

Psycho-Babble

Macalester College/ November 2011

Important Dates

Tuesday, Nov. 15th
Copenhagen Program
Visit

Nov. 14 - Dec. 2
Spring '12 Registration

Thursday, Nov. 24-27
Thanksgiving Holiday

Saturday, Dec. 3
Kid's Judge

Chair Talk from Brooke

Welcome back from Fall Break! Even though Fall courses are still in full swing, we're already planning for the Spring semester. We are excited about the courses we'll be offering, including some old favorites and some exciting new opportunities. Please read below for descriptions of our new topics courses and senior seminars, and feel free to talk to your advisor or anyone on the faculty if you have questions.

This time of year also features a variety of informational events about your life after Mac, including a discussion of mental health careers and how to use your BA in Psychology in wide-ranging careers. Stay tuned for more details!

Psych Club Info

Hello all psychology enthusiasts!

Psych Club leaders are organizing a couple of panels during which three of our psych/ns professors will share their research and career experiences and discuss their current research projects. The panels will take place during lunch. Dates aren't finalized yet, but watch for flyers or emails advertising the event.

You will be able to sign up for the lunches through Lee as the dates get closer.

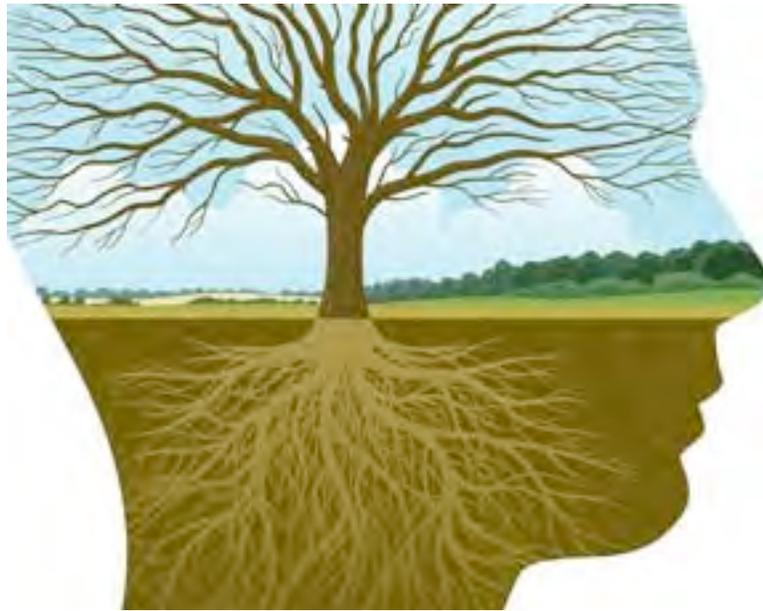
New Class for Spring 2012

In Spring 2012 we are offering

PSYC 294-01 **Psychology in a Material World**

It will be 1:20 - 2:50 TR and taught by Christie Manning.

Watch for course description on the Psych website soon.



Kids Judge! December 3rd

Kids Judge! is an annual event that brings in about 180 4th, 5th & 6th graders for a morning of neuroscience. The elementary students travel through 6 presentations by Brain, Mind & Behavior students. The elementary students then judge the college students on the presentations. We need volunteers to walk the groups of students through the rotation. If you can help, please contact Lee at 6223 or lolson4@macalester.edu. You will get a t-shirt, a pizza lunch and lots of fun for your help!

Psi Chi Induction

We inducted 15 new members into Psi Chi, the national honorary society for psychology. Congratulations to: **Jesse Carroll, Shaina Davis, Adam Freedman, Will Johnson, Micah Mumper, Ellen Nikodym, Maja Palmquist, Barbara Scarim, Ayaka Sheehan, Joshua Smith, Hannah Strauss-Albee, Thomas Symmes Mitchell Glasser, Hannah Van Den Brandt, and Andrea Zvonkovic.** (Bolded names are pictured front row then back, left to right).



New visiting Faculty for Spring

There is a new visiting faculty who will be teaching in the psychology department this spring.

Mark Lewis will be teaching the PSYC - 378-01 Psychology of Language on Wednesday nights 7:00 - 10:00. Mark is a doctoral student in Educational Psychology (learning and cognition). He earned a master's degree in educational policy from the University of Minnesota.

Design the Psych t-shirt for 2012

The deadline for submitting a t-shirt design is **February 1st**.

The design does not have to be perfectly executed; the most important part is the "idea". Designs that make fun of mental illness are not acceptable. Designs that reinforce stereotypes about psychology (e.g., rats, brains, Freud) are acceptable... but unlikely to be selected. The winning t-shirt designed will get a free t-shirt and a prize.

