

College of Contemporary Psychology

The aim of the College of Contemporary Psychology is to explore the essence of humanity amid the various environments that surround us in contemporary society. The mind and body are deeply interrelated and mutually supportive. They are also constantly engaged with, and affected by, the vast social and natural environment. Within the context of this interrelationship between mind, body, and environment, the College of Contemporary Psychology aims to determine the essence of humanity by searching out new forms of knowledge that integrate philosophy, science, and the arts. We now live in an age beset by various problems of the mind and spirit. There is a desperate need for wisdom capable of correctly guiding wavering hearts and minds. The recent heightened awareness worldwide of the body seems to indicate that our modern civilization is beginning to feel the need to take a close look at the mind and its profound relationship with the body. Amid this global trend, the College of Contemporary Psychology regards the study of the mind in the same light as the study of the body, and is developing a new field of human studies based on an environment that allows the mind and body to coexist. The College also explores the world of visual expression, which is believed to have a significant impact on the mind and body. No academic discipline has sufficiently studied the historic changes that humankind has undergone through the influence of images since the beginning of the twentieth century. The College pursues this subject of visual expression, which has had an immeasurable impact on the perceptions and sensitivities of people in contemporary society, through exploring such media as cinema, television, computer-generated images, and photography. The new field of human studies created by the College will also seriously examine these issues.

Human Beings as the Mutual Formation of Mind, Body, and Environment

The College of Contemporary Psychology is comprised of two departments: the Department of Psychology and the Department of Body Expression and Cinematic Arts. Both departments share a philosophy that perceives human beings as a mutual formation of mind, body, and environment. The College has prepared a course group (integrated developmental courses) designed to concentrate this philosophy for learning common to both departments.

Emphasizing Experience, Output, and Performance

The College of Contemporary Psychology deepens knowledge and provides training for discovering personal problems based on an integration of philosophy, science, and art. This is arranged concurrently with personal experience-style classes (workshops) that incorporate psychology experimentation, creative visual expression, and practical body techniques.

Introducing New Solutions to Modern Challenges in a Multifaceted Manner

Each year the College of Contemporary Psychology introduces various challenges from various perspectives concerning mind, body, and visual expression that the modern world faces. This is coordinated by lectures given by a diverse range of professors who propose original solutions to these challenges.

Fostering Open Technical Abilities and Sensibilities in the Real World

The College aims to cultivate in students a practical sensitivity to the events of the real world by providing students with opportunities to conduct fieldwork and participate in collaborative programs with companies, as well as by offering them other initiatives. Furthermore, it is our aim to develop in them basic technical abilities that are conducive to their selection of a future occupation.

Department of Psychology

Comprehensive Studies Covering a Broad Field

Psychology is an experimental science, a field of study closely associated with everyday life, and a discipline that pursues the meaning of human existence. The Department of Psychology offers students comprehensive studies covering a broad range of psychological fields, that include basic, applied, and clinical psychology, as well as interdisciplinary fields.

Approach to Contemporary Issues Regarding the Body and Visual Expression

The Department, in collaboration with the Department of Body Expression and Cinematic Arts, explores such contemporary issues as the relationship between the body and the workings of the mind, the human recognition system, and the significance of an environment of machine-generated expression.

Focusing on the Cutting Edge of Our Times

Lectures are offered that delve into such cutting-edge topics as artificial intelligence, psychological mechanisms regarding the family and school, and Internet-based human relations.

Establishing Individual Research Plans through Early Specialized Education

Specialized education begins in a student's first year, with courses offered in fundamental precepts and techniques of basic psychology. Students in their second year begin taking subjects that cover special themes and various contemporary issues from a broad

perspective. The faculty offers meticulous guidance to enable students from early on to establish their respective research plans at their own initiative.

Commitment to Education in Small-Sized Classes

In classes such as Practice in Experiments and Surveys and seminars, which are taught exclusively in small-sized environments, students acquire specialized knowledge and skills that can be useful for their future careers in fields such as product development, support for the handicapped, and interpersonal relations. Students showing promise as researchers or clinicians are encouraged to advance to graduate school (Graduate Degree Program in Psychology or Graduate Degree Program in Clinical Psychology).

Department of Body Expression and Cinematic Arts

Studying Physical and Visual Expression Simultaneously

All students in the Department are introduced to the basics of physical and visual expression. In visual expression, the body is depicted and those depictions are in turn perceived through physical means. The view held by the Department of Body Expression and Cinematic Arts is that physical and visual expression are inseparable.

Studying Theory in Tandem with Practice

Students in the Department study theory and philosophy on the body in tandem with the basics of artistic expressions that rely on the physical, such as dance and theater. Students study theories and philosophies on visual expression in tandem with such practical activities as filming and editing digital cinema. Intensive hands-on experiences support the theoretical work.

Absorbing a Sense of the Real World with Front-line Professionals

Among the faculty of the Department are professionals who have earned international reputations through activities in the non-academic world, as well as experts who are active at the front lines of their fields. Students have the opportunity to engage in profound thought and experience as they work with these faculty members, and absorb a sense of the real world and its creativity.

The Three Mainstays: Lectures, Seminars, and Workshops

In lecture, students study various theories and philosophies from around the world regarding the body and visual expression. They also learn new perspectives on how to reorganize these ideas. Seminars are conducted in small classes in which students engage in such activities as analysing texts, as well as writing critiques, scenarios, and proposals. In workshops, students make use of facilities such as a film studio, a preview room, or a loft, to carry out filming of digital cinema, photography, dance, theater, and

Asian body techniques. These three closely-knit mainstays develop and nurture new active types of intelligence.

Academic Advisor System and Graduation Thesis/Project

All full-time faculty members also act as academic advisors, providing each student with meticulous advice and consultation regarding such matters as schoolwork and career paths, as well as guidance through the completion of graduation theses or graduation project. Under the guidance of the faculty, with their extensive experience of creation and production in the working world, students are able to enhance their skills and gain an awareness of their future careers.