

Psychology Major

www.psychology.pitt.edu/undergraduate

Revised: 10/2016

The undergraduate psychology major introduces students to a breadth of psychological topics, including the biological, social, and environmental influences on human behavior. As a department in the natural sciences, it also focuses on developing strong research and analytical skills. The department encourages students to complement their coursework with experiential learning opportunities, such as research and internships, to prepare themselves for a variety of career and graduate school paths.

Required courses for the Psychology major

The psychology major requires the completion of 34 to 35 credits in psychology, four credits in statistics, and nine to 10 credits of co-requirements distributed as follows.

Foundation courses

PSY 0010 Introduction to Psychology
STAT 0200 Basic Applied Statistics **or**
STAT 1000 Applied Statistical Methods **or**
STAT 1100 Statistics & Probability for Business Management
PSY 0035 Research Methods

Note: The required STAT course should be taken as early as possible because the content is important to many other PSY courses. The STAT course must be taken prior to taking PSY 0035 because it is a prerequisite.

Core courses

Five of the following

PSY 0105 Introduction to Social Psychology
PSY 0160 Psychology of Personality
PSY 0310 Developmental Psychology
PSY 0422 Cognitive Psychology
PSY 0505 Introduction to Biopsychology **or**
NROSCI 1000 Introduction to Neuroscience
PSY 1205 Abnormal Psychology

Upper-level courses

Two 1000-level courses, not to include any of the following

PSY 1205 Abnormal Psychology
PSY 1900 Supervised Field Placement
PSY 1902 Directed Reading
PSY 1903 Directed Research
PSY 1950 Psychology Senior Seminar
PSY 1970 Undergraduate Teaching Experience
PSY 1973 Honors Directed Research
PSY 1975 Honors Thesis

Elective course

Choose one elective PSY course from any of the following.

PSY 0100-level
PSY 0300-level
PSY 0400-level
PSY 0500-level
PSY 1000-level

The elective course cannot include any course used to fill a core requirement, any 1000-level requirement, or lab methods requirement. Experiential learning courses – PSY 1900, 1902, and 1903 may be used to fulfill this requirement. PSY 1950, PSY 1970, PSY 1973, and PSY 1975 may not be used to fulfill this requirement.

Laboratory methods course; choose one

PSY 0405 Learning and Motivation
PSY 0423 Cognitive Psychology Lab
PSY 1025 Tests and Measurements *
PSY 1059 Topics in Advanced Research Methods **
PSY 1112 Psychological Aspects of Human Sexuality:
Research Writing Practicum *
PSY 1305 Experimental Child Psychology *
PSY 1471 Mapping Brain Connectivity
PSY 1975 Honors Thesis

Co-requirement courses

Students must take a minimum of one approved course in each of the following areas: mathematics; biological science; social science. Courses that fulfill these requirements are listed on the back of this sheet.

Grade requirements: All foundation, core, upper level, PSY elective, PSY lab, and statistics courses used to fulfill the major requirements must be completed with a grade of C or better. A minimum GPA of 2.0 in all PSY courses is required for graduation.

Satisfactory/No Credit option: All PSY and STAT courses used to fulfill requirements for the major must be taken for a letter grade.

Writing (W) requirement: Students must complete at least one W-course in the major.

Related area: A minimum of 12 credits is required in any one Arts and Sciences department chosen in consultation with the major advisor. The completion of an official Arts and Sciences minor or an Arts and Sciences or UCIS certificate also satisfies this requirement.

* Offered Infrequently

** Topics vary

Declaring the major: To declare the psychology major, students must have completed PSY 0010 and the required statistics course with a C or better and be enrolled in PSY 0035.

Honors major requirements: Honors in psychology is granted if in addition to fulfilling all requirements for the major, the student:

- maintains a GPA of 3.5 or above in PSY courses;
- maintains an overall GPA of 3.25 or above;
- completes three credits in both PSY 1973 and PSY 1975; and
- successfully complete an honors research project, thesis, and oral defense.

Students planning to pursue the honors major should select a faculty advisor early in their junior year. PSY 1903 Directed Research should be taken prior to pursuing the honors major. Students planning to complete an honors project must meet with the director of psychology advising before registering.

New major orientation: New majors must attend an orientation prior to scheduling an appointment with their assigned psychology advisors. Students will receive an email with instructions and dates approximately the fourth week of each fall and spring term.

