

# PSYCHOLOGY MAJOR (B.A.)

<https://cola.unh.edu/psychology/program/ba/psychology-major>

## Description

The Psychology Major provides students with a broad education, while also allowing some specialization. The program exposes students to the scientific study of behavior and encourages an increased understanding of the behavior of humans and animals.

To declare a major in psychology, students must have completed PSYC 401 Introduction to Psychology and PSYC 402 Statistics in Psychology with a grade of C or better and have an overall GPA of 2.0.

## Requirements

### Degree Requirements

**Minimum Credit Requirement:** 128 credits

**Minimum Residency Requirement:** 32 credits must be taken at UNH

**Minimum GPA:** 2.0 required for conferral\*

**Core Curriculum Required:** Discovery & Writing Program Requirements

**Foreign Language Requirement:** Yes

All Major, Option and Elective Requirements as indicated.

\*Major GPA requirements as indicated.

### Major Requirements

Students majoring in psychology must complete 44 credits with a minimum grade of C- in each course and a 2.0 overall average in all major requirements.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required Courses</b>		
PSYC 400	Psychology Freshmen Advising Seminar	1
<b>Core Courses</b>		
PSYC 401	Introduction to Psychology	4
PSYC 402	Statistics in Psychology	4
PSYC 502	Research Methods in Psychology	4
<b>Breadth (500-level) courses</b>		
Group I - Select two courses from the following:		8
PSYC 511	Sensation and Perception	
PSYC 512	Psychology of Primates	
PSYC 513	Cognitive Psychology	
PSYC 521	Behavior Analysis	
PSYC 522	Behaviorism (offered in Manchester only)	
PSYC 531	Psychobiology	
Group II - Select two courses from the following:		8
PSYC 552	Social Psychology	
PSYC 553	Personality	
PSYC 561	Psychopathology	
PSYC 571	Pioneers of Psychology (offered in Manchester only)	
PSYC 581	Child Development	
<b>Depth (700-level) courses</b>		
Group I - Select two courses from the following:		8
PSYC 705	Tests and Measurement	
PSYC 710	Visual Perception	
PSYC 712W	Psychology of Language	
PSYC 713W	Psychology of Consciousness	

PSYC 713	Psychology of Consciousness	
PSYC 720	Animal Cognition	
PSYC 722	Behaviorism, Culture, and Contemporary Society	
PSYC 731	Brain and Behavior	
PSYC 733	Drugs and Behavior	
PSYC 735	Neurobiology of Mood Disorders	
PSYC 736	Attention Disorders	
PSYC 741W	Special Topics (examples: Fundamentals of Substance Abuse, Neuroscience of Memory, Fundamentals of Cognitive Science, Neurobiology of Spatial Cognition & Memory, Psychology of Curiosity)	
Group II - Select two courses from the following:		
PSYC 705	Tests and Measurement	
PSYC 755	Psychology and Law	
PSYC 756	Psychology of Crime and Justice	
PSYC 757	Psychology of Happiness	
PSYC 758	Health Psychology	
PSYC 759W	Emotion and the Embodied Mind	
PSYC 760W	Ecopsychology	
PSYC 761W	Sport and Performance Psychology	
PSYC 762	Counseling	
PSYC 782W	Autobiographical Memory	
PSYC 785	Social Development	
PSYC 793	Internship	
PSYC 791W	Special Topics (examples: Culture and Human Development, Socio & Moral Judgement Development)	
Capstone		
Select from the following:		
PSYC 793	Internship	
or PSYC 798	Capstone	
or PSYC 799	Senior Honors Thesis	
Total Credits		45

**Note:** Many courses have one or more prerequisites. Students (with advisor assistance) are expected to select breadth courses that will later enable them to select depth courses appropriate to their interests and career goals.

