What did I do with my Psychology major?

What is your primary discipline/field?

Developmental psychologist

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?

University

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

I am a professor in a School of Public Policy. I conduct applied research on the effects of poverty and social policies on children and families. I teach undergraduate public policy majors, Masters of Public Policy students, and public policy PhD students.

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	50			

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

I interact across disciplinary lines , including with economists, sociologists and researchers trained in public health. We are usually brought together by a goal of better understanding a important social problem and seek ways of researching that problem using the tools of multiple disciplines.

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?

When I get a grant, I am ultimately responsible for making sure the funds are properly spent, which involves some very basic accounting and some administrative work.

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

Conducting research that has real-world implications. The goal is for the results of my work to lead to improvements in the lives of low-income children. This field is deeply engaged with the world outside of academia.

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

Interdisciplinary work can be challenging. It takes more time to successfully collaborate with researchers whose training varied from your own.

(Optional) What is your age?

36

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