

So You Want to Be a Psychology Major

LCCC Career Exploration Podcast

Music:	00:05	[Music]
Janet Maltbie:	00:06	From the campus of Lorain County Community College. This is the career exploration podcast on college radio, heard round the world LCCRadio.com the Boom. My name is Janet Maltbie. We explore careers, college majors and more so you can be a success here on the LCCC campus and beyond. I believe completing a degree, pursuing passionate work and debt free living is key to your future. I'm here to help you on your journey and so are my guests. Today in our program. My special guests are Dr. Vince Granito and Julie Ford and our topic of conversation is, So you want to complete a degree in psychology. This is the first part of a two part series. In part two we will be discussing with academic advisor, Julie Ford, the specific steps you will need to take if you decide majoring in psychology is right for you. I hope you'll join us for that program.
Janet Maltbie:	00:56	But right now we'll be hearing from Dr. Vince Granito who has been a professor of psychology at Lorain County Community College since 2004. He has won numerous awards and is a favorite instructor with many of our students. And he is the head coach of our women's basketball team. He teaches many of our psychology courses on campus and is well versed on many of the careers you can pursue in the field of psychology. Welcome to the program, Vince and Julie.
Dr. Granito:	01:24	Thanks.
Julie Ford:	01:25	Thank you.
Janet Maltbie:	01:26	Vince, I want to take you back to the time that you were an undergraduate student and you were trying to decide on whether or not psychology was what you wanted to do. Take us back to how you were thinking about that and how you eventually made that decision.
Dr. Granito:	01:42	Okay. So I'm a little bit different because I think a lot of times students that go into college aren't 100% sure what they want to do. So I had learned in high school about this new up and coming field of sports psychology. So it was you know, something that would be beneficial for coaches, athletes. I was an athlete myself in high school. I played both basketball and

football played football in college. And so because of that, I was really interested in, in this particular area.

- Janet Maltbie: [02:17](#) That's not typical for psychology students. Right, right.
- Dr. Granito: [02:21](#) Yeah. So one of the things that I always try to emphasize with, with the, with the psychology students is that psychology really can be paired with a number of different areas. I tell students that, I've seen a lot of research out there that shows that a psychology undergraduate major is one of the most popular majors in the country.
- Dr. Granito: [02:40](#) But even more so of psychology minor is just as popular. And so I'll get a lot of students who say, you know, I want to be an accountant, but I'm really interested in some of the psychology stuff. I say, well then get your bachelor's degree in accounting, but then maybe minor in psychology. And I said, you don't understand how much more marketable that's gonna make you.
- Janet Maltbie: [03:02](#) What you did. What I find to be really interesting is, is that you took an area of interest so a student could come in and they have an area of interest of, well, take example, nursing for instance, within the nursing field that is so broad, right? That you could go into, you know, doing that as a psychiatric nurse. Right? And combining those two.
- Dr. Granito: [03:22](#) Yeah. So if you look at the American Psychological Association, which is the main organization that oversees a lot of the psychology stuff, they have, I believe it's up to 56 different divisions now. Each division is a different specialty within the area. So somebody was interested in nursing, there's a whole area of psychology called health psychology, which specifically looks at how the things that happen within the mind, within the brain behavior and those types of things, how that affects our health and how that affects some of those, those issues.
- Janet Maltbie: [03:55](#) So there's a lot of students that would benefit regardless of what major.
- Dr. Granito: [03:58](#) Right, Right.
- Janet Maltbie: [03:59](#) You do a psychology fair every fall. And can you talk a little bit about that?
- Dr. Granito: [04:05](#) Yeah, so we do it. It's a typically the second week in October. And what we do is we try to expose students as much as possible to some of the different areas in psychology, first of all.

So I go in, I usually talk about sports psychology, a Dr. Foust, one of our other full time faculty members here. Her specialization is industrial organizational psychology. So she goes in and would talk a little bit about what an industrial organizational psychologist would do. We have people who come in that work as school counselors and so they come in and talk a little bit about the work that they do. But then what we do is we also have speakers come in and talk a little bit about what it takes to be able to get into grad school. What are some of the things that you might have to think about if you're thinking about going on in, into grad school? We've even had presenters come in and talk a little bit about what are some of the types of jobs that you can get if you decide only to go on and get your bachelor's degree. Because I know students are always concerned if they go on and get a bachelor's degree are their occupations, are there jobs out there?

