What did I do with my Psychology major?

What is your primary discipline/field?

Neuroscientist

Was Psychology your undergraduate major?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

What degree is required (or most typical) for your job?

Ph.D./Psy.D.

What is your primary work setting?

Hospital or medical school

In just a few words, how would you describe your job? What are the primary activities you engage in?

Postdoctoral research fellow in molecular neurophysiology at UNC School of Medicine. I do bench science combined with behavioral studies to examine the mechanisms in the brain by which chronic stress and alcohol drinking contribute to negative outcomes, such as alcoholism, anxiety, and depression.

Can you guesstimate about what percentage of your work time you spend engaged in each of the following activities?

Research?	Teaching	Practice: Assessment	Practice: Therapy	Consultation or Administration
100				

What makes your field most unique from some of the other fields on the list above?

Much more basic science. I studied behavior, then systems/circuits in the brain, and now I combine these approaches with very molecular research to study mechanisms of behavior.

What other non-psychology-related activities does your job entail that you did not expect? For instance, does your job include accounting, personnel management, business administration, clerical work, or other activities?

A big part of my job is writing grants for federal funding of my research. This requires both accounting/budgeting expertise, as well as strong writing, time management, and organization skills that do not seem inherent to being a scientist.

What is the BEST thing about your field? What would you tell a college student to encourage them to enter your field?

Intellectual independence.

What is your LEAST FAVORITE thing about your field? What would you tell a college student to DISCOURAGE them to enter?

Employment is dependent on successful grants, which is stressful and difficult to maintain!

(Optional) What is your age?

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(Optional) If you would like students to contact you with questions, please list your email below