

Psychology Major (BA)

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About

Psychology is the basic and applied science of mind and behavior. Psychologists use the methods of both natural and social science to advance our knowledge and understanding of thought, emotion, and behavior in humans and other organisms. Psychologists also apply this knowledge to improve the conditions of individuals and society. The Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences offers two majors in psychology, a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) with a Psychology major and a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) with a Psychology major.

Program: Psychological and Brain Sciences

Type: Bachelor of Arts

PRIMARY MAJOR (122 credits)

To declare either major students must have completed PSY 1000 or PSY 1001, or have AP credit for PSY 1000. In addition, they must have a C+ or higher in PSY 1000 or PSY 1001, or have an overall minimum GPA of 3.00.

Required Major Courses (31 credits)

Program Notes:

- Courses taken on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis cannot be used to satisfy requirements for the major, except for PSY 2100: Seminar in Professional Development.

Course	Title	Credits
	PSY 1000 or PSY 1001	3
PSY 2000	Intro Statistics	3
PSY 2050	Research Methods in Psy.	3
PSY 2100	Sem Professional Development	1
	PSY 4200 or PSY 4500	3
	Psychology Foundation Courses for B.A.	9
	Psychology Electives for B.A.	6
	Capstone: PSY 5150 or PSY 5250	3

Core Curriculum Requirements (38 credits)

Psychology BA Majors meet the following core requirements in the major and therefore are omitted from the summary below:

- Social Sciences (6 cr)

Course	Title	Credits
ACS 1000	Ancients	3
ACS 1001	Moderns	3
THL 1000	Faith, Reason, and Culture	3
PHI 1000	Knowledge, Reality, Self	3
ETH 2050	The Good Life:Eth & Cont Prob	3
	Mathematics or Statistics (1 course)	3
	Natural Science (2 courses with laboratory)	8
	Literature and Writing Seminar (1 course)	3
	History (1 course)	3
	Fine Arts (1 course)	3
	Upper-Level Theology (1 course)	3
	Language Requirement	
	Diversity Requirement (2 courses)	

Free Elective Requirement (53 credits)

Students with a Psychology BA primary major have fifty-three (53) required free elective credits.

Degree Credit Summary

- **Major Credits:** 31 credits
- **Core Credits:** 38 credits
- **Free Electives Credits:** 53 credits
- **Total Required Credits:** 122 Credits

Note: The above credit totals are based on the minimum number of required credits in each degree area. The minimum number of required credits in each area listed above must be met. Credits taken beyond the required minimum for one area may not be applied to another area.

SECONDARY MAJOR

Students who declare Psychology BA as a **secondary major** must complete the Required Major Courses to achieve this major. Students are able to count any eligible course taken in their primary major, the core curriculum, minors, concentrations, or free electives toward these requirements.

Category Descriptions

PSY 1000 or PSY 1001

Credits: 3

PSY 1000 and PSY 1001 are mutually exclusive courses; students take one or the other.

Course	Title	Credits
PSY 1000	General Psychology	3
PSY 1001	Intro to Brain and Behavior	3

PSY 4200 or PSY 4500

Credits: 3

Course	Title	Credits
PSY 4200	Biopsychology	3
PSY 4500	Cognitive Psychology	3

Psychology Foundation Courses for B.A.

Credits: 9

Select 3 Classes of three or more credits in PSY 3000:4500 (9 cr).

Psychology Electives for B.A.

Credits: 6

Select 2 Classes of three or more credits in PSY 2000:7999, or any course with the PSY attribute.

Capstone: PSY 5150 or PSY 5250

Credits: 3

Course	Title	Credits
PSY 5150	Foundations of Modern Psych	3
PSY 5250	Contemp Research Issues in Psy	3

Natural Science (2 courses with laboratory)

Credits: 8

Non-science majors meet the Core Curriculum Natural Science requirement by taking two semesters of Mendel Science Experience (MSE), thematically-based lecture/laboratory courses designed for non-science majors; or two semesters of lecture/laboratory courses designed for science majors.

Science (AST, BIO, BIOC, CHM, CBN, CSC, ENV, MAT, PHY - B.S. only, PSY - B.S. only) majors meet the science requirement through the regular program of study in their major.