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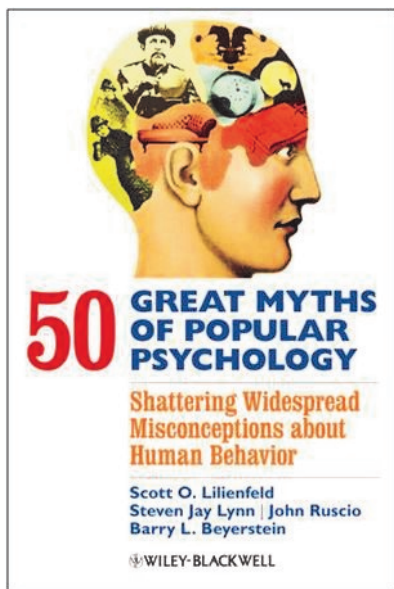
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The Synapse

**YOUR CONNECTION TO THE PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT AT
THE COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY**

Welcome to the eighth edition of the Psychology Department Student Newsletter. We hope this newsletter serves as a helpful resource in providing you with important information about Departmental events and topics of interest within Psychology.

50 Great Myths of Popular Psychology



Recently, our very own **Dr. John Ruscio** coauthored the book *50 Great Myths of Popular Psychology*. The book examines commonly-held beliefs about psychology spanning all major subdisciplines in the field. After reviewing the origins of each myth and documenting its popularity, empirical evidence is presented that challenges one or more misconceptions. Some "myths" appear to be entirely false, others contain a "kernel of truth" that is overgeneralized or misunderstood.

Interesting Psychology Fact...

An article published in the April 16th issue of *Science* is turning heads about the way our brains process when we try to multi-task. The new study claims that when we do two separate but related things at once, each hemisphere takes on one of the tasks to process. People find it difficult to do more than two things at once because they run out of hemispheres to process the different activities! Although there is a lot of research that still needs to be done and some neuroscientists are reluctant to be convinced, this study provides exciting new insight onto how our brains divvy up processing and task execution!

<http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/abstract/328/5976/360>

<http://news.sciencemag.org/sciencenow/2010/04/multitasking-splits-the-brain.html>

Frequently Asked Questions

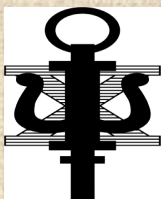
Q: My friend wants to be a Psychology Major as well, how do they go about changing their major?

A: We have a new process where you must apply to the major. The application process for this fall is closed. Applying in the spring is open from February 10th to February 22nd. Check the Psychology homepage during that time for more information.

Q: I am interested in doing research with a faculty member, how do I do that?

A: To check out all the labs that the Psychology Department has, go to <http://psychology.department.tcnj.edu/facilities.html>. If there is a specific lab you are interested in joining, the lab's website should provide information on how to apply to become a research assistant. And of course—email the professor that runs the lab!

Club Corner Psi Chi and Psych Club



Psi Chi is the National Honor Society in Psychology. The officers this year are:

President: Bobby Melloy
Vice-President: Hope Fine
Secretary: Christine Wolfe
Treasurer: Luis Guillen

For more information visit:
www.tcnj.edu/~psichi

The Psychology Club meets every other Wednesday at 1:00pm in Social Sciences 130. Get involved in opportunities to enhance your understanding and appreciation of Psychology through social and educational activities.

For more information visit:
<http://www.tcnj.edu/~psychclub/>

Student Highlights



This past spring, two students were awarded scholarships from the department. **Elizabeth Ayad**, senior, (pictured to the left) received the Marshall P. Smith Scholarship for her outstanding academics, commitment to a career in psychology, and participation in psychology-related activities outside of the classroom. This year, she is doing her senior thesis in Dr. Chung's REACH lab.

Elizabeth is applying to PhD programs in Clinical and School Psychology. Another senior, **Hope Fine**, was awarded the Laurie Mandara Scholarship for her academic excellence and her dedication to community service. Hope is completing her thesis in Dr. Bireta's Memory and Aging lab and participates in the ERP lab. Upon graduation, she intends to go to graduate school for either Cognitive Psychology or Cognitive Neuroscience.

Congratulations to both students for receiving these honors!



Mark Your Calendars

—NOVEMBER—

- 11/2** - Ice Cream and Movie Night with Psych Club
9pm in the TW link—Movie: The Secret Window
- 11/8** - Spring and Summer 2011 Registration Begins
- 11/10** - Kaplan Speaker @ Psych Club Meeting
1pm in SSB 130—Come learn about the grad school application process!
- 11/11** - "There's a place for us: Immigrant identity and political action"
Dr. Wiley, 11:30am-12:30pm Business School Lounge
- 11/17** - Forensic psychologist - 12PM SSB130 (Talk about the career field and graduate school)
- 12/1** - Deb Kelly from Career Services - 12PM SSB130 (Resume Writing & Interview Tips Workshop)



TCNJ Psychology Dept
Social Sciences Building
Main Office, Room 109
<http://psychology.department.tcnj.edu>

Internship/Fellowship Opportunities

HIS Journalism Internship Program
-paid
-apply by November 15th for spring,
by January 31st for summer

Website: www.TheIHS.org/journalism

Public Policy Internships
-paid
-over 100 locations across the US
-apply by January 31st for summer

Website: www.TheIHS.org/publicpolicy

Humane Studies Fellowships
-awards of up to \$15000
-apply by December 31st

Website: www.TheIHS.org/hsf

For detailed descriptions, visit:
<http://psychology.department.tcnj.edu/scholarships.html>