

2021-22 Undergraduate Catalog Psychology BA

Curriculum Requirements

Psychology, (B.A.)

Program objectives for a B.A. in Psychology are: (a) describe the nature of psychology as a discipline; (b) use the concepts, language, and major theories of the discipline to account for psychological phenomena; (c) demonstrate knowledge and understanding representing appropriate breadth and depth in selected content areas of psychology; (d) describe the basic characteristics of the science of psychology; (e) explain different research methods used by psychologists; (f) design and conduct basic studies to address psychological questions using appropriate research methods; (g) evaluate the appropriateness of conclusions derived from psychological research; (h) generalize research conclusions appropriately based on the parameters of particular research methods; (i) follow the APA Code of Ethics in the treatment of human and nonhuman participants in the design, data collection, interpretation, and reporting of psychological research; (j) use critical thinking effectively; (k) use reasoning to recognize, develop, defend, and criticize arguments and other persuasive appeals; (l) approach problems effectively; (m) describe major applied areas of psychology (e.g., clinical, counseling, industrial/organizational, school, health); (n) identify appropriate applications of psychology in solving problems; (o) articulate how psychological principles can be used to explain social issues and inform public policy; (p) recognize the necessity for ethical behavior in all aspects of the science and practice of psychology; (q) recognize and understand the importance of academic integrity; (r) recognize and respect human diversity and understand that psychological explanations may vary across populations and contexts; (s) assess and justify engagement with respect to civic, social, and global responsibilities; (t) understand the limitations of psychological knowledge and skills.

University General Education Program (41 hours)

See Graduation from the University for the University General Education Program requirements.

College Degree and (B.A.) Requirements (6-9 hours)

The College and Bachelor of Arts requirements are in addition to the University General Education Program requirements and are listed above.

The Major (39 hours in Psychology)

Completion of

- PSYC 1030 - General Psychology
- PSYC 1300 - Careers in Psychology
- PSYC 3010 - Research and Statistics I
- PSYC 3020 - Research and Statistics II

PSYC 3010 and PSYC 3020 may only be repeated twice (taken three times) to earn a minimum grade of C-. No more than 9 upper division (3000/4000 level) psychology credit hours may be attempted prior to completion of PSYC 3010 with a grade of C- or better.

One Course from Each of the Three Content Areas Below:

Cognition and Physiological Psychology:

- PSYC 3303 - Thinking/Cognitive Processes
- PSYC 3304 - Perceptual Psychology
- PSYC 3305 Psyc Learning/Memory
- PSYC 3306 - Physiological Psyc
- PSYC 3307 - Animal Behavior · PSYC 3507 - Alcohol/Drugs/Behavior
- PSYC 3530 - Psychology of Language
- PSYC 4305 - Mind/Brain/Intelligence

Social, Cultural, and Developmental Psychology:

- PSYC 3030 – Multicultural Psychology
- PSYC 3101 – Psychology of Personality
- PSYC 3103 - Child Psychology · PSYC 3106 - Social Psychology
- PSYC 3108 – Positive Psychology
- PSYC 3236 - Psychology of Gender
- PSYC 3506 - Human Sexuality
- PSYC 3510 – Deviance/Role History
- PSYC 3601 – Psychology of Evil
- PSYC 4034 - Children Soc Relationships

Applied Psychology:

- PSYC 3102 – Abnormal Psychology
- PSYC 3508 - Indust/Organizatnl Psyc
- PSYC 3509 - Applying Psyc/Community · PSYC 3512 - Health Psychology
- PSYC 3518 – Psychology of Organizational Behavior
- PSYC 3520 - Legal/Forensic Psyc
- PSYC 4030 – Issues Psychotherapy Rsrch
- PSYC 4101 – History of Psychology
- PSYC 4102 - Abnormal Child Psych
- PSYC 4401 - Intro to Clinical Psychology
- PSYC 4507 - Psyc Internship

Psychology Field Test

All majors must take a Psychology Field Test during their senior year.

