

SUMMER SPRINGBOARD
Look Inward. Go Upward.

Psychology + Neuroscience Infosheet

New student admissions for Summer 2026 are open

1-Week Course

This course is one week long, and you can extend your experience to as many as six weeks by adding additional one-week courses.

Program Highlights

- Uncover how the mind works and explore the connection between the brain and human behavior
- Develop solutions to complex behavioral questions through hands-on activities like brain dissection and real-world experiments
- Understand treatment strategies for mental health issues that affect millions of people
- Interact with clinical psychologists, neurologists and researchers who are experts in the field
- Learn how to construct a psychological theory and design experiments to test it
- Discover what psychology is like as a career in academia or clinical practice

2026 Dates

Yale :

- Session 1: June 14 - June 20
- Session 4: July 5 - July 11

Oxford:

- Session 2: July 12 - July 18
- Session 4: July 26 - August 1

Academic Program Overview

Nothing is more fascinating or mysterious than people themselves. How do we work? How do I work? In this course, students will explore those questions using the tools of psychological science. They'll examine classic experiments and gain hands-on experience to better understand how people think, feel and behave. Topics include social dynamics, emotions, personality, mental illness, the nature of beliefs, neuroscience and the connection between mind, brain and body.

As a capstone project, students will develop their own mini psychological theory, design and run an experiment to test it and present their findings to the class.

Excursions

This past summer, students explored leading neuroscience and psychology hubs across the country. At Harvard and USC's Dornsife Cognitive Neuroscience Imaging Center, they observed fMRI technology and its use in behavioral research. In New York, they toured NYU's psychology lab, participated in a research study and observed an MRI scan.

In San Diego, students visited The Brain Observatory to examine a real human brain, while in Boston, they toured a biofeedback clinic using psychology in clinical care. At Duke, students visited UNC's Department of Psychiatry and Bowles Center for Alcohol Studies, built DIY microscopes, toured labs and learned how brain tissue is prepared and analyzed.

In Berkeley, students joined a workshop at Creative Minds, a community arts initiative from the Global Brain Health Institute. In Seattle, they explored UW research labs and toured the Allen Institute, a major center for brain science.

Guest speakers included the Director of Harvard's Moral Psychology Research Lab, a UCLA cognitive psychology professor and a People Analyst from Google.

Instructors

Oxford - Dr. Carmen Pinon

Dr. Carmen Pinon is a Lecturer in Neuroscience at Brasenose College, University of Oxford. She is also a Senior Lecturer at the Medical School of the University of Buckingham. Prior to this post, she was a Lecturer in Psychology at St Catherine's, Queens and Lady Margaret Hall, University of Oxford.

Yale – Keisha Winston, Ph.D.

Keisha Winston is a Professor of Neuroscience, Psychology and Biology. She began her educational venture at Northeastern University and completed her doctoral studies at the University of Connecticut where she studied and conducted research in both the Neuroscience and Pharmaceutical Sciences departments.

Tuition Information:

Residential Students:

- **Includes:** all meals, lodging, excursions, academic course and weekend excursions
- **Excludes**: optional airport pickup and drop off service (available for an additional fee)
- **Yale Price**: $4,298 first week, $3,298 for each additional week
- **Oxford Price:** $5,498 first week, $4,498 for each additional week

Commuter Students:

- **Includes:** lunch, academic course, excursions, programming from 9am to 5pm, Monday-Friday
- **Excludes:** lodging, breakfast, dinner and weekend excursions
  - Weekend excursions can be added on for $125 per day
- **Yale Price:** $2,498 first week, $1,998 for each additional week
- **Oxford Price:** $2,498 first week, $1,998 for each additonal week

Supplements:

- **Application fee**: Starting at $99 (mandatory, non-refundable)
- **Tuition Protection Plan**: Allows for cancellation for any reason up until the day of the program. Click here for more info.

Course Structure

There are five 4-hour class sessions over the one-week course. Students have class from 9am-1pm, Monday-Friday. Afternoons are dedicated to students' course-specific academic excursion, guest speaker or activity.

Typical Schedule

8AM	Breakfast
9AM	Academic Course / Commuter Student Arrival
11AM	15-Minute Break
11:15AM	Academic Course
1:15PM	Lunch/Free-Time
3PM	Academic Excursion/Lab
5PM	Commuter Students Depart
6PM	Dinner
7PM	Evening Activity
8:30PM	Free-Time
9:30PM	Back in Dorms

More info on Airport Transfer

More info on Unaccompanied Minor Service

Apply Now!

Summer Springboard programs are not run by our campus partners (with the exception of Cal Poly, University of Washington Foster School of Business, and NYSID which are run in partnership with SSB). Universities and their affiliated departments and partners do not control and are not responsible or liable in any manner for any part of the Summer Springboard program.



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2-Week Course

This is a two-week program where you'll focus on one course for the entire duration.

Program Highlights

- Uncover the mystery of how the mind works, and examine the connection between the brain and human behavior.
- Develop solutions to the complex questions of human behavior through hands-on activities such as a brain dissection and real-world experiments.
- Understand treatment strategies for a variety of mental health issues that affect millions of individuals.
- Interact with clinical psychologists, neurologists and researchers who are experts in this specialized field.
- Learn how to construct a novel psychological theory and design experiments to test it (Research Methods).
- Discover what psychology is like as a profession, as an academic or clinician.

