a summer or part-time job
- Become familiar with the mySuccess online job search tool
- Attend a CES resumé and cover letter workshop to get your resumé critiqued

## Middle Years

- Take required courses and check in with BCN academic advisor to make sure you are on the right path
- Meet professors you want to work with for your final year research project★
- Begin taking courses that focus on specific aspects of brain function at the molecular, behavioural and cognitive levels
- Seek out internships and courses that offer field experience★
- Choose courses required as pre-requisites for graduate/professional school
- Consider declaring a minor and/or specialization

- Join a professional association in your field such as the Southern Ontario Neuroscience Association
- **Apply** your knowledge through a summer research assistant or teaching assistant position in a Biology or Psychology faculty member's lab★
- Participate in UWill Discover undergraduate research conference★
- Take part in bi-weekly colloquia and seminars in current behaviour, cognitive and neuroscience research
- Gain a Global Perspective of Science (GPS) through an international exchange or by studying abroad★
- Expand your skills by taking on a summer, part-time or volunteer position
- Gain valuable **LEADERSHIP** skills through roles within a club or society

- Research career field and occupations that are of interest to you
- Explore opportunities and meet employers through a job fair or employer information session
- Attend the Graduate and Professional Schools Fair to explore further educational opportunities
- Analyze the requirements for graduate or professional schools of interest
- Make an appointment with Career & Employment Services to explore career options
- Create a LinkedIn profile and have it critiqued
- Take part in informational interviews through sources such as Ten Thousand Coffees

## Final Year

- Meet with faculty and academic advisor to review degree requirements
- Complete all required courses in order to fulfill degree audit
- Apply to graduate through MyUWindsor Portal
- Prepare a research-based thesis in behaviour, cognition or neuroscience★
- **Apply** your knowledge through a field work, internship, or practicum course to culminate your senior experience★

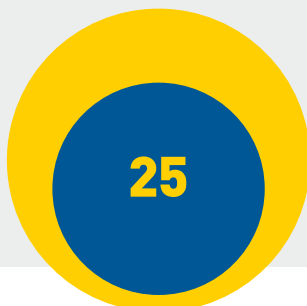
- Attend Ontario Biology Day to present thesis research★
- Conduct field research with faculty member★
- Be **Engaged** through service learning opportunities with Let's Talk Science and Science Rendezvous★
- Become a tutor for Students Offering Support (SOS)
- Become a MySci advisor to provide academic support and mentorship for first year students
- Complete LEAD Medallion Scholars in two areas for Bronze, three areas for Silver, four areas for Gold in accordance with **Leadership, Engagement, Application, Discover**★

- Consider applying to graduate or professional school and be aware of early application deadlines
- Meet with Career & Employment Services to prepare application documents such as a resumé, CV or personal statement
- Attend an Interview Skills Workshop and Job Search Tips Workshop
- Set up a mock interview for professional school or job applications
- Meet employers at the annual job fair in January
- Compose a portfolio of relevant academic and work experience

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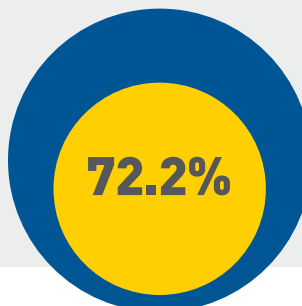
## LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

2016



Number of University of Windsor graduates from Behaviour, Cognition and Neuroscience program in 2016

2013



Percentage of Biological Sciences/Biomedical Science graduates from Canadian universities who continue studying after a Bachelor's degree. (National Graduates Study 2013)



## COMMON INDUSTRIES FOR BEHAVIOUR, COGNITION AND NEUROSCIENCE GRADUATES

- Academia: advanced biological research
- Biomedical and biotechnical research
- Education: curriculum design, teaching
- Government: research and policy development
- Industry: consultation, product development/testing
- Medicine and dentistry
- Other healthcare professions
- Psychology practice: private, healthcare, corrections
- Social service and community agencies

## CAREER TRACKS\*

Audiologist	Forensic scientist	Neurologist	Psychiatrist
Child and youth worker	Lab technician	Optometrist	Public health educator
Clinical psychologist	Laboratory supervisor	Pharmaceutical salesperson	Public policy analyst
Clinical research assistant	Lawyer	Pharmacist	Science journalist
Community development Worker	Marine biologist	Pharmacologist	Teacher
Counsellor	Medical director	Physician's assistant	Toxicologist
Doctor	Microbiologist	Professor	Veterinarian

\* Additional education and/or training required for some of the above careers.

## CAREER-READINESS COMPETENCIES



**Critical Thinking and Problem Solving: Using strategic and creative thinking to make decisions and evaluate solutions**

- Adapting to changes within a given plan or scenario
- Effectively analyzing and applying data
- Breaking down complex problems in a systematic manner



**Professionalism and Work Ethic: Demonstrating personal management practices and a high level of integrity and ethical behaviour**

- Managing time, data, and resources to meet deadlines
- Identifying priorities and preferable courses of action
- Acknowledging and complying with quality control and safety regulations



**Teamwork and Collaboration: Working as a productive member of a group and collaborating with others to achieve set goals**

- Working co-operatively with laboratory partners
- Contributing through leading, teaching, and motivating others
- Determining outcomes, planning details, delegating, and completing tasks



**Communication: Appropriate and effective articulation of ideas and information to a range of audiences**

- Conveying information in clear and concise manner
- Developing effective, precisely organized reports
- Utilizing technical writing to convey the message of a broader piece of work





## CAMPUS RESOURCES

- Visit **Leddy Library** and the **Writing Support Desk** on the main floor for help with academic assignments
- Improve study skills through the **Skills To Enhance Personal Success (STEPS)** program
- Discover ways to get involved on campus through the **Student Success and Leadership Centre**
- Explore mentorship opportunities through the **Connecting4Success (C4S)** and **Bounce Back** programs
- Apply to the **Volunteer Internship Program (VIP)** to get involved in the community
- Look into the **Work Study** program for on-campus employment opportunities
- Broaden your cultural awareness through the **International Student Centre** and **Student Exchange Office**
- Get assistance developing your career plan and job search skills from **Career & Employment Services**
- Consult with the **EPICentre** if you are interested in starting your own business
- Seek out assistance with academic accommodation from **Student Accessibility Services**
- Tend to your health and wellness with support from **Student Health Services, Lancer Recreation** and the **Student Counselling Centre**

### Recruitment Office

Phone: 519-973-7014

Toll-Free: 1-800-864-2860

Email: [info@uwindsor.ca](mailto:info@uwindsor.ca)

### Department of Biological Sciences

Phone: 519-253-3000, Ext. 2695

Email: [biosci@uwindsor.ca](mailto:biosci@uwindsor.ca)

### Department of Psychology

Phone: 519-253-3000, Ext. 2217

Email: [psychology@uwindsor.ca](mailto:psychology@uwindsor.ca)

### Career and Employment Services

Phone: 519-253-3000, Ext. 3895

Email: [careerservices@uwindsor.ca](mailto:careerservices@uwindsor.ca)

[experience.uwindsor.ca](http://experience.uwindsor.ca)



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