

Department of Psychology
School of Social Sciences and Education

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Program Description

Psychology can be considered from a variety of perspectives, such as (1) a natural or biological science, (2) a behavioral or social science, (3) an applied or professional field, or (4) a set of experiential or humanistic concerns. This multi-perspective approach is best illustrated in the Mission and Goals statement of the department.

The requirements for the major expose the student to the broad range of perspectives, problems, methodologies, and bodies of knowledge found in contemporary psychology. We believe that this foundation provides for the development of relevant skills, behaviors, and attitudes necessary for diverse professional fields, especially those related to the human services.

All declared majors are expected to confer regularly with their faculty advisors to ensure that the selection of courses will be most appropriate for the student’s career goals. The goals and objectives of the BA in Psychology can be found at the department’s website.

Requirements for the Bachelor of Arts Degree with a Major in Psychology

Total Units Required to Graduate	120 units
Major Requirements	51 units
Prerequisites	12
Core Curriculum	39
General Education Requirements	53-56 units
First-Year Seminar	2
LD Area A Foundational Skills	12
LD Area B Natural Sciences	6
LD Area C Arts and Humanities	6
LD Area D Social and Behavioral Sciences	6*
American Institutions	6
SELF	3*
Junior Year Diversity Requirement	3*
UD Thematic Areas B and C	6
Capstone	3
GWAR (Exam) or Class	0-3**
Additional Units	13-16 units

*Some general education courses may double count as PSYC major requirements.

**GWAR may be satisfied with the exam or a class. Note: Grades in the Major Prerequisite courses are not included in the major GPA.

Note: One (1) semester unit of credit normally represents one hour of in-class work and 2-3 hours of outside study per week.

Requirements for the Major in Psychology

Prerequisites (12 units)

PSYC 1018*, 2018*, 2020, 2030

Note: Grades in the Major Prerequisite courses are not included in the major GPA.

Major Requirements (51 units)

1. Core Courses (6 units)
 PSYC 3110, 4900 or 4910
2. Four foundation courses. Two courses must be from Area “A” and two from Area “B” (12 units)
 - a. Area A
 PSYC 2230, 3210, 3220, 3240
 - b. Area B
 PSYC 2250, 3250, 3260, 3270, 3280
3. One advanced topic/laboratory experience, chosen from: PSYC 4210, 4220, 4230, 4240, 4250, 4260, 4270, 4280 (3 units)
4. PSYC 2110 or One additional Foundation/Laboratory course—take a second lab course or a third Foundation A course or a third Foundation B course (3 units)
5. Applications of psychology (3 units)
 PSYC 4810, 4820, 4860, 4870, 4880
6. A minimum of four elective courses in Psychology. Two of these may be lower division, and one may be Credit/No Credit. Two must be upper division, letter-graded courses (12 units)

Requirements for the Minor in Psychology

The minor in Psychology allows for an individually designed study of the discipline of Psychology. The minor consists of four or more letter-graded courses (12 semester units) in Psychology which must include the following: PSYC 1018; one foundation course (PSYC 2230, 2250, 3210, 3220, 3240, 3250, 3260, 3270, 3280); and two additional upper division Psychology courses. Courses proposed to fulfill the minor in Psychology must be approved by the Chair of the Department of Psychology.