

Psychology Department

Since the establishment of the Psychology Department at the Faculty of Arts in Derna in (1996-1997 AD) and in Al-Qubba in (2001-2002 AD), it was a division within the Behavioral Sciences Department. The university was named Omar Al-Mukhtar University when the department was opened. Until the year (2023-2024 AD), (23) cohorts have graduated, with a total of (568) students (113 males and 487 females). It is one of many humanistic and scientific disciplines, and it aims to prepare specialists in understanding, interpreting, organizing, and controlling individual behavior. It specializes in studying the human psyche, its movements and actions, attempting to interpret and understand it, and knowing its essence, secrets, desires, motives, and aspirations. The goal is to develop scientific methods that help in modifying and correcting its shortcomings, treating its problems and disorders, and enhancing its positives and strengths. It also aims to prepare and qualify specialists in psychology, conduct field and theoretical studies and research by faculty members in the field of developing services provided to specialists in psychology and mental health, and contribute to raising the level of mental health for university students through psychological, academic, and professional counseling provided by department members.

Department Vision:

The department seeks to become one of the best centers for professional development in the field of psychological services. It also seeks to contribute to sustainable human development by graduating psychologically qualified specialists scientifically and professionally to work in schools, hospitals, family courts, social welfare institutions, prisons, factories, companies, etc. The Psychology Department aspires to become a leader at the local level in preparing psychological specialists and researchers, providing psychological and research consultations, and preparing scientific studies in the specialization with the aim of advancing academic knowledge and skills in the college community, scientific research, and community service, and developing work mechanisms in line with modern developments in the fields of psychological studies, in light of national and international standards for quality assurance and performance improvement.

Department Mission:

The mission of the Psychology Department focuses on preparing qualified psychological specialists to meet the needs of society. The department also aspires to develop a developmental plan to promote public awareness of psychological services with a scientific and professional methodology, develop qualified human resources

capable of serving the community, and prepare qualified personnel in the field of applied psychological sciences.

Department Objectives:

It is necessary to achieve a set of important goals to build an integrated study of the psyche and its characteristics. Among the most important goals that psychology seeks to achieve are understanding individual behavior and actions, understanding individual phenomena in behavior and interpreting them correctly, to reach a scientific and accurate explanation of the individual's personality, understanding it, and revealing its strengths and weaknesses. In other words, helping the individual to understand themselves and the people around them.

Through its programs, the department aims to achieve the following objectives:

- Granting a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology.
- Enabling outstanding students who wish to pursue their higher studies in psychology.
- Providing students with the necessary psychological knowledge for their practical lives.
- Preparing psychological specialists in institutions that provide services in the psychological and social fields and care for people with special needs.
- Providing students with the theoretical and applied aspects of various learning and psychological counseling domains.
- Disseminating contemporary psychological thought and modern psychological experiments to serve the advancement of the teaching and learning process.
- Providing specialized consultations in the fields in which the department¹ operates to governmental and private entities. Department members also deliver public lectures based on invitations from various organizations.
- Developing measurement and evaluation methods, creating and constructing psychological achievement tests at the university.
- Developing research and counseling services so that the department becomes a distinguished center among psychology departments locally and internationally.
- Providing a comprehensive and contemporary vision and an integrated analysis of psychological theories and modern trends explaining behavior, learning, the formation of human personality, and its various applications.
- Actively contributing to scientific research in the field of psychology by conducting psychological studies and research that contribute to the interpretation and treatment of psychological problems and other psychological phenomena, and preparing researchers in this field. Additionally, qualifying excellent researchers to continue scientific research capable of addressing and

solving community problems in the field of psychology using the principles of knowledge and advanced and accurate research methods.

- Providing psychological counseling services to college and university students and members of the external community.
- Achieving integration and coordination between academic departments by developing well-considered research plans and projects in urgent and applicable research areas that lead to full integration with private and non-profit institutions and link the labor market with scientific research.
- Adopting modern methods and tools, following pioneering experiments, and the latest discoveries when conducting scientific research to address the reality and needs of Libyan society, and studying the dimensions related to the development of all aspects and requirements of this development, the obstacles that stand in its way, and ways to overcome them.

Future Objectives:

The department aspires to prepare and adopt a scientific conference specific to its field of specialization and all new developments within its research scope, to be held at a known, specific, and fixed time interval. The department also aspires to establish a scientific journal specialized in psychological and educational studies that addresses the psychological, educational, and social problems that society suffers from.

Department Graduate:

The department prepares graduates to work in institutions that provide psychological services such as hospitals, schools, courts, family services, factories, companies, etc. When a student graduates from the department, they will be able to:

- Assess human behavior, interpret it, and understand its causes and consequences.
- Use psychological knowledge in clinical psychological diagnosis in mental health institutions.
- Help individuals regain psychosocial adjustment.
- Employ their skills in assessment, understanding, and intervention when assigned tasks of vocational selection, guidance, and training in various work institutions.
- Employ their skills to help overcome any problem faced by any institution.

Academic Program:

Since its establishment, the department has offered a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology after students complete four academic years with an average of approximately (47) courses and about (130) credit hours. The curriculum focuses on

providing students with the theoretical knowledge and practical skills necessary to qualify psychological specialists according to the latest standards and levels. Therefore, the study plan and guidance have been developed to align with the latest scientific developments in preparing psychology students for the bachelor's stage and to strengthen the scientific and training aspects.

Work Destinations for Department Graduates:

- Psychological specialists in schools and kindergartens.
- Psychological specialists in universities and research centers.
- Psychological specialists in judicial bodies and family courts.
- Psychological specialists in psychiatric hospitals and speech therapy centers.
- Psychological specialists in elderly care homes, orphanages, intellectual disability care homes, and other special needs categories.
- Psychological specialists in companies and factories.
- Psychological specialists in national security.
- Psychological specialists in the Solidarity Fund and guarantee institutions.