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.

Students who wish to declare psychology as a major after enrolling in the University should consult with the department's academic counselor for application procedures and criteria.

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.

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 400</td>
<td>Psychology Freshmen Advising Seminar (Required for first semester freshmen)</td>
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Core Courses

PSYC 401  Introduction to Psychology
PSYC 402  Statistics in Psychology
PSYC 502  Research Methods in Psychology

Breadth (500-level) courses

Select two of the following courses from Group I:

PSYC 511  Sensation and Perception
PSYC 512  Psychology of Primes
PSYC 513  Cognitive Psychology
PSYC 521  Behavior Analysis
PSYC 522  Behaviorism (offered in Manchester only)
PSYC 531  Psychobiology

Select two of the following courses from Group II:

PSYC 552  Social Psychology
PSYC 553  Personality
PSYC 561  Abnormal Behavior
PSYC 571  Pioneers of Psychology (offered in Manchester only)
PSYC 581  Child Development

Depth (700-level) courses

Select two of the following courses from Group I:

PSYC 705  Tests and Measurement
PSYC 710  Visual Perception
PSYC 712  Psychology of Language
PSYC 713  Psychology of Consciousness
PSYC 716  Cognitive Neuroscience

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 737  Behavioral Medicine
PSYC 741W  Special Topics (examples: Fundamentals of Substance Abuse, Neuroscience of Memory, Fundamentals of Cognitive Science, Neurobiology of Spatial Cognition & Memory)

Select two of the following courses from Group II:

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 762  Counseling
PSYC 780  Maternal Development and Infancy
PSYC 783  Cognitive Development
PSYC 785  Social Development
PSYC 791  Special Topics (examples: Culture and Human Development, autobiographical memory, emotional & the embodied mind, sport & performance psychology, ecopsychology, socio & moral judgement development, scientific study of groups & bias)

or PSYC 791W  Special Topics

PSYC 793  Internship

Total Credits 45

Note: Most offerings have one or more prerequisite courses. Students (with the help of their adviser) are expected to select breadth courses that will later enable them to select depth courses appropriate to their interests and career goals.

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

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

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 Statistics in Psychology must pass a competency exam in order to declare the major and/or register for PSYC 402 Statistics in Psychology.

Major department courses may not be used to satisfy Discovery category requirements except for PSYC 402 Statistics in Psychology, which may be used to satisfy the QR Discovery requirement and the major requirement. PSYC 401 Introduction to Psychology cannot be used to fulfill a Social Science; PSYC 571 Pioneers of Psychology 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 less than four credits each must make up for any credit deficit created by 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 advisers. 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.

**Student 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.