Academic Program Overview

Nothing is more fascinating and mysterious to us than each other. How do people work? How do I work? Students will learn to tackle these fundamental questions with the tools of psychological science. Students will learn about classic experiments in psychology, with the goal of getting a hands-on, experiential understanding of how people work and how psychologists study them. They will explore social dynamics; emotions; personality; mental illness; the nature of beliefs; neuroscience; and the relationship between the mind, brain, and body. As a capstone project, they will construct their own miniature psychology theory, design/run an experiment to test it, and present findings to the class.

Excursions

This past summer, students toured both Harvard University and the USC Dana & David Dornsife Cognitive Neuroscience Imaging Center to see an fMRI machine and how it functions. Students in San Diego were able to visit The Brain Observatory and see a real human brain. In Boston, students have visited a biofeedback clinic where clinicians used insights from psychology to further their work. Guest speakers included the Director of Harvard's Moral Psychology Research Laboratory, a Cognitive Psychology professor from UCLA, and a People Analyst from Google. In New York, students received a behind-the-scenes tour of the psychology lab at NYU. They witnessed an MRI scan and participated in a research study. At Duke, students visited the Department of Psychiatry & Bowles Center for Alcohol Studies at University of North Carolina. Students built DIY microscopes, went on a lab tour, and learned how equipment can be used to slice brain tissue while holding different brains. Students in Berkeley participated in a workshop at Creative Minds, a community arts for brain health initiative for the Global Brain Health Institute. In Seattle, students toured various labs on UW's campus and had the opportunity to visit the Allen Institute, a significant brain research center in the city.

Instructors

UCSD – Dr. Seraphina Solders

Dr. Seraphina Solders is a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Neurosciences Department at UC San Diego. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Biology with the Honors Minor in Interdisciplinary Studies from San Diego State University (SDSU), and her Ph.D. in Neurosciences from UCSD. Her current research focuses on the role of the blood-brain barrier in aging and its contributions to Alzheimer's disease risk.

Duke - Dr. Hope Peterson-Sockwell

Hope Peterson-Sockwell is a postdoctoral research associate at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She earned her B.A. in Psychology, M.S. in Biomedical Sciences, and Ph.D. in Neuroscience from Wake Forest University. Her research focuses on building brain networks from functional MRI data and studying how different populations change brain states during cognitive tasks. She has taught psychology, biological psychology, and neuroscience at multiple universities and is active in scientific outreach, including organizing the Triangle Brain Bee and bringing neuroscience lessons to local classrooms. Hope is passionate about hands-on, engaging learning and creating inclusive STEM spaces, and she looks forward to working with students eager to explore how the brain shapes behavior.

TBA - Barnard/Columbia University, Berkeley, UCLA, University of Washington

Courses are taught by accomplished and passionate faculty recruited from many area colleges, universities and professional forums. Each faculty member is selected for their subject area expertise and proven ability to both challenge and captivate students.

Course Structure

There are nine 3-hour class sessions over the two-week course. During week one, students have class from 9am-12pm, Monday - Friday. During the week two students have class from 9am-12pm Monday through Thursday. Wednesday afternoons are dedicated to additional academic time (excursions, speakers).

2026 Dates

Barnard College, Columbia University ($5,998)
- Session 1: July 5 - July 17
- Session 2: July 19 - July 31

Berkeley ($5,998)
- Session 1: June 14 - June 26
- Session 3: June 28 - July 10
- Session 5: July 12 - July 24

Duke ($5,798)
- Session 1: June 28 - July 10
- Session 2: July 12 - July 24

UCLA ($6,298)
- Session 1: June 21 - July 3
- Session 2: July 5 - July 17
- Session 3: July 19 - July 31

UC San Diego ($5,998)
- Session 1: June 28 - July 10
- Session 2: July 12 - July 24
- Session 3: July 26 - August 7

University of Washington ($5,798)
- Session 1: July 26 - August 7

Tuition Information:

Residential Students:

- **Includes:** all meals, lodging, excursions, academic course, weekend excursions
- **Excludes**: optional airport pickup and drop off service (available for an additional fee)
- **Price**: See prices under 2026 dates.

Commuter Students:

- **Includes:** lunch, academic course, excursions, programming from 9am to 5pm, Monday-Friday
- **Excludes:** lodging, breakfast, dinner, weekend excursions
  - Weekend excursions can be added on for $125 per day
- **Prices:**
  - **$3,298:** Barnard College, Columbia University, Berkeley, UCLA, + UC San Diego
  - **$2,998**: Duke + University of Washington

Typical Schedule

8AM	Breakfast
9AM	Academic Course / Commuter Student Arrival
12PM	Lunch
1:30PM	Academic Excursions or Recreational Activity
3:30PM	College Readiness Workshop or True You
5PM-6:30PM	Commuter Student Departure
6PM	Dinner
7PM	Clubs
10:30PM	Night Checks

Supplements:

- **Application fee**: Starting at $99 (mandatory, non-refundable)
- **Tuition Protection Plan**: Allows for cancellation for any reason up until the day of the program. Click here for more info.

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