PSYCHOLOGY, B.S.

The psychology major is the largest major in the College of Letters & Science, focusing on five areas in the field of psychological science: biological, clinical, cognitive and cognitive neuroscience, developmental, and social and personality.

The mission of the undergraduate program in psychology is to provide students with opportunities to:

- learn about the multiple content areas of scientific psychology
- develop the ability to think critically and quantitatively
- enhance written and oral communication skills
- prepare for the most rigorous graduate and professional programs
- apply the science of psychology to the well-being of citizens of Wisconsin and the global community

Some students will go to graduate school and become the next generation of psychological scientists and educators who will create and disseminate new knowledge. Others will choose careers in other areas, including but not limited to business, medicine, law, education, and counseling. Through its strong interdisciplinary connections with the natural sciences, social sciences, humanities, and medical sciences, scientific psychology is positioned well to influence critical issues for society. Because all courses in psychology emphasize critical thinking and the analysis of research, the undergraduate program prepares students to take on the challenges of and fully participate in an increasingly complex, multicultural world.

HOW TO GET IN

Students who successfully complete PSYCH 202 Introduction to Psychology (or equivalent) with a grade of C or better are eligible to declare the major. Please refer to the Department website for instructions on how to declare the major (http://psych.wisc.edu/undergraduate-program/requirements).

1. Equivalents include a score of 4 or higher on the IB Psychology exam or a score of 4 or 5 on the AP Psychology exam.

REQUIREMENTS

UNIVERSITY GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

All undergraduate students at the University of Wisconsin–Madison are required to fulfill a minimum set of common university general education requirements to ensure that every graduate acquires the essential core of an undergraduate education. This core establishes a foundation for living a productive life, being a citizen of the world, appreciating aesthetic values, and engaging in lifelong learning in a continually changing world. Various schools and colleges will have requirements in addition to the requirements listed below. Consult your advisor for assistance, as needed. For additional information, see the university Undergraduate General Education Requirements (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/#requirementsforundergraduatestudytext) section of the Guide.

General Education

- Breadth—Humanities/Literature/Arts: 6 credits
- Breadth—Natural Science: 4 to 6 credits, consisting of one 4- or 5-credit course with a laboratory component; or two courses providing a total of 6 credits
- Breadth—Social Studies: 3 credits
- Communication Part A & Part B *
- Ethnic Studies *
- Quantitative Reasoning Part A & Part B *

* The mortarboard symbol appears before the title of any course that fulfills one of the Communication Part A or Part B, Ethnic Studies, or Quantitative Reasoning Part A or Part B requirements.

COLLEGE OF LETTERS & SCIENCE BREADTH AND DEGREE REQUIREMENTS: BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (B.S.)

Students pursuing a bachelor of science degree in the College of Letters & Science must complete all of the requirements below. The College of Letters & Science allows this major to be paired with either a bachelor of arts or a bachelor of science curriculum. View a comparison of the degree requirements here. (https://pubs.wisc.edu/home/archives/ug15/images/babs2009.pdf)

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Mathematics

- Two (2) 3+ credits of intermediate/advanced level MATH, COMP SCI, STAT
- Limit one each: COMP SCI, STAT

Foreign Language

- Complete the third unit of a foreign language
- Note: A unit is one year of high school work or one semester/term of college work.

L&S Breadth

- Humanities, 12 credits: 6 of the 12 credits must be in literature
- Social Sciences, 12 credits
- Natural Sciences, 12 credits: must include 6 credits in biological science; and must include 6 credits in physical science

Liberal Arts and Science Coursework

- 108 credits
- 60 intermediate or advanced credits

Depth of Intermediate/Advanced work

- Major
- Declare and complete at least one (1) major
- Total Credits
- 120 credits
- UW-Madison Experience
- 30 credits in residence, overall
- 30 credits in residence after the 90th credit
- Minimum
- 2,000 in all coursework at UW–Madison
- 2,000 in intermediate/advanced coursework at UW–Madison

