What did I do with my Psychology major?

What is your primary discipline/field?

Cognitive psychologist

Was Psychology your undergraduate major?

- [x] Yes
- [ ] No

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

Ph.D./Psy.D.

What is your primary work setting?

University

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

Research, Teaching, Administration, journal editing

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
50	30			20

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

The combination of foci on using empirical data to shed light on our understanding of the mind and brain (though this is really true of experimental psychology more generally).

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?

Based on my graduate-school training, there were no big surprises about what was required. Perhaps the degree of personnel management and administration was a bit more than expected.

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

I get a lot of satisfaction from figuring out the best explanations for a particular phenomenon I am investigating. I also enjoy the continual new learning that is a regular part of my job. As a journal editor, it is fun to have a hand in shaping the direction of my sub area of psychology.

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

Actually, I enjoy most elements of my job (it is a fortunate situation). The only discouraging aspect of the field is the paucity of positions at research universities. This is a very important reason for hesitating before jumping into this career.

(Optional) What is your age?

49

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

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