

Psychology Major (PSY)

Psychology is the scientific study of behavior and cognitive processes, with application to many human and animal concerns. Students with a liberal arts education should develop an understanding of themselves and others that allows them to function effectively in diverse situations, interpersonally and intellectually. The Psychology Department offers a strong curriculum aimed at providing students with a comprehensive conceptual base from a variety of perspectives. Emphasis is placed on critical reading and thinking, and understanding the historical and theoretical framework of psychology and the methodology used in research. Students majoring in psychology are afforded an opportunity to be involved in research as well as to participate in local educational and mental health agencies. Many psychology majors continue their education in graduate school, and the department actively participates in their preparation for this goal. Should a student choose not to attend graduate school, the study of psychology successfully prepares graduates for a variety of career options. The department sponsors two student organizations: Psi Chi, which is the international Psychology honor society and Psi Alpha Omega, which is open to all students who have an interest in the discipline.

The Psychology Department has identified specific learning outcomes for our students. After completing the requirements for a psychology major, students should be able to:

- relate theoretical approaches from the history of psychology to prevailing research and practice in contemporary psychology;
- obtain practical understanding of basic statistical procedures using calculations and obtain basic level skills of the SPSS statistical computer program;
- demonstrate mastery of the design and implementation of a student-led research project;
- engage in critical thinking about psychology as a science. Students will also engage in critical thinking about ethical issues that arise in psychological research;
- obtain the ability to read and comprehend scientific literature in psychology and students will obtain mastery in skills for writing in APA style;
- demonstrate effective writing skills. Also, students will demonstrate effective oral skills

Successful completion of these learning outcomes will be assessed by various assignments in the required components of our psychology curriculum. Students seeking certification in teaching should consult with the department chair.

Degree Type: Bachelor of Arts (BA)

Program Contact: Professor Regan Lookadoo

A minimum of fifteen hours must be taken at the 300-level or above.

Department: Psychology

Type: B.A.

Core Courses	12 hours
Required Course Selections	12 hours
Group 1	
Group 2	
Elective Courses	9 hours
Total	33

Core Courses

Item #	Title	Credit Hour(s)
PSY111	General Psychology	3
PSY211	Statistics for the Social Sciences	3
PSY311	Experimental Psychology	3
PSY411	Senior Capstone in Psychology	3

Required Course Selections

Group 1

Select two courses from the following:

Item #	Title	Credit Hour(s)
PSY313	Psychology of Motivation	3
PSY315	Health Psychology	3
PSY323	Sensation and Perception	3
PSY328	Learning	3
PSY333	Cognitive Psychology	3
PSY425	Brain and Behavior	3
PSY433	Animal Cognition	3

Group 2

Select two courses from the following:

Item #	Title	Credit Hour(s)
PSY242	Adolescence and Adulthood	3
PSY260	Social Psychology	3
PSY340	Child Development	3
PSY343	Personality	3
PSY355	Psychological Disorders	3

Elective Courses

Select nine additional credit hours in Psychology courses.

Note: Students may count only two developmental courses (PSY240, 242, 340) toward the Psychology major or minor.

Total credits:

33