NON–L&S STUDENTS PURSUING AN L&S MAJOR

Non–L&S students who have permission from their school/college to pursue an additional major within L&S only need to fulfill the major requirements and do not need to complete the L&S breadth and
degree requirements above. Please note that the following special
degree programs are not considered majors so are not available to
non-L&S-degree-seeking candidates:

- Applied Mathematics, Engineering and Physics (Bachelor of Science–Applied Mathematics, Engineering and Physics)
- Journalism (Bachelor of Arts–Journalism; Bachelor of Science–Journalism)
- Music (Bachelor of Music)
- Social Work (Bachelor of Social Work)

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR
The major requires 33 credits in PSYCH and completion of these four
learning areas:

FOUNDATION
Foundation courses provide a grounding in basic psychological facts and
an understanding of the methodologies used to produce those facts. Four
courses are required with grades of C or better in each category:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 202</td>
<td>Introduction to Psychology</td>
<td>3-4</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYCH 210</td>
<td>Basic Statistics for Psychology</td>
<td>3-4</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC/ C&amp;E SOC 360</td>
<td>Statistics for Sociologists I</td>
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<tr>
<td>STAT 371</td>
<td>Introductory Applied Statistics for the Life Sciences</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYCH 225</td>
<td>Research Methods</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 101</td>
<td>Animal Biology</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYCH 102</td>
<td>and Animal Biology Laboratory</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ZOLOGY/ BIOLOGY 101 &amp; ZOLOGY/ BIOLOGY 102</td>
<td>Introductory Biology</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>BIOCORE 381 &amp; BIOCORE 382 &amp; BIOCORE 383 &amp; BIOCORE 384</td>
<td>Evolution, Ecology, and Genetics and Evolution, Ecology, and Genetics Laboratory and Cellular Biology Laboratory</td>
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</table>

Total Credits 13-17

1 A score of 4 or higher on the IB Psychology exam or a score of 4 or 5 on the AP Psychology exam.

2 A score of 4 or better on the IB Biology exam, or a score of 4 or 5 on the AP Biology exam will satisfy the Introductory Biology requirement.

BREADTH
Breadth courses familiarize students with the breadth of psychology. Three (3) courses from at least three different topic groups are required:

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 311</td>
<td>Issues in Psychology (Topic: Psychology Law and Social Policies)</td>
<td>1-4</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYCH 401</td>
<td>Psychology, Law, and Social Policy</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 405</td>
<td>Abnormal Psychology</td>
<td>3-4</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYCH 511</td>
<td>Behavior Pathology: Neuroses</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 512</td>
<td>Behavior Pathology-Psychoses</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 406</td>
<td>Psychology of Perception</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 413</td>
<td>Language, Mind, and Brain</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 414</td>
<td>Cognitive Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 403</td>
<td>Psychology of Personality</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 456</td>
<td>Introductory Social Psychology</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 522</td>
<td>Psychology of Women and Gender</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYCH 428</td>
<td>Introduction to Cultural Psychology</td>
<td>3-4</td>
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DEPT
Depth courses allow students to engage in depth with material in specific
content areas in psychology. Depth courses include both a lecture
component and a required discussion/lab section for all students, and
they help students develop a deeper understanding of particular areas of
psychology. Each depth course has a prerequisite of one relevant breadth
course; please check each course for possible prerequisites. Two courses
are required:

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<tr>
<td>PSYCH 501</td>
<td>Depth Topic in Social Science (multiple separate topics offered each semester)</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYCH 502</td>
<td>Cognitive Development</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 503</td>
<td>Social Development</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 505</td>
<td>Depth Topic in Biological Science</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 508</td>
<td>Psychology of Human Emotions: From Biology to Culture</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Code</td>
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<td>Credits</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYCH 510</td>
<td>Critical Issues in Child Psychopathology</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYCH 513</td>
<td>Hormones, Brain, and Behavior</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYCH 520</td>
<td>How We Read: The Science of Reading and Its Educational Implications</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYCH 521</td>
<td>The Structure of Human Thought: Concepts, Language and Culture</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYCH 525</td>
<td>Cognition in Health and Society</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYCH 526</td>
<td>The Criminal Mind: Forensic and Psychobiological Perspectives</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYCH 532</td>
<td>Psychological Effects of the Internet</td>
<td>4</td>
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**CAPSTONE**