Dr. Granito:

[05:07](#)

Um, probably not in the typical thing that people would think of in terms of psychology, you know, in terms of being a psychologist and working with clients and patients and things like that. But there are a wide range because of the fact that psychology focuses on, like you said, a lot of these soft skills, there are wide range of areas that people can be able to get jobs in. And we've had several, several graduates in the past who once they get their bachelor's degree, either through our partnership at Cleveland State or it's a several, several of the other local schools here in the, in the Northeastern Ohio area that have gone on and are working, you know, as managers in different places. We've had some people go into the legal field and doing some stuff where they're working for law firms and things like that. Other people go in and work consultants for businesses and those types of things. So there's a wide range of things that people can do with, you know, with a bachelor's degree.

Janet Maltbie:

[06:05](#)

Right. I think some people are concerned because as you know, people take out loans and then they graduate with a degree in psychology and they go, I, I just wasn't able to do anything with it. Well, I think part of that is because even during their undergraduate years, they're not really thinking about how can I apply this? What are my areas of interest? Much like what you did, right? Because they're not going to be able to go onto like these search engines and say, I want a job in psychology. Unless you're a psychologist, it's much different because if you're going to be like a nurse, you just put the plug in the word nurse, right? But if you put in the word psychology or psychologist, then you've got to have, oh my gosh, a PhD.

- Dr. Granito: [06:46](#) Right. The other thing that we do as part of that. So, so not only do we have people come in and talk a little bit about graduate school or we talk about, you know, occupations that you can get with a bachelor's degree. We bring a lot of our former students back who are in various stages of either going to graduate school or having a job with a bachelor's degree and talk a little bit about what their experiences were like. But the other key piece that we do with this, and we do this not only on that career day, but we do it through our classes, is because there's four of us that are full time in the psychology department over there. We take the names and contact information of all students that are interested in this. And what we do is we reach out to every single one of those students who say they'd like to have an advising appointment.
- Dr. Granito: [07:28](#) And when we talk to them, we talked to them specifically about what are their interest areas, what could be potential career areas. You know, the last couple of years, a big area that we have found have been people who come in who have an interest in art and they don't realize that here in Northeastern Ohio, over at Ursuline college, we have a master's program in art therapy that somebody could get involved with where you're taking that interest that you have in art and pairing it with psychology or students that have an interest in criminal justice. And so we've had a lot of people come out and talk about forensic psychology. The, the University of Findlay, which is here local in the area, has a master's program in forensic psychology that several of our graduates have, have, have gone to.
- Janet Maltbie: [08:15](#) So there's a lot of opportunities out there. And so a student that is thinking like right now, what can I do with psychology? I'm interested in it but, I'm not sure. And if they are coming onto the Lorain County Community College campus, perhaps for the first semester, a good thing for them to do is to, to meet with a faculty member.
- Speaker 3: [08:34](#) Yeah, so I would, I would suggest, you know, at least start off with one of the four full time faculty member, you know, either myself or Dr. Gonzalez, Dr. Jordan. Um you know, because I think we've sort of collected a lot of information about, you know, some of the, some of the different programs and things that are out there. Yeah, yeah.
- Janet Maltbie: [08:56](#) Vince Granito, thank you so much for being a part of this and letting the students know about the wonderful opportunities they have here. If they decide that or even if they're just curious about the psychology major.

Music: [09:12](#) [Inaudible]

Speaker 2: [09:13](#) If you would like more information on completing a degree in psychology through Lorain County Community College, please call (440) 366-4033 and ask to make an appointment to see an academic advisor today. Be sure to listen to our next podcast as we speak with academic advisor, Julie Ford, as we discussed the specific classes and steps you need to take to begin or advance your career in the field of psychology.

Music: [09:42](#) [Inaudible].

Janet Maltbie: [09:42](#) You've been listening to the career exploration podcast on LCCC radio.com the Boom. I'm Janet Maltbie. Thanks for listening.