

What exactly does a “psychologist” do?

- I bet that psychology is a lot broader than you think it is...
- What kinds of stuff do psychologists do?
- Are they all therapists like Freud?



No way!

- The APA recognizes 56 divisions of psychology, most of which require graduate degrees
- Some of the most popular fields of psychology:
 - Clinical psychologists
 - Cognitive psychologists
 - Developmental psychologists
 - Experimental psychologists
 - Forensic psychologists
 - Industrial/Organizational psychologists
 - Neuropsychologists

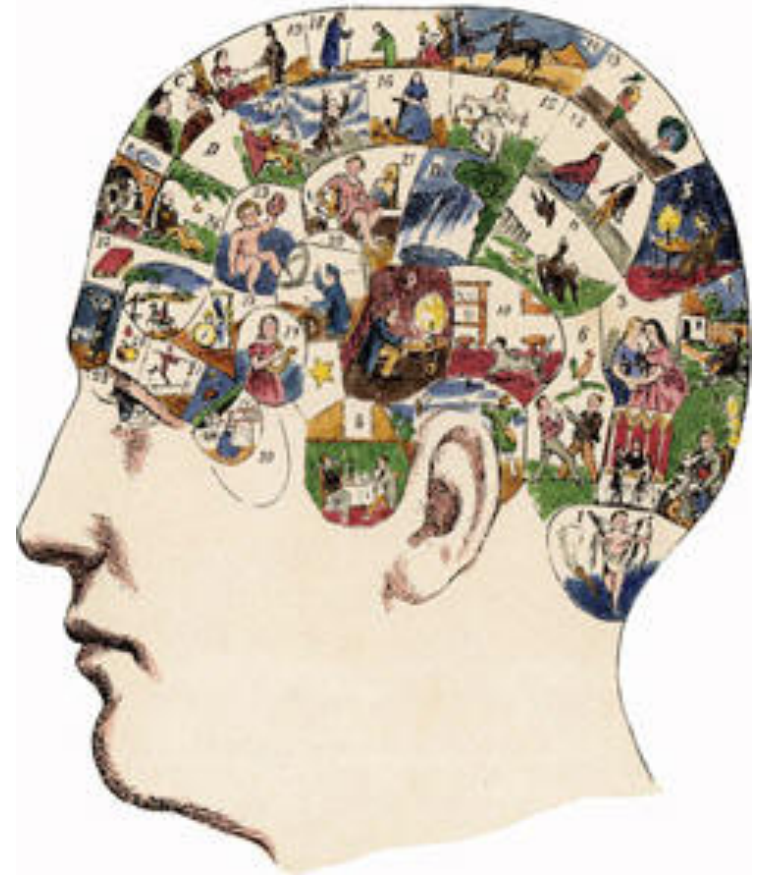
Clinical Psychology



- Promote psychological health in individuals, groups, and organizations. Usually, they specialize in one particular area of disorders (EX: depression)
- Sometimes they do research, teaching, or assessments and consultations.
- You would work in a private practice, schools, universities, medical systems, legal systems, government agencies, and military services
- You will need a doctorate degree from an APA accredited clinical psychology program, as well as licensure

Cognitive Psychology

- Study thought processes and attempt to add to the bank of knowledge in psychology
- They focus on topics such as perception, language, attention, memory, and intelligence
- You'd likely work as a research scientist or a professor



Developmental Psychology

- Conduct research in the field age-related behavioral changes
- They investigate biological, social, psychological, and cognitive changes across the lifespan
- You would likely work in applied research



Forensic Psychology

- Apply psychological principles to legal issues
- They conduct research on the integration of law and psychology to help create public policies
- They also provide therapy and assessments to aid the legal community
- Most forensic psychologists are clinical psychologists that have specialized in this area
- You might work in a university (psychology or law), a mental health agency, law-enforcement agency, court, or a correctional setting



Industrial/Organizational Psychology

- Study the relationship between people and their work environment
- They might try to figure out ways to improve productivity, personnel selection, or job-related trainings
- You might work in a business, for the government, or at a college.



Neuropsychology



- Investigate the relationship between the brain and behavior
- They can either conduct research in any number of areas, or work as a clinician conducting assessments of intelligence, or diagnosing and treating disorders related to the nervous system
- You might work in a hospital in the neurology, neurosurgery, or psychiatric unit
- They also work as professors in colleges and conduct research