Capstone courses allow students to engage in depth with particular content areas in psychology in a seminar setting. **One course** is required:

- **PSYCH 380** Junior Honors Seminar
- Three Psychology Breadth and/or Depth courses
- A two-semester Senior Honors Thesis in PSYCH 681 Senior Honors Thesis and PSYCH 682 Senior Honors Thesis, for a total of 6 credits.

**UNIVERSITY DEGREE REQUIREMENTS**

**Residency**

Degree candidates are required to earn a minimum of 30 credits in residence at UW–Madison. "In residence" means on the UW–Madison campus with an undergraduate degree classification. "In residence" credit also includes UW–Madison courses offered in distance or online formats and credits earned in UW–Madison Study Abroad/Study Away programs.

**Quality of Work**

Undergraduate students must maintain the minimum grade point average specified by the school, college, or academic program to remain in good academic standing. Students whose academic performance drops below these minimum thresholds will be placed on academic probation.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

1. Gain an appreciation for the contributions that psychology is making to our understanding of human and animal behavior.
2. Learn to analyze and construct arguments, define and solve problems, and understand and apply scientific reasoning.
3. Learn to communicate their ideas, both written and spoken, in a clear, organized, and compelling way.
4. Gain a specific understanding of how to use data and research methodology in their critical thinking.
5. Acquire an appreciation of and respect for individual differences and diversity of experiences and background.
6. Acquire the statistical and research skills used in the behavioral sciences.
7. Have the opportunity to evaluate the diverse professional opportunities in psychology.

**ADVISING AND CAREERS**

All current UW–Madison undergraduate students interested in the psychology major are welcome to schedule an advising appointment with a psychology advisor. Advising appointments can be made through the Starfish scheduling tool. Please visit psych.wisc.edu (http://psych.wisc.edu) —> undergraduate program —> schedule an advising appointment.
For more information about psychology advising visit psych.wisc.edu (http://psych.wisc.edu) → undergraduate program → advising.

Are you a prospective student?
We are happy to meet with prospective UW–Madison students to discuss the psychology major during winter, spring, and summer break. We require a minimum of two weeks advance notice to schedule an appointment. You may contact us via email: advisor@psych.wisc.edu.

L&S CAREER RESOURCES
SuccessWorks at the College of Letters & Science helps students leverage the academic skills learned in their major, certificates, and liberal arts degree; explore and try out different career paths; participate in internships; prepare for the job search and/or graduate school applications; and network with professionals in the field (alumni and employers).

SuccessWorks can also assist students in career advising, résumé and cover letter writing, networking opportunities, and interview skills, as well as course offerings for undergraduates to begin their career exploration early in their undergraduate career.

• SuccessWorks (https://careers.ls.wisc.edu)
• Set up a career advising appointment (https://careers.ls.wisc.edu/make-an-appointment)
• INTER-LS 210 L&S Career Development: Taking Initiative (1 credit, targeted to first- and second-year students)—for more information, see Inter-LS 210: Career Development, Taking Initiative (https://careers.ls.wisc.edu/inter-ls-210-career-development-taking-initiative)
• Learn how we’re transforming career preparation: L&S Career Initiative (http://ls.wisc.edu/lsci)

PEOPLE
Professors Goldsmith (chair), Abramson, Alibali, Auger, Berridge, Brauer, Coe, Curtin, Davidson, Devine, Gernsbacher, Goldsmith, Gooding, Harackiewicz, Hyde, MacDonald, Marler, Niedenthal, Pollak, Postle, Rogers, Rosengren, Ryff, Saffran, Seidenberg, Snowdon

Associate Professors Bennett, Green, Lupyan, Miyamoto, Rokers, Shutts

Assistant Professors Austerweil, Li, Saalmann, Schloss, Simmering, Ward