Concentrations (24 hours):

The department offers three concentrations: (a) General Psychology (b) Behavioral Neuroscience (c) Cognitive Science. Students must complete the requirements for one concentration.

General Psychology:

Completion of requirements above and at least 32 upper division hours in PSYC to bring the PSYC total to at least 39 hours .

Behavioral Neuroscience:

Completion of requirements above

- BIOL 1110 - General Biology I
- BIOL 1120 - General Biology II
- CHEM 1110 - General Chemistry I
- CHEM 1120 - General Chemistry II
- PSYC 3306 - Physiological Psyc
- PSYC 3507 - Alcohol/Drugs/Behavior
- PSYC 4505 - Special Prob/Behav Neurosci
- PSYC 4506 - Direct Rsch Behav Neuro
- PSYC 4997 - Senior Thesis/Behav Neurosci
- and at least 32 upper division hours in PSYC courses to bring their PSYC total to at least 39 hours,

Cognitive Science:

Completion of requirements above;

- PSYC 3303 - Thinking/Cognitive Processes

At Least One Course From Either

- PSYC 3103 - Child Psychology

or

- PSYC 3106 - Social Psychology

At Least Two Courses From:

- PSYC 3304 - Perceptual Psychology
- PSYC 3305 - Psyc Learning/Memory
- PSYC 3306 - Physiological Psyc
- PSYC 3530 - Psychology of Language
- PSYC 4305 - Mind/Brain/Intelligence
- PSYC 4998 - Sr Thesis/Cognitive Science

or

- PSYC 4999 - Honors Sr Thesis/Cognitive Sc

- and at least 32 additional upper division hours in PSYC courses to bring their PSYC total to at least 39 hours.

Students Choosing Cognitive Science Concentration

Students choosing Cognitive Science concentration must complete at least three of the following courses outside of psychology:

- PHIL 3460 - Nature/Mind/Knowledge
- PHIL 3621 - Intermediate Logic
- PHIL 4421 - Philosophy of Mind
- COMP 1800 - Problem Solving/Computers
- COMP 1900 - CS1:Intro Comp Science
- COMP 4001 - Computer Programming
- ENGL 3511 - Intro to Linguistics
- COMP 2700 - Discrete Structures

Electives

Electives may be chosen to bring the total number of hours to 120.

Honors Program

The Psychology Honors Program provides an opportunity for selected Psychology majors to enrich their learning experience through honors courses, independent study, a senior thesis, and extracurricular learning experiences. The program requires a minimum of 15 credit hours of honors work in psychology. Students who complete the program with a 3.25 cumulative grade point average will earn degrees that included the distinction “With Honors in Psychology.” Please contact the department honors coordinator for more detailed information about the Psychology Honors Program and assistance in applying. Psychology majors may also be eligible to participate in the University Honors Program described elsewhere in this bulletin. Some psychology honors courses may be counted toward the requirement of the University Honors Program.

Psychology Honors Classes. The honors courses described below are open only to students in good standing in the Psychology Honors Program or the University Honors Program. Honors courses in Psychology include: (1) PSYC 1030 (General Psychology - Honors). Students who wish to enroll in this course during their first year may do so either by meeting the requirements for the University Honors Program or by instructor permission; (2) periodically offered honors sections of other courses in the psychology curriculum; (3) specialized honors courses; (4) Honors Special Topics; (5) Directed Research and Senior Thesis.

Psychology Honors Contracts. Students may ask the instructor of any psychology course to negotiate an honors contract, in which the instructor and student agree on additional honor-level requirements for the course.

Psychology Honors Senior Thesis. Students ask a psychology faculty member to serve as adviser for PSYC 4996 - Honors Senior Thesis, typically completed during the student’s last semester. Before enrolling in PSYC 4996, the student should complete at least one semester of PSYC 4504 - Directed Research under the same faculty adviser who will oversee work in the honors thesis. Students specializing in Behavioral Neuroscience may choose to enroll in PSYC 4506 (Directed Research in Behavioral Neuroscience) and PSYC 4997 (Senior Thesis in Behavioral Neuroscience). The completed thesis is presented in writing and defended orally before a faculty committee.