Advising: Psychology Advising Office
psyadvis@pitt.edu
SENSQ 3113
412-624-4540

Checklist for the Psychology major

Foundation courses

- _____ PSY 0010
- _____ STAT 0200 or STAT 1000 or STAT 1100
- _____ PSY 0035

Core courses; choose five of the following

- _____ PSY 0105
- _____ PSY 0160
- _____ PSY 0310
- _____ PSY 0422
- _____ PSY 0505 or NROSCI 1000
- _____ PSY 1205

Upper-level elective courses

- _____ PSY 1_____ (1000-level course)
- _____ PSY 1_____ (1000-level course)

Psychology elective course

- _____ PSY _____ (see options on the front of this sheet)

Laboratory course; choose one of the following

- _____ PSY 0405 Learning and Motivation
- _____ PSY 0423 Cognitive Psychology Lab
- _____ PSY 1025 Tests and Measurements
- _____ PSY 1059 Topics in Advanced Research Methods
- _____ PSY 1112 Psychological Aspects of Human Sexuality
- _____ PSY 1305 Experimental Child Psychology
- _____ PSY 1471 Mapping Brain Connectivity
- _____ PSY 1975 Honors Thesis

Co-requirement courses

Students must take a minimum of one course in each of the following areas.

Mathematics; choose one of the following

- _____ CS 0007 Introduction to Computer Programming
- _____ CS 0008 Introduction to Programming with Python
- _____ CS 0401 Intermediate Programming Using Java
- _____ MATH 0125 and MATH 0126 Calculus for Business 1 and 2
- _____ MATH 0120 Business Calculus
- _____ MATH 0220 Analytical Geometry and Calculus 1
- _____ MATH 0400 Finite Mathematics
- _____ STAT 1201 Nonparametric Statistics

Note: Any student who wants to take an entry level MATH course (0120, 0220, 0032, 0200 or 0400), and who has not taken the prerequisite course for credit at the University of Pittsburgh, must take the placement assessment (<http://www.mathematics.pitt.edu/mathplacement>).

Biological Science; choose one of the following

- _____ ANTH 0630 Forensic Anthropology
- _____ ANTH 0680 Physical Anthropology
- _____ BIOSC 0150 Foundations of Biology 1
- _____ BIOSC 0160 Foundations of Biology 2
- _____ BIOSC 0190 Introduction to the Biological World 1
- _____ BIOSC 0191 Introduction to the Biological World 2
- _____ BIOSC 0800 Biology for Non-majors 1
- _____ BIOSC 0805 The Human Body
- _____ BIOSC 0810 Biology for Non-majors 2
- _____ BIOSC 0815 Genes and Diseases
- _____ NROSCI 0081 Drugs and Behavior

Social Science; choose one of the following

- _____ AFRCNA 1309 Women of Africa & African Diaspora
- _____ AFRCNA 1522 Sex and Racism
- _____ ANTH 0538 The Archeologist Looks at Death
- _____ ANTH 0582 Introduction to Archaeology
- _____ ANTH 0768 Human Sexuality in Cross Culture
- _____ ANTH 0780 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology
- _____ COMMRC 0310 Rhetorical Process
- _____ COMMRC 0320 Mass Communication Process
- _____ COMMRC 1110 Theories of Interpersonal Communication
- _____ ECON 0100 Introduction to Microeconomic Theory
- _____ ECON 0110 Introduction to Macroeconomic Theory
- _____ ECON 0800 Introduction to Economics
- _____ GSWS 0100 Intro Gender, Sexuality & Women's

Studies

- _____ GSWS 0200 Sex, Race, & Popular Culture
- _____ LING 0080 Aspects of Language
- _____ LING 1000 Introduction to Linguistics
- _____ PS 0200 American Political Process
- _____ PS 0300 Comparative Politics
- _____ PS 0500 World Politics
- _____ PS 0600 Political Theory
- _____ SOC 0005 Societies
- _____ SOC 0010 Introduction to Sociology
- _____ SOC 0150 Social Theory
- _____ SOC 0230 Social Research Methods
- _____ SOC 0317 Global Society
- _____ SOC 0411 Deception and Betrayal
- _____ SOC 0432 Wealth and Power
- _____ SOC 0438 Sociology of the Family
- _____ SOC 0444 Urban Sociology
- _____ SOC 0446 Sociology of Gender
- _____ SOC 0460 Minority Groups
- _____ SOC 0471 Deviance and Social Control
- _____ SOC 0475 Sociology of Aging
- _____ SOC 1365 Race, Gender and Development
- _____ SOC 1413 Marriage
- _____ SOC 1448 Working Women
- _____ SOC 1450 Health and Illness