Mesmerizing Major: Alex Yang



Alex Yang

"Mesmerizing Majors are randomly drawn from the list of CNS & Psychology majors."

Favorite Movie: *The Wizard of Oz*

Favorite Book: *Atonement* by Ian McEwan is one of them.

Favorite place to eat in the Twin Cities: I am a steadfast supporter of Shish (alliteration not intended).

What do you do when you are not studying: I'm likely to be found in the theater department, whether performing, rehearsing, bothering the student workers, or napping...

Where did you grow up? Ambler, PA (suburban Philadelphia)

Interesting fact about your hometown: Aside from a history of asbestos manufacturing, there's nothing interesting about Ambler. As for Philly: "Philadelphia Cream Cheese" is a misnomer.

Tell us something about your family: My dog just celebrated her first birthday. I miss her dearly.

Tell us something that you are pleased with or proud of about yourself. I'm abroad in Paris this semester, and right now I'm just pleased that I can maintain a conversation *en français!*

Save the date! Senior Social - December 6th

The Senior Social will be 7:00 - 8:00, December 6th at Jack and Marty Rossmann's house. The senior social is an annual tradition, and it's a great time for seniors to get better acquainted with members of their graduation class before the rush of spring semester and graduation activities.

The Rossmann's home is located at 99 Cambridge, across the street from the Fine Arts parking lot. Invitations will go out after Thanksgiving.

At the social, we will recognize our December grad: Kevin Aldridge!



Friday Social Artistic Halloween Cookies



Brain Science: The Next Frontier Conference
Nov. 3rd & 4th
TCF Bank Stadium -U of MN Campus
2009 University Ave. S.E. Mpls. MN 55455

Free registration. To register and see
schedule of speakers and events:

<http://tiny.cc/Oev7z>

Internship Lunch Well Attended

Panel members: David Ellison, Colin Westcott, Emily Prazak, Igor Stanceric and Wanyi Li



Students who attended the Internship Lunch learned generally about interning and also about individual internship experiences from the panel members.

Wanyi Li - interned at Tubman in St. Paul. She said that what excited her was not only the job but the colleagues and the clients that you get to work with and know. She learned a lot from talking with colleagues about their experiences.

Igor Stanceric - was at Project for Pride in Living and the Family Partnership Project. He said that internships can be very challenging if the agency doesn't exactly know what they want you to do. It can also be exciting because you can create your own work, but the lack of structure and having too many options can be stressful.

Emily Prazak - interned at Child Trends. She's been there for three semesters and seeing the children grow has been the greatest joy. Her group of subjects were 3 years olds when she started and they are now in Kindergarten. Their growth in language and skill acquisition is very interesting to see.

Colin Westcott - worked at Child Trends also. He thought that an agency that offered flexibility to create your own schedule is super helpful and something to look for. He also advised that you can learn from what you aren't comfortable about as much as something that is in your comfort zone.

David Ellison - was at Washburn Child Guidance Center. He found his internship challenging and frustrating because he wasn't always told what to do in circumstances. But, after he got comfortable with that, it was very informative and a great learning experience.

The five internships show a variety on the continuum of experiences out there. Michael Porter, from the Internship Office, encouraged students to stop by and look through the many binders they have with information on hundreds of internship sites. He joked that his job is to confuse you with options.

He encourages all students to take advantage of this time to have an internship. He reminded students that if you are interested in going on to graduate school, gaining hands-on experience can help give you that edge over other equally qualified candidates. Internships can also help you rule out a population or job field for your future. He warned students to apply early as there are many colleges in the Twin Cities and internship spots can fill up fast. If students want help with hometown options for this summer, his office can provide some assistance.

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*Be sure and check
out the Psychology
website*

Final Internship Ideas

A great general advantage of interning is that you get to meet with your supervisor, and his or her supervisor and see what all the jobs entail. It's also good for networking.

Lee has a list of internships that past psych majors have done. Contact her if you want her to send it to you.

Talking to a faculty sponsor should happen early. Developing the learning contract takes time and faculty have many other pressing obligations that could limit their availability. Internships can be such a valuable experience; we hope you'll consider doing one!

A little more babble.....

Kristina Vlahovicova '11 is now the BELLE Project Assistant at NYU School of Medicine (NYULMC).

Welcome new majors!

Emily Hoyer '13
Kelia Silvis '11
Jamie Lucarelli '13

Psycho-Babble is a monthly newsletter for Psychology and Neuroscience Studies majors and other interested students. We welcome contributions from students and faculty. The goal of the newsletter is to inform the community of events, people and issues at Macalester and beyond.