### Capstone

The Discovery Program capstone requirement, taken during the senior year, may be fulfilled by completing one of the following options:

- The honors-in-major program with an honors project; honors seminar, and research presentation (PSYC 799 Senior Honors Thesis);
- A 4-credit capstone designated independent study project (PSYC 795 Independent Study);
- PSYC 793 Internship;
- Capstone-designated 700-level course.

### Statistics

The psychology department does not accept other departments' statistics courses toward the psychology major. Students who have taken a statistics course other than PSYC 402 must pass a competency exam in order to declare the major and/or register for PSYC 402.

### Discovery Program

- Major department courses may not be used to satisfy Discovery category requirements except for PSYC 402, which may be used to satisfy the QR Discovery requirement and the major requirement.
- PSYC 401 cannot be used to fulfill a Social Science.
- PSYC 571 cannot be used to fulfill a Historical Perspective.
- In the case that Psychology is a second major, major courses can be counted toward the Discovery requirements.

Transfer Students

Transfer students who elect to major in Psychology must complete at least 24 credits in the program at UNH to qualify for the degree in Psychology. Transfer students must earn a total of 44 approved credits for completion of the Psychology Major. The distribution of these credits will be determined by the department’s academic counselor. Transfer students should note that courses are allotted only the number of credits granted by the original institution (after adjustments for semester-hour equivalents). Thus, students transferring from an institution at which courses carry fewer than four credits each must make up for any credit deficit created by the acceptance of transfer credits into the Psychology Major. Only courses taken in a Psychology Department can be transferred into the Psychology Major. Of the four 700-level courses required for the major, at least three must be taken at UNH.

Additional Notes

Specific course selections should be discussed with an advisor. Exceptions to the requirements for the major require compelling circumstances and a petition to the department.

Psychology majors planning to go on to graduate study in Psychology are advised to include PSYC 705 Tests and Measurement among their courses.

Candidates for a degree must satisfy all of the University Discovery Program requirements in addition to satisfying the requirements of each individual major program. Bachelor of Arts candidates must also satisfy the foreign language proficiency requirement.

Degree Plan

Sample Degree Plan

*This sample degree plan serves as a general guide; students collaborate with their academic advisor to develop a personalized degree plan to meet their academic goals and program requirements.*

First Year		
Fall		Credits
ENGL 401	First-Year Writing	4
PSYC 400	Psychology Freshmen Advising Seminar	1
PSYC 401	Introduction to Psychology	4
Language Course		4
Discovery Course		4
Credits		17
Spring		
PSYC 402	Statistics in Psychology (QR DISC)	4
PSYC 500-level Breadth Course		4
Language Course		4
Discovery Course		4
Credits		16
Second Year		
Fall		
PSYC 502	Research Methods in Psychology	4
PSYC 500-level Breadth Course		4
Discovery Course		4

Elective Course	4
Credits	16
Spring	
PSYC 500-level Breadth Course	4
Discovery Course	4
Discovery Course	4
Elective Course	4
Credits	16
Third Year	
Fall	
PSYC 500-level Breadth Course	4
Discovery Course	4
Discovery Course	4
Elective Course	4
Credits	16
Spring	
PSYC 700-level Depth Course	4
Discovery Course	4
Discovery Course	4
Elective Course	4
Credits	16
Fourth Year	
Fall	
PSYC 700-level Depth Course	4
PSYC 700-level Depth Course	4
Elective Course	4
Elective Course	4
Credits	16
Spring	
PSYC 700-level Depth Course	4
Elective Course	4
Elective Course	4
Elective Course	4
Credits	16
Total Credits	129

Student Learning Outcomes

Program Learning Outcomes

- Demonstrate fundamental knowledge and comprehension of the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, historical trends, and empirical findings in psychology.
- Understand basic research methods in psychology including design, data analysis, and interpretation; and utilize this knowledge to conduct their own psychological research, with an appreciation of the ethical issues involved in human and non-human research.
- Engage in scientific reasoning and problem solving so that they can evaluate the quality and implications of scientific research.
- Write empirical research reports and literature reviews in American Psychological Association style and present findings from scientific research.