

# Psychology

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Dr. Zella E. Moore  
Chair of the Department

The field of psychology involves a multidisciplinary commitment to the scientific understanding and improvement of human and animal functioning, and seeks to investigate behavioral, cognitive, and emotional processes associated with adaptive and maladaptive experience.

The Psychology Department offers a program that emphasizes both the humanistic and scientific aspects of psychology. The psychology major is designed for students:

1. Who desire to study and understand the human experience,
2. Who want to enter psychology as a profession, or
3. Who regard psychology as a liberal arts preparation for further training in the professions. In order to meet the diverse needs of students, the Psychology Department offers both a B.A. and a B.S. degree and an optional concentration in Industrial-Organizational Psychology. There is also a specific track for Education students concentrating in Psychology. These degrees and options are discussed in greater detail below.

The Psychology Department maintains five important goals, adapted from the guidelines of the American Psychological Association:

- **Goal 1: Knowledge Base.** Demonstrate fundamental knowledge and comprehension of the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, historical trends, and empirical findings to discuss how psychological principles apply to behavior and mental processes. This includes, but is not limited to, developing a working knowledge of psychology's content domains.
- **Goal 2: Scientific Inquiry and Critical Thinking.** Demonstrate scientific reasoning and problem solving, including effective research methods This includes, but is not limited to, using scientific reasoning to interpret psychological phenomena; interpreting, designing, and conducting basic psychological research; and demonstrating psychology information literacy..
- **Goal 3: Ethical and Social Responsibility in a Diverse World.** Adopt ethically and socially responsible behaviors for professional and personal settings in a landscape that involves increasing diversity. This includes, but is not limited to, applying ethical standards to evaluate and implement psychological science and practice.
- **Goal 4: Communication.** Demonstrate competence in writing and in oral and interpersonal communication skills through the use of discipline-specific language, critical thinking, and APA format.
- **Goal 5: Professional Development.** Apply psychology-specific content and skills, effective self-reflection, project-management skills, teamwork skills, and career preparation to develop a meaningful professional direction for life after graduation.

## Majors

Every student who wishes to declare a major in Psychology should consult with the Department Chair. Students must receive a minimum grade of C in a psychology course for the course to be credited to their major. Students who are considering graduate school should consult with faculty members during their junior year. All students interested in graduate study are advised to take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). As part of the department's outcomes assessment initiative, all psychology majors may be required to complete a standardized psychology achievement exam and/or senior exit survey during their senior year, as well as surveys measuring department and instructor effectiveness.

## Requirements for a Major in Psychology

All students must complete 30 credits in Psychology for a B.A., or 33 credits in Psychology for a B.S. The B.S. also requires several additional credits in science, as described below. Specific requirements for each degree are as follows:

### I. The Psychology Core

All psychology majors must complete the following four courses in this sequence, although they do not need to be completed in back-to-back semesters:

PSYC 150	Roots: Psychology	3
or PSYC 153	Roots: Psychology - FYS	
PSYC 214	Statistics and Research Methods I	3
PSYC 314	Statistics and Research Methods II	3
PSYC 414	Senior Capstone: Advanced Research Methods (senior year ONLY)	3

Note: For psychology majors, PSYC 150, 153, or 203 is a prerequisites to all 300- and 400-level courses.

### II. The Psychology Distribution

All Psychology majors must take one course from each of the following six areas:

Clinical Psychology/Personality Psychology		3
PSYC 421	Psychopathology	
PSYC 347	Theories of Personality	
Social Psychology/Applied Psychology		3
PSYC 321	Social Psychology	
PSYC 373	Industrial Psychology	
PSYC 374	Organizational Psychology	
Cognitive Neuroscience: Group A		3
PSYC 332	Artificial Psychology	
PSYC 333	Motivation and Emotion	
PSYC 340	Cognition and Learning	

Cognitive Neuroscience: Group B		3
PSYC 435	Physiological Psychology	
PSYC 467	Sensation and Perception	
Developmental Psychology		3
PSYC 334	Lifespan Development	
PSYC 345	Psychology of Childhood	
PSYC 346	Psychology of Adolescence	
One Elective in Psychology		3
Students will choose one elective from all PSYC courses offered		

### Additional requirements for a 33-credit B.S. in Psychology

In addition to the requirement above, students seeking a B.S. in Psychology must complete the following requirements:

Permission of the Chairperson of Psychology to enter the B.S. program or a math SAT score of at least 600.

Take one additional course in either Cognitive Neuroscience group A or B, for a total of 9 credits in the cognitive neurosciences. The third course may be chosen from either of the two cognitive neuroscience groups.

The following science requirements:

BIOL 111 & BIOL 113	General Biology I and General Biology I Laboratory	4
BIOL 112 & BIOL 114	General Biology II and General Biology II Laboratory	4
BIOL 207	Anatomy and Physiology I	4
BIOL 208	Anatomy and Physiology II	4
One of the following:		8
CHEM 101 & CHEM 102	General Chemistry I and General Chemistry II	
PHYS 107 & PHYS 108	Introduction to Physics I and Introduction to Physics II	

B.S. students are also encouraged, but not required, to take Genetics (BIOL 217 Genetics) and Neurobiology (BIOL 405 Neurobiology).

## Requirements for Education students concentrating in Psychology

All Psychology/Education majors must complete the following courses:

The following eight courses are required (24 credits):

PSYC 203	Introduction to Psychology	3
PSYC 214	Statistics and Research Methods I	3
PSYC 314	Statistics and Research Methods II	3
PSYC 310	Psychology of Developmental Disorders and Delays	3

PSYC 321	Social Psychology	3
PSYC 333	Motivation and Emotion	3
PSYC 340	Cognition and Learning	3
PSYC 421	Psychopathology	3
Psychology/Education students must also successfully complete two of the following elective courses (6 credits):		
PSYC 302	Psychological Testing	3
PSYC 343	Psychology of Women	3
PSYC 347	Theories of Personality	3
PSYC 348	Cultural Psychology	3
PSYC 316	Issues Affecting Today's Youth	3

### **Optional Concentration in Industrial/Organizational Psychology (for Psychology Majors only)**

In addition to the requirements for psychology majors described above, students who wish to specialize in industrial/organizational psychology may do so by completing the requirements listed below. This is fully optional.

PSYC 373	Industrial Psychology	3
PSYC 374	Organizational Psychology	3
PSYC 302	Psychological Testing	3
One of the following:		3
PSYC 333	Motivation and Emotion	
PSYC 341	Health Psychology	
One of the following:		3
PSYC 429	Research in Psychology	
PSYC 430	Research in Psychology	
PSYC 375	Internship	
PSYC 475	Internship	

### **Requirements for a Minor in Psychology**

15 approved credits, including PSYC 203 Introduction to Psychology, PSYC 153 Roots: Psychology First Year Seminar, or PSYC 150 Roots: Psychology, and any 12 additional PSYC credits. Students wishing to minor in Psychology must consult with the Chair of the Department and complete a minor declaration form.