

Megan, Consultant – Evaluation Specialist
Graduated: 2008, B.A. (Honours) - Psychology
Income: > \$125,000 per year

When most people think of a psychology degree they think of the traditional skill sets associated with mental health, social work, and maybe marketing. However, for me, the most important skill set gained was subtler: Data. Psychology is about gathering, analyzing, interpreting, and then applying the results of data. This is a skill set not every degree prepares you with and fortunately, a skill set that many companies are looking for. To capitalize on this, I founded a consulting company to help organizations manage data based on the knowledge I gained while pursuing my psychology degree. Examples of our work include designing event evaluation forms, creating knowledge tests for online learning modules, and developing focus-group activities for a marketing company. I've worked in oil and gas, marketing, and with non-profits. My psychology degree allows me to combine my love of analytics with the practical knowledge of how to apply these analytics to the real world. Every day I get to apply these skills while building my own company. My advice to any new or current psychology students is to focus on the more subtle skills a psychology degree offers- data management, listening skills, critical analysis of literature, formal report writing- and then leverage these skills in an area you are passionate about, whether it is helping individuals, helping companies, or advising policy.

Victor, Addictions Counselor – Social Worker
Graduated: 2007, B.A. (Honours) - Psychology
Income: \$25,000-\$50,000 per year

My job includes teaching classes, facilitating group therapy and one-on-one therapy sessions. I also network and liaison with many outside agencies such as corrections Canada. To begin when I attained my interview It required a series of essay like tests around counseling techniques etc. Though in my degree I hadn't come across the specific terms such as Motivational Interviewing which is something oft taught in social work or counseling courses I had developed the skills to infer what such a term likely entailed in practice. The clientele I work with largely possess co-occurring disorders and the knowledge I possess around personality disorders, schizophrenia, depression and anxiety disorders has proved invaluable. In University Dr. Morry was my advisor and the work I did with her in the area of dating relationships has also proven to be most valuable in my job as codependency and unhealthy relationships are everywhere with my clients. The most important part about being a counselor is rapport with the client and to this end I have used bits of all the courses I have ever taken to better relate to the client and build trust. Lastly I must say, the experiences I had taking part in the U of W undergrad Psych conference (I did it 3 years in row) and the presenting of my Thesis were extremely valuable in preparing me for teaching classes/workshops. In closing I will say to future students that the most important lesson I learned is that everything you learn is valuable BUT it's how you use it that makes the difference. My electives included courses from Literature, Philosophy, Anthropology, Religion, Chemistry and I have found it all useful. I ran into a past client a few months ago who said to me I was the only counselor he could discuss string theory with. That may seem irrelevant but through that we built a rapport which created trust and allowed me to use my psych knowledge to help him. He is still doing well today.

Angela, Director – Social Services
Graduated: 2007, General B.A. - Psychology
Income: < \$25,000 per year

After many years of working on social services and some time working as a social worker I developed some new programs supporting youth and children with mental health concerns. I created a new company and for months have been enjoying filling in the gaps of the system and providing these programs for free.

Anonymous, Manager - SAP Strategy and Process Improvement
Graduated: 2006, B.A. (Honours) - Psychology
Income: \$75,000 - \$100,000 per year

After finishing my BA (Honours), I continued on to get my Masters in Applied Science with a focus in Industrial and Organizational Psychology. After graduation I was hired to implement a new system. Part of the job requirements was to train all the staff on the new system. My background in Training and Development as part of my masters was a great asset in getting this position.

Sinah, Copywriter - Advertising
Graduated: 2009, B.A. (Honours) - Psychology
Income: \$25,000 - \$50,000 per year

The research aspect has been instrumental towards my career that involves finding in-depth information for the product we are working on. The lively discussions that went on until the evening during my last year at university opened up a different method of thinking. This proves to be of immense use when we have to put ourselves in the perspective of the client, the consumers & stakeholders. Advertising does demand creativity, but it also demands an analytical approach. Having a combination of these two and the time spent working in a conducive work environment will make the experience worthwhile. Thanks to all the professors, lecturers & T.A.s.

Samantha, Manager - SAP Strategy and Process Improvement
Graduated: 2009, General B.A. - Psychology
Income: \$75,000 - \$100,000 per year

I believe that my Psychology degree was of great benefit towards my Nursing degree and consequently my Nursing career. Dealing with patients from all growth and development stages I first learned about through my psych degree. I believe I would not have done well in nursing school without my psychology degree.

Gord, Psychotherapist
Graduated: 2007, Advanced Major B.A. - Psychology
Income: < \$25,000 per year

I do contract work 1 day per week with an agency, one of the very few that serve men who have been sexually abused. This agency is currently transitioning from nonprofit to fee for service agency. Thanks Mr. Harper for all your cutbacks! I also have a small private practice three days a week. This is my 3rd career and my slow withdrawal into retirement. I did not complete my masters at the UofM but the Undergrad degree I received there certainly paved the way for my admittance into a master's program. Thanks UofM!!!! I was able to complete my Undergrad Degree totally on line. This was of great benefit because I had to move to three different provinces, during that time, because of my previous career. I cannot say enough about the support I received through the Military Support Office at UofM. They understood my situation and went the extra mile(s) to ensure that I got the courses so that I could graduate without undue delay. My personal feeling is that the military made a big mistake when it discontinued its relationship with UofM. In my current employment, psychotherapist, the courses, including electives, have served me and my clients well. Thanks to these courses I am able to understand and assist my clients in more ways than I could have imagined. Many thanks...Megawich.