

# Youth Scholars Institute

## 2010 Program

**TITLE:** General Psychology: Normal, Abnormal, & Paranormal Behavior

**INSTRUCTOR:** Lou Manza, PhD, Professor & Chair of Psychology

**DESCRIPTION:** Why do some people have 2 brains? Can subliminal messages influence our behavior? Is psychic ability, and ESP, real? Why do we remember certain events, but not others? How are people lured into cults? Why do some people view cheating as ethical? Are reports of alien abductions legitimate? Why do people develop psychological disorders? The general topic areas that will be explored in an attempt to answer the above, as well as other, questions will include neuropsychology, perceptual processes, memory, paranormal phenomena, motivational processes, social psychology, developmental psychology, psychological testing, and behavior disorders. Students will participate in a variety of interactive activities, including experiments illustrating behavioral principles and debates concerning controversial topics in psychology, all of which are aimed at making psychological principles come to life in the classroom. The goals of the program are to (a) give students an appreciation of how psychologists study human behavior, (b) show how psychology influences everyday life, (c) discuss career opportunities available in psychology, and (d) provide students with a snapshot of academic and